



OFSDP

Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project

Newsletter

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PD'S DESK

Empowerment mantra under the project owes its origin in the recognition of the collective wisdom of the communities in living in harmony with their environment. Consequent implementation activities are the wake up deliveries in to a prosperous future. Interventions started will serve as model for the 2nd and 3rd batch areas and its a required imperative to plug the gaps and project is taking all measures to clear the interventional bottlenecks and enhancing the community capacities. This completed quarter was hectic for the implementers due to the project's review in HPC by a JICA Mission and livelihood

intervention related trainings and workshops. Success stories are trickling from the field and interventional efficacies are being weighed to determine the requirements and evaluation of the efforts. Livelihood related interventions were slow



due to analysis stage of the IGAs listed in the micro-plans and project's efforts are on to define a strategy with conducive resource use & market linkages. Livelihood interventions in the form of community asset development, pilot IGAs support and community assistance through

supplementing farm-forestry and other basic needs of the villagers are in progress.

Besides the cross learning exercises at state level with the present IGA facilitating institutions, project is also proposing a National Cross Learning workshop of all JICA assisted forestry projects in the country for wider understanding & sharing of the concepts & methodologies for promoting sustainable livelihoods.

I expect, livelihood analysis and learning process will be completed for deciding the area specific IGA determinants and fulfilled IGA interventions will start from the next year.

- Arun K. Bansal

Reducing Hardships of Rural Women through Smokeless Chulla



Project has provided Smokeless Chullas to families of Madanmphanpatna VSS, Purunagarh FMU under Angul DMU. Training on fabrication and installation of Smokeless chulla is being provided through convergence support of Gram Vikas (a NGO). Two persons have been trained by Gram Vikas as master trainers. Free of cost hand holding has also been provided by Gram Vikas. Further these master trainers provided training to 10 persons including the animator of the VSS belonging to potter community. Now these 10 persons are fabricating the smokeless chullas with chimney made not of iron but in situ with becked earthen pots and mud for installation under livelihood support activity of project in the same VSS. 40 sets have been supplied to the VSS and installed in the beneficiaries' kitchens. More over it is expected that it will be quantitatively up- scaled and supply will start to other VSSs to reduce the firewood pressure on forest and meet the firewood scarcity.

Vision of Jungle ...

by Kavi Samraat Upendra Bhanja

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HPC Meeting

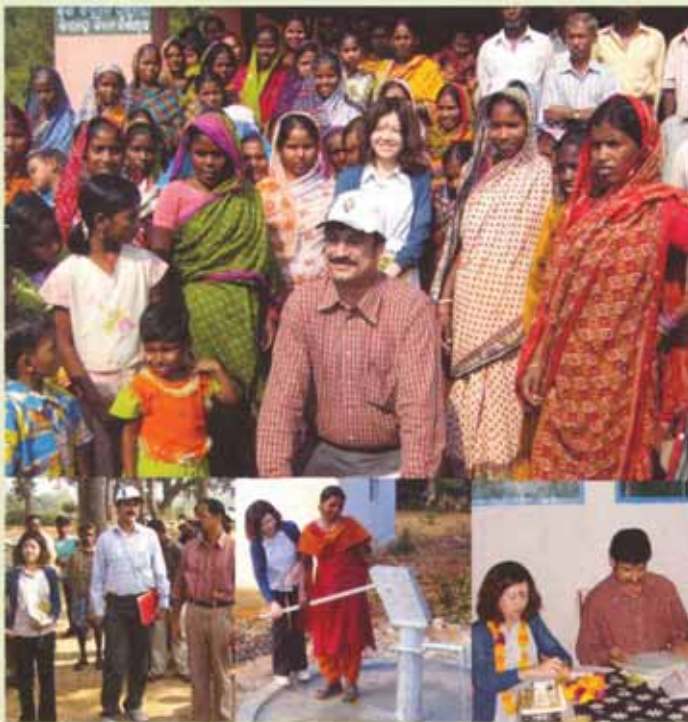
High Power Committee meeting was held at Secretariat on 10th December to review the implementation status and progress of activities. President OFSDS Chief Secretary Sri Ajit Kumar Tripathy presided over the



meeting. APC & Secretary to Forest & Environment department Sri Satya Prakash Nanda, PCCF Sri S.C Mohanty, PCCF(WL) Sri B.K Pattanaik, Spl. Secretary Sri D.P Das, Spl. Secretary Planning & Coordination

Dept. Dr. R.V Singh, Secretary Panchayatiraj Sri J. P Agarwal and Jt. Secretary Shri M.D. Barik participated in the meeting. Sri A.K Bansal, Project Director, Sri Debidutta Biswal, JPD, Dr. J.P Singh, JPD and Sri R. N Sahoo, DPD were present from the PMU.

JICA Mission Visit



2-member JICA review mission comprising Mr. Vinit Sarin, Lead Development Specialist and Miss Nami Sinohara visited Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project from 3rd to 6th December, 2008. After reaching Bhubaneswar they proceeded to Angul for field visit. The review mission visited - VSSs in Angul, Deogarh and Keonjhar DMUs, where apart from seeing plantation interventions and assets created under EPA, mission members also scrutinized the accounts and other VSS documents. On the last day of the visit they reviewed the project activities with Project Director and other officers of the project. Mission rated the project status as 'Good'.



Training on MIS

For understanding different plantation related formats and reporting system in the MIS, Project organised one day Orientation-cum-Training on 4th Dec. 2008 at PMU, Bhubaneswar. Dr. J.P. Singh, JPD (HRD), OFSDP inaugurated the training and Sri A.C. Dinakar, Dy. PD (MP/ME) proposed formal vote of thanks.

The training was organised with an objective of developing basic understanding about Project MIS at every implementation level. Three participants from each Project Division i.e. FEO, VSS Member Secretary and Data Entry Operator (1 each) participated in the training.

Sri Shalabh P. Bharadwaj, M&E/MIS specialist, General Consultant to OFSDP facilitated the training. He focussed on the importance of a 'uniform', 'simple' and 'workable' MIS tool, for systematic data collection, timely reporting and easy compilation at each implementation level that would enable effective Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E). He explained about the data formats and highlighted the simplicity & self explanatory features of the Project MIS.

Participants expressed their confidence in using different MIS tools and efficacy of the developed MIS in saving time with increased efficiency. The formats are to be refined based on the inputs from the participants and will be translated into Oriya for adoption.



Training on- Livelihood Visioning & Promotion Strategy

Project organized 5 days training programme on 'Livelihood Visioning and Promotion Strategy' from 15th to 19th Dec, 08 at PMU with the facilitation of 'The Livelihood School', Eastern India Regional Centre, Kolkata. 22 VFWs (VSS Member Secretaries) from 11 project divisions participated in the training programme.

Dr. J.P. Singh, JPD (HRD) OFSDP inaugurated the programme and elaboration the benefits and potential learning opportunities from the training programme.

Main objective of the training was to prepare the forest personnels for the upcoming livelihood interventions through understanding livelihood concepts, promotional strategy and socio-economic dynamics in defining different interventions. Understanding different tools and techniques for identifying interventions, market condition, forest produce, dynamics of local economy, collaboration with the government and non-government initiatives with micro and macro level design of livelihood promotion strategy.

At the valedictory session Dr. J.P. Singh (JPD) solicited feedback about the utility of the programme and distributed certificates to the participants.

State Level Consultation Workshop on Livelihood Opportunity Analysis

State level consultation workshop was organized on 5th November at Bhubaneswar on 'Livelihood Opportunities Study' conducted by MART in 14 Project divisions. Sri Arun Kumar Bansal, Project Director, OFSDP inaugurated the workshop.

MART shared findings and preliminary analysis of the study, highlighting major livelihood opportunities across Agriculture, Horticulture, Non-Timber Forest Produce, Non-Farm and Off Farm sectors which can be taken up for detailed value chain analysis. After the analysis, project would provide support to its SHGs to start fulfilled IGA intervention. Following MART's presentation on methodology and research tools for conducting Value Chain Analysis, participants intensely discussed the findings of the study and gave their inputs and suggestions for future course of action. Finally, Division wise list of potential activities



was indicated. Mr. Bansal concluded the meeting by highlighting that the project context and target community context must be factored while selecting futuristic IGAs. Besides officers of OFSDP workshop was attended by officers & experts from NABARD, ORMAS, TRIPTI, WORLP, OCTMP, UDYOG VIKAS, TDCC, QUAT and representatives of resource NGOs such as CYSO, FES, CPSW, PRADATA, IAEET and HDI. Consulting agencies-CTRAN, ACCESS, EDII, Aide-et-Action also participated in the workshop.

Chutiatala VSS... a journey from apathy to obsession.



Chutiatala village, a hamlet of Kuaramunda revenue village consisting of 93 households once relied on their near-by chunk of forest for meeting their fuel wood, small timber and forage demands lost its sustainability for many decades. Few young people took a lead and realized the consequences of the loss of tree cover upon mushrooming of steel plants and other dust/gas emitting factories in Kuaramunda. They formed an informal club named Freedom Fighter Birsamunda Club which motivated the people about judicious use of forest product in their bonafied needs, and the rural sanitation. They approached the Forester, Kuaramunda and expressed their desire to protect the forest. Hence the village was inducted in the project in 2007.

The assigned forest comprised of two hills running East-West direction. The one that lies near their village is smaller having area 30 ha approx. devoid of vegetative growth. The other one on the southern side is about 47 ha contains sparse vegetative growth.

Thus the JFM area of the village constituted as VSS in 2007 is 77.78 ha.

OFSDP AND SCOPE FOR CONVERGENCE:-

Improvement of Rural sanitation by Gram Vikas:

During PRA, rural sanitation came up as major issue and considered to be tackled as soon as possible through the process of facilitation and linkage with other interested agency. Gram Vikas agreed to take up the task to provide Latrine and bath room to each family under condition the cost of foundation and plinth work up to 3ft has to be borne by the family. The technical know-how will be provided by the Gram Vikas by monitoring and supervising. The cost of structure above 3 ft will be borne by the agency including sanitary fittings. In the first instance, Rs 1,000.00 will be deposited in the each family account. A bore-well with over head tank for supply of water to each house has been agreed to be constructed. So far 30 foundations have already been constructed in the village by Dec.08. The fund from messier, UK will be utilized by the agency. Gram Vikas has also consulted SAIL authorities to place fund under periphery development to return the money family wise they spent in foundation work. This will be taken up after completion of structures.

Agri.Deptt. support for raising Mustard & Wheat

The Dept. has identified 27 interested families in the village for raising mustard and wheat over 3 Ac. and 12Ac. respectively during 2009-10. For raising wheat, hybrid seeds, fertilizers and medicines are supplied by the Dept. So far 3 families are involved in raising mustard and 24 families in raising wheat. They have



been identified as pioneers and their plots as demo plots. SRI method of rice growing has been given to one villager.

The above works in Chutiatala project village will contribute in self sustaining agriculture and forestry with cleanliness and hygiene in the village. People began to realize that the very survival of mankind rests on the survival of plants. This has made them reduce their dependency on forests for Fuel and Fodder. People have also resolved to provide water in groups on rotation basis during the peak summer. Villagers have engaged 2 watchers to protect plants from biotic interference from their own fund. On trial basis Hybrid Napier grass (2000 rhizomes) have been planted in Fuel and Fodder plantation component area to meet their immediate fodder demand. Steps are being taken to involve horticulture and veterinary dept for providing high yielding varieties of Mango and drumstick to plant in their back yard and "vanraj kukuda" to augment their income as suggested by the Agriculture Production Commissioner & Chairperson of Project Governing Body during his visit to this village.

- Nalini Kanta Behera, FMU Chief Kuaramunda



Mango Orchard Plantation for Livelihood support

Kunjaria VSS was formed and included in the project for the 1st phase interventions. During the planting season the VSS was motivated to grow a mango orchard nearer to JFM site. The total area of the VSS is 76 ha. out of which 65 ha. was taken under treatment area. Villagers created a mango orchard over 4.5 Acres adjoining to JFM area and 300 grafted mango (Nilam) were planted. The VSS members are taking special care of the mango orchard. The growth is now luxuriant. Villagers are thankful to the project for showing the way and providing an opportunity towards prosperous future.

- VSS Kunjaria of Bonai DMU

A workshop for reviewing the progress & status of Teak plantation was organized on 15th October, 2008 at PMU.

PCCF Orissa, Conservator of Forests, DFO-cum-DMU Chief and PMU Officers, and the GC Team Leader and Experts participated in this workshop. Inaugurating the Workshop, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests explained the need of careful planning & execution of the project components. He expressed his dissatisfaction over the progress in teak plantation work and the need of expediting the selection process of suitable areas for teak plantation.

GC Team Leader explained about the suitability of sites for optimal growth and drew attention to plantation techniques.

Project Director advised the DFOs to indicate upward revision of targets after reassessing the availability of planting stock within a week. Some DFO mentioned that this year was a poor seed year due to which adequate quantity of seeds could not be collected.

CFs and DFOs were directed to select further areas (in addition to the areas



Workshop on Teak

already planted during 2008 planting season) required from the areas allocated to "Plantation and Improvement Working Circles" after assessing the suitability through site inspections. In case of any deviations from the Working Plan prescriptions, the DFO has to get the same approved. In case some old Teak plantations are ready for harvesting followed by replanting, the same also be looked into as potential areas to be taken up under the Project.

Seed procurement & sourcing process was defined for meeting the seed supply needs, provision of 50,000 root trainer teak seedlings for planting in next planting season and consequent improvement of permanent nurseries with the services of the staff trained in exposure visits. Improvement works for enhancing production of quality seeds by silviculturists and taking up of R&D related to seed certification, teak plus trees were the other decisions taken in the workshop.

IEC...




PROJECT CD





POSTERS (New) -

1. VSS Role in OFSDP
2. Responsibilities of VSS Members
3. Traits of Ideal VSS
4. Successful SHG Indicators



This Quarterly Newsletter of the JICA assisted Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project will provide timely information relating to different project activities for the knowledge of various stakeholders.

For any comments/suggestions, please write to -

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