



OFSDP

Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project

Newsletter

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April-June, 2008

PD's DESK

Mushrooming Livelihood in the project areas

OFSDP aims at Forests and Community thriving together which necessitates sincere efforts of all the stakeholders in the implementation of the Project. The dedicated grassroots functionaries, committed NGO partners and enthusiastic community are three important pillars in realizing the dream of healthy forest and developed community, in spite of the difficulties in our journey.

Improving livelihoods around forests and other local natural resources is an important component and the Project is taking special care in identifying area specific livelihood opportunities for focused interventions. To this end, efforts are on to augment full support through other confidence building exercises in the form of planting food supplementing plant species, infrastructure development in project villages, and providing assistance for developing village level entrepreneurs and livelihood support system.

Consequent to finalization of area specific micro-plans by the VSS facilitated by the forest officials

and NGO teams, implementation of the defined components for restoration of assigned forest areas and creation of infrastructure have been initiated. Regular trainings are also being conducted at project and grassroots level for developing required skills and educating the community about different aspects of forestry and livelihood

distress sales of NTFP and other local products with value addition have yielded encouraging results. These activities will serve as confidence building among the grassroots stakeholders and will create sense of responsibility for conservation of natural resources with simultaneous support to sustainable livelihood.



improvement. With a view to provide long term nutritional security, planting of species like Drumstick, Papaya, grafted Mango, and other food supplementing plant species are being taken up in private land or open patches in the selected VSSs. Livelihood promotion activities being undertaken serve as a strategic move towards sustainable efforts for achieving the project laid objectives. Initial efforts to augment income through preventing

While process for identifying area specific sustainable alternate livelihood interventions are in progress, Project has initiated concerted efforts to build up livelihood promotion activities around existing nuclei created under other ongoing projects and Government programmes. During my field visits and interactions with the communities, I am delighted to see the confidence and commitment of the participating communities to make determined efforts for a prosperous future.

I would like to exhort comrades working in field for their sincere efforts to face the upcoming challenges in fulfilling the dreams of our communities in the forest areas.

- Arun K. Bansal, Project Director

Changing Lives - Boat of Hope in marooned Pithamahal



Pithamahal is a very backward & small village situated in Rajgangpur Range of Roukela Forest Division. It is practically cut off from the rest of the areas due to Pithamahal Dam. There is no road communication to this village and villagers are totally dependent on narrow fishing boats. They depend on the forests for collecting and marketing NTFPs, and selling fire wood. Lot of problems were being

faced by students, patients and general public due to lack of communication facilities.

OFSDP BRINGS SOCIAL CHANGE in PITHAMAHAL VSS

While selecting areas under this project, nobody was willing to take up Pithamahal. But lastly Sri B.K.Kothi, VFW dared to take up the village as a project village. The field personnel with the active involvement of villagers started awareness creation and capacity building activities. Finally

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Visit of Survey Mission of JBIC



A JBIC Survey Mission visited Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project from 19th to 23rd May, 2008 to carry out "Field Survey of the Implementation Status of the Guidelines for Confirmation of Environmental and Social Considerations" through interviews with related parties i.e., Govt. of India, Executing Agencies, Project affected people and local NGOs. The Survey Mission comprised Mr. Juichiro Sahara, Deputy Director, Environmental Analysis Department, Ms. Tomoko Tauchi, Environmental Analysis Department and Ms. Kinuko Mitani, Country Officer, JBIC, New Delhi. They visited Kaladi, Suduli, Sidingi, Biraguda and Majhipada VSSs in Phulbani Division and Hanumanpur, Rajanagar, Badadanda Sahi, Madan Mohan Patna and Dalak VSSs in Angul Division. The team also had interactions with the Project Director and other officials of PMU. After the visits, the team expressed their satisfaction regarding the progress of the Project.

Follow up Mission

A 'Follow up Mission' comprising Mr. M. Karasawa, Director, Development Assistance Department 3, Division 2, JBIC - Tokyo and Mr. Vineet Sarin, Lead Regional Specialist, JBIC, New Delhi office visited OFSDP from 14th to 15th June, 2008. They visited Rutubhuin, Balangi and Hidsingh VSSs in Angul Division and also interacted with the Project Director, OFSDP and the officials of PMU. At the wrap up meeting at the PMU, they expressed their happiness on the villagers' active participation in the project activities.

General Body Meeting

The 1st meeting of the General Body of Orissa Forestry Sector Development Society was held on 9th June, 2008 in the 2nd Floor Conference Hall of Secretariat. Shri S.P. Nanda, IAS, Agriculture Production Commissioner & Vice-President of the Society presided over the meeting. The 'Affairs of the Society' were discussed and the Annual Report of the Society for the year 2006-07 was adopted. The Oriya version of the April, 2008 issue of the Quarterly Newsletter, and 3 Posters on Participatory Forest Management were released.

Regional External Assistance Workshop at Ranchi on 23rd & 24th June, 2008



A two day regional workshop on projects assisted by external funding agencies was organised by the Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India. Workshops main objective was to provide a forum for the external development partners (JBIC, WB, ADB,) and the States in the eastern region to understand the process and priorities for external assistance.

Project Director Sh. Arun K. Bansal was a member of the team of officers from Orissa.



Capacity Building

Reorientation Trainings on Micro-Planning



Reorientation trainings in Micro-planning for facilitators were organized in 3 batches between 5th-18th July, 2008 at PMU. 10-Range Officers, 52-NGO Team Leaders, 23-FEOs & 2-Development Officers from 11 project divisions participated in these trainings.

The focus of the training was to refresh the

minds of the participants who had already prepared the Micro Plan for the 1st batch of VSSs and to improve the processes and micro-plans qualitatively.

The topics covered during this interactive training programme included- steps & methods of micro-planning, community mobilisation & organisation,

Fodder Management, Fire control, Planning for Income Generation Activities, PRA, Soil Conservation measures, VSS Accounting etc.

All the participants expressed their satisfaction and assured that they will be able to prepare a quality Micro Plan in line with detailed inputs in the revised format.

Training Programme on 'Project and Time Management'

A three days' training on 'Project and Time Management' was organised from 26th to 28th May, 08 at Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar for the DMU Chiefs and Asstt. DMU Chiefs.

The training was designed as per the training needs for the officers responsible for implementation of different project activities in the field. The training sessions dealt with skills related to time management and project management. The former was considered

important mainly because the project, although demands a lot of quality time from the DMU Chiefs / Assistant Chiefs, is an additional task (above their existing routine jobs) for the officers, and the nature of project demands decentralization of decision making up to the lowest management unit (community level) and hence, time management, assertiveness, and delegation become inevitable skills to be mastered by the officers. Project management skills were crucial because all the objectives and implementation

approaches are very clearly spelled out in project document and demands implementation in 'project mode'.

Participants felt that the training was extremely useful, which will help them in time management and keeping their office dynamic". The Project Director Sh. Arun K. Bansal participated at the valedictory session.

Prof. Saveeta Mohanty, Prof. Winfred William, and Prof. Niraj Kumar facilitated the sessions.

Production of Vermi Compost

... a soil vitalizer



Project has established a Vermi compost unit in Green Park, Sector-8, Rourkela with the following objectives -

1. To promote organic farming with root trainer nursery & VSS Nurseries formed in Rourkela.
2. To provide well decomposed manure with higher nutrient contents to the plants.
3. To provide vital enzymes & amino acids present in the body of the worm as growth promoter & growth regulator for the plants.
4. To reduce soil toxicity caused due to prolonged use of chemical fertilizers.

This unit was constructed with an estimated cost of Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousands) and necessary technical support was provided by Director of Horticulture, Orissa, through the Horticulturist of Panposh.

The unit consists of a main tank of size 4m x 3m x 1m, which is divided into three equal parts for continuous production of compost. In order to protect the vermiculture from harsh weather condition, a thatched shed (6m x 5m) has been erected.

Bio-degradable waste (Leaves, vegetable market waste and straw) and cow dung are spread in alternate layers of 15 cm each in 6 layers. The worms of *Ver. E. Foteda* are released to feed and convert the organic waste into soluble compost with major and micronutrients.

Water is sprinkled regularly to keep the contents moist and cool until the vermicompost is ready for harvest after 45 days. It is proposed to market the product using OFSDP logo. This will make the unit self sustaining and will act as demonstration centre for visiting farmers and VSS members.

inputs: DFO-cum-DMU Chief, Rourkela

Planting Livelihood

Drumstick & Papaya plantation



Sajana (Drum Stick) and Papaya are well known in every house hold of Orissa. Leaves, Flowers and fruits of "Sajana" are used to meet the vegetable needs of all class of people. Similarly "Papaya" as store house of Vitamin A, is in great demand in all house hold both rural and urban. The DMU Deogarh has taken the role of a facilitator in planting of these trees in every house hold of its target villages under OFSDP.

The animators motivated the villagers and listed the name of persons interested in planting these species. Fifteen Villages under Deogarh FMU, ten villages in Barkot FMU and eight villages in Pallahara FMU have participated till end of June'2008. Improved verity seedlings (1350nos) procured from Horticulturist, Deogarh have been supplied to 313 house holds at their door steps.

During his visit Project Director, OFSDP, interacted with villagers of Kureibashal and Bad Baliposi in Deogarh FMU. The response from the villagers is very encouraging. These villages also have a long tradition of growing fruit trees including mango. This is a small beginning but a right step in the right direction.

Mushroom production

- exciting IGA prospects



OFSDP aims to promote sustainable development and management of forests with sustainable livelihood security to tribal and forest dependant communities. Observing the rapid growing mushroom market, feasible technique to rural community and people having own natural resources like straw , bamboo , backyard land & human resources it is a better option for economic development of rural people. Bhadrak DMU Chief Sri P. K. Mishra, had started an experimental mushroom culture unit at Satabhauni Nursery near Bhadrak in April, 2008.

Inspired by the DMU Chief Sri P. K. Mishra, Mr H. N. Padhi, VFW of Bhadrak Division took the challenge and started the unit with 204 beds.

In this experiment DMU Bhadrak got an exciting experience. The experimental unit has already sold out about 1.5 Quintals of mushroom in Bhadrak

market. Mr. Padhi is ready to disseminate his knowledge and experience to the coastal forest dependent communities as an alternative livelihood option.

The Mushroom unit was started with the objective of livelihood generation prospects for the community, related technology transfer and marketing avenues for produced mushrooms for replication in grassroots IGAs.

In the initial stage, the production was low. Now the production per rack (12 beds) has increased from 8 kg. to 14 kg.

Increasing consumption of this straw mushroom in the urban areas has established a strong market & bright prospect for mushroom cultivators. This is a very profitable business with engagement of one family for 8 months in a year.

Successful IGA Facilitation

Tribals in Tamarind Trade

Karada is a small tribal village in Rayagada division and villagers depend mainly on forest produce.

This village situated near Ramnagada block of Rayagada district (Rayagada forest division), comes under Gunupur Forest Range. In this village, VSS had been formed and functioning from 2007 under OFSDP.

Karada and its surrounding villagers collect plenty of tamarind and other NTFPs, which they sell at nearest market (Ramnagada which is 08 kms away). Sometimes, petty traders come to the village for purchasing these NTFPs. But they cheat



villagers in weighing and pricing. The villagers loose around 3/4th price getting only 1/4th price.

After the formation of VSS under OFSDP, the VSS committee, members of two existing SHG and Member Secretary (VFW) discussed the problem and decided to improve NTFP trade. The committee purchased one 50kg weighing machine under VSS's EPA fund and provided loan of Rs. 40,000/- from VSS revolving fund. The SHGs namely Samaj Kalyan Mahila Sanchaya Samiti and Maa Tarini SHG started purchasing tamarind. During purchase period the local petty traders tried their best to stop the trading by different means. But the DFO, Rayagada during his visit to this village asked the VSS committee and FD staff to seize the

items of petty traders if they purchase at low price. He also boosted the morale of SHGs to do the trading without fear. The petty traders then desisted from this activity.

These SHGs purchased 100 Quintals Tamarind at a cost of Rs. 75,000/- (Rs.40,000/- loan from VSS revolving fund and Rs.35,000/- from their own savings). They sold all tamarind at Rs. 83,000/- and got a profit of Rs. 8,000/-.

This profit money was utilized to build a godown room (15'X14') attached to VSS building as per the two SHG's decision. These two groups returned the loan amount in the month of June. They have planned to continue trading in coming years and OFSDP is facilitating their efforts.



VSS President Smt. Malati Devi Mutika addressing the villagers in presence of PD, OFSDP, Conservator, Koraput Circle and DFO, Rayagada

inputs -
Smt. Malati Devi Mutika (VSS President)
Balaram Toaika (VSS Animator)

Case Studies

..... from Angul Division



“Where Goddess is the forester”

Baragaunia is a remote village in the Raigoda Range of Angul Forest Division. This village is surrounded by hills and reserve forest and villagers are mainly dependent on forest resources to fulfill livelihood needs. Twenty years back villagers formed a committee for management of the forest, but there was no watchman to watch forest. Villagers believe that the deity namely *Maa Panderasuni* is the forester who take care of forest. Though unbelievable, it is true. The forest is protected in the name of the goddess. Each year approximately 10,000 visitors from 105-110 villages visit the place and after worshipping the forest goddess, they take leaves from the forest for curing diseases of their family members and their domestic animals. This is a century old tradition. Each year the donation by the visitors is around Rs. 25,000/- which is used for development of the community and the forest. The village is covered under OFSDP, and various activities are going on with full participation of the village community.



“Bhudan and Sharmadan still exists”

Land is the greatest asset for rural people. Land donation for public purpose appears to have become a thing of past. But Shri Duryodhana Sahu (age 60) of Nuakheta village, who is the present president of the Nuakheta VSS (under Raigoda FMU of Angul DMU) donated a land of 450 square ft. on the side of the main road of Nuakheta village for construction of the VSS office building and hall for the benefit of the entire village.

He also volunteered to relinquish his chair in favour of a young generation in the VSS to take the leadership for the development of VSS. This kind of leadership shows the path to other VSS in the OFSDP. The **Bhudan and Sharmadan** is possible only due to the strong motivation and community mobilization by the partner NGO team members and the VFW of the above mentioned FMU.



“Development of an Entrepreneur”

Shri Ashok Kumar Pradhan (aged 45) of Nuakheta VSS under Raigoda FMU of Angul DMU is now an entrepreneur from a mere farmer. He started a nursery under the Decentralized Nursery Program of OFSDP, after unanimous support from the village VSS. He agreed to use his land for Decentralized Nursery and supply required seedlings to the VSS during July 2008. Up to the month of June, he has invested about one lakh in the nursery excluding his own labour and raised 74,000 numbers of good seedlings in poly pots suitable for plantation in the month of July 2008. He expects Rs. 2,33,000 from his sale proceeds earning a net profit of approx. Rs. 1,33,000 within a period of 6 months. As per his calculation the benefit to cost ratio is 2.3:1 which is highly encouraging. He has taken the technical guidance and support from the concerned VFW and FMU Chief for the nursery works. Seeing the high benefits, he is interested to grow seedlings of forest and horticultural species to meet the local demands and promised to continue this enterprise in future.

Kundheidiha women reshaping future through IGA

- OFSDP Facilitation

12 women members of Village Kundheidiha of Gurundia Block and Jarda FMU of Bonai Forest Division, formed a Self Help Group named Laxmipriya in the year 2006.



All the group members belong to BPL category and they depend on collection of minor forest produces to supplement a living.

Other than usual saving the group has no other option till they got associated with OFSDP being implemented in their village. They involved

themselves in the activities of VSS. They were prompted to take up IGAs with support of revolving fund available with the VSS.

On their initiative, a loan of Rs. 25,000/- was sanctioned in the month of April 2008 by Kundheidiha VSS to undertake paddy processing and rice selling activities on their own. The group earned a profit of Rs. 3,450/- within a month.

The group thanked OFSDP for the new avenue they got through revolving fund support and it has boosted their confidence.

inputs - Rukmini Patra, President & Jayanti Patra, Secretary, Laxmipriya SHG.

Not only Rice processing but also in other business, the women from Kundheidiha has taken a leap forward. Another women SHG Sunandini Swayam Sahayak Gosthi has taken a loan of Rs. 25,000/- for NTFP business from the VSS revolving fund. The group during the last season procured Sal Seeds and Mohua from the villagers and sold it in the local market. They purchased Sal Seed at Rs. 9/- per kg. and sold it at Rs. 10/- similarly purchased Mohua at Rs. 4.50 and sold it at Rs. 5/-.

This group through this activity has earned an amount of Rs. 3,500/- within a month.

inputs - President and Secretary of Sunandini SHG

Project Glimpses



Inauguration of Meeting Hall Bayapanadhar VSS by the president of VSS in the presence of Project Director.



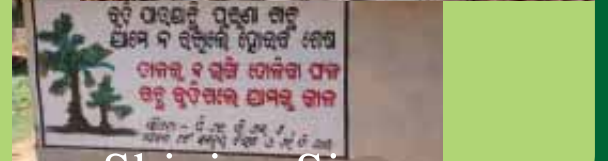
Project officials in the field appraisal



Dimirimunda VSS Building



Shining Signages



Forest Cleansing



Nursery



Nursery protection from elephants

Forestry

Pitting



Participatory Development



Seeds for vegetables



Mushrooms production as an IGA



Lift Irrigation facility



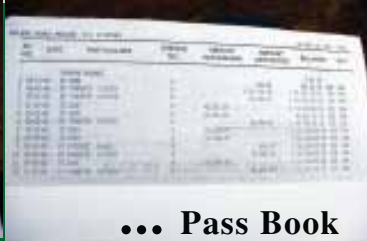
Livelihood Promotion



Nakshatra Van नक्षत्र वन

Nakshatra Van is the group of trees & plants having celestial powers. Celestial value of these trees have also been given in our scriptures, and planting of these trees according to star of a person is auspicious and beneficial. Each of the 27 nakshatras (lunar constellations) - is associated with a specific tree. Here for the sake of our readers' welfare the list containing all the trees species is being provided. Plant these trees according to your stars and have the beneficial effect in your life.

VSS ... Meeting Register



... Pass Book

Sl. No.	Rashi राशी	Nakshatra नक्षत्र	पंचांग अनुसार आराध्य वृक्ष
१.	Aries मेष	१. अश्विनी	कारस्कर, कुचला Strychnos-nux-vomica
		२. भरणी	आमलक, आवळा, आवला Embolia officinalis
		३. कृत्तिका	गूलर Ficus racemosa
२.	Taurus वृषभ	४. रोहिणी	जंबू, जांभुळ, जामुन Syzygium cumini
		५. मृग	खदीर, खैर Acacia catechu
३.	Gemini मिथुन	६. आर्द्रा	कृष्ण, कृष्णागरु, शीशम Aquilaria agallocha
		७. पुनर्वसु	वंश, वेळू, वास Dendrocalamus strictus
४.	Cancer कर्क	८. पुष्य	पिप्पल, पिंपळ, पीपल Ficus religiosa
		९. आश्लेषा	नागचांपा, नागकेसर Mesua ferrea
५.	Leo सिंह	१०. मघा	रोही, वट, वरगद Ficus benghalensis
		११. पूर्वा	पलाश, पळस, ढाक Butea monosperma
		१२. उत्तरा	प्लक्षक, पायरी, पाकड Ficus tsiela
६.	Virgo कन्या	१३. हस्त	अंबळ, जाई, अरिष्ट Jasminum grandiflora
		१४. चित्रा	विल्व, वेल Aegle marmelos
७.	Libra तुला	१५. स्वाती	अर्जुन Terminalia arjuna
		१६. विशाखा	विकंकत, नागकेशर, कटाई Maytenus emarginata
८.	Scorpio वृश्चिक	१७. अनुराधा	बकूल, नागकेशर, गोलसिरी Mimusops elengi
		१८. ज्येष्ठा	सरल, सावर, चीड Pine Spp.
९.	Sagittarius धनु	१९. मूल	सर्ज, राळ, साल Shorea robusta
		२०. पूर्वाषाढा	वंचुल, वेत, जलवेतस Calamus rotang
		२१. उत्तराषाढा	पनस, फणस, कटहल Artocarpus heterophyllus
१०.	Capricorn मकर	२२. श्रवण	अर्क, रुई Calotropis procera
		२३. धनिष्ठा	शमी, खेजडी Prosopis cineraria
११.	Aquarius कुंभ	२४. शततारका	कदंब, कळंब Anthocephalus cadamba
		२५. पूर्वा भाद्रपदा	च्यूत, आंवा, आम Mangifera indica
१२.	Pisces मीन	२६. उत्तरा भाद्रपदा	निंब, कडुलिंब, नीम Azadirachta indica
		२७. रेवती	मधूक, मोह, महुआ Madhuca indica

List of Publications

(up to July, 2008)



Sl. No.	Contents	Month / Year of Publication
For Internal Publication		
1.	Project Memorandum	August, 2006
2.	Bye Laws	August, 2006
3.	Accounting Procedure	September, 2006
For Public Distribution (IEC Material)		
1.	Project Summary	October, 2006
2.	Project Summary (Oriya)	October, 2006
3.	Brochure on OFSDP	December, 2006
4.	Brochure on OFSDP (Oriya)	December, 2006
5.	Newsletter (English & Oriya) - Vol-I, Issue-I	July, 2007
6.	Newsletter (English & Oriya) - Vol-I, Issue-II	October, 2007
7.	VSS Micro plan Flip Chart (Oriya)	October, 2007
8.	Micro Plan Preparation - Facilitators' Handbook	October, 2007
9.	Leveraging Capacity Report or ToT Report	October, 2007
10.	Poster - Role of VSS (Oriya)	October, 2007
11.	VSS Management Manual	November, 2007
12.	Micro planning Format (Oriya)	November, 2007
13.	Newsletter (English & Oriya)- Vol-I, Issue-III	January, 2008
14.	NGO Guidelines & Format	February, 2008
15.	Trainer's Manual	February, 2008
16.	Impregnating Micro Planning Mantra (Micro-Planning Training Report)	February, 2008
17.	Newsletter (English & Oriya)- Vol-II, Issue-I	April, 2008
18.	Poster- Ama Jungle Parichalana (Oriya)	June, 2008
19.	Poster- Jungle Ama Pain Ama Dwara (Oriya)	June, 2008
20.	Poster - Jungle Abhibrudhi Au Gramya Vikash (Oriya)	June, 2008

Boat of Hope

....contd from Page-1

micro-planning activity was completed. Their dream to have a motorised passenger boat was fulfilled with the EPA fund. A motor boat of 38 ft. length and 5ft. width was purchased to solve the communication problem and with a broader objective of boosting community's confidence towards more concerted efforts.

UNIQUENESS OF EPA FOR PITMAHAL VSS

The villagers are very grateful to the project as none of development agency resolved their problems in the past. It was the active involvement of villagers and FMU team which helped in identifying their problems during micro planning. As a result of this, number of problem faced by them have been addressed. Students can go to schools at Kadlhipa regularly, the patients are being provided with immediate attention and villagers can have marketing in outside areas. As the site has many scenic spots and an attraction for the tourists and picnic parties, it is proposed to get more boating facilities for generating revenues for local development.

inputs - Rajkishore Kullu,
Team leader, NGO Team- "YUBA SHAKTI"



This Quarterly Newsletter of the JBIC 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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