




OFSDP

Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project

NEWSLETTER



Vol. 5 / Issue No.2

April-June, 2011

PD's Desk



Greetings
with the new issue of
OFSDP
Newsletter

From the period of preparatory activities in April-June, we are now in planting and rainy season and soon we would be in festive month. I expect that our field functionaries and VSS would have achieved the planting works as planned and prepared for.

The year 2011 could be the last year of project interventions for restoration of targeted degraded areas in JFM mode and non-JFM mode practiced since 2008-09. The subject of extension of project implementation period by two years is at finalization stage. The decision with JICA would enable one more year of interventions in forests lastly in 2012. Simultaneously, the project is now moving for consolidation of activities undertaken since inception. A number of programmes in this direction has been planned to be put in place with consultations. In brief, they can be outlined as

- Strengthening the existing work of forest management and biodiversity management undertaken in 4 batches.
- To focus on sustainability of assets created with villages for improving the livelihood of people engaged with project to be concluded in a few years
- Convergence of developmental programmes and capacity building programmes at VSS level would be implemented in planned and organized manner to be facilitated by OFSDP.

A number of project stakeholders, their products and important learning from OFSDP working with communities would be presented in the forthcoming 'Indian Forest Congress, 22-25 November, 2011 at New Delhi'. The Congress is being held by GOI & ICFRE to mark the 'International Year of Forests -2011'. I would call upon the identified participants to prepare themselves well for sharing their products and experiences as well as to gain from participation. In this issue of newsletter, a number of learning on improving livelihood and community development has been brought out from field. Readers would find them motivating.

I wish that project participants, who have largely been successful in project service delivery, in bringing transparency and in developing and disseminating information on forest and biodiversity management with participating community, would put all their efforts to protect our local natural and cultural heritage and to focus on production, conservation and harmonized socio-economic development with careful exploitation of economic potentials of forests with micro-plan.



Vinod Kumar
(Vinod Kumar)
Project Director

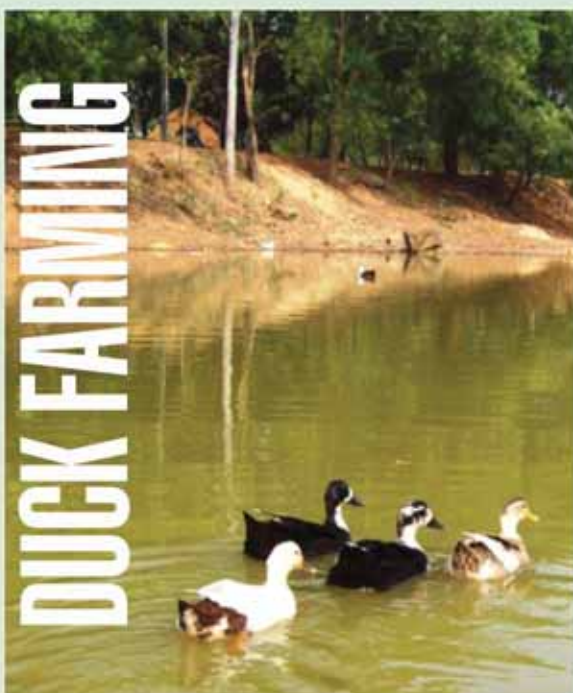


Maa Markama Tamarind Cluster, Sauraguda

Tamarind is available in large quantity in the villages of Muniguda FMU under Rayagada DMU. IGASA Team tried to use this natural opportunity for improvement of livelihood of the people. The team organized several meetings of VSSs of the area and a cluster named Maa Marakama Tamarind Cluster, Sauraguda was formed. Souraguda, Kalipanga, Goilikona, Purunapani, Karnaguda, Sankupadi, Sikabadi & Dambakupa VSS are part of it. Villagers of these areas collect Tamarind, Siali-leaf, Mango, Black Berry & Marking Nut etc from the forest, which gives them livelihood for 6 to 8 months. Business plans were prepared for Tamarind and those were approved by the VSSs. Finally 8 SHGs of 7 VSS took part in the trading with a loan amount of ₹ 2, 30, 000/-. Collectively they purchased 67 quintals of Tamarind @₹ 2000/qt from the part loan amount. After Deshelling they sold those Tamarinds @ ₹ 2400 /qt to a trader of Bisamakatak. Leaving the expenditure of ₹ 2270 they got a net profit of ₹ 24530. The SHG members are now confident enough to do the trade at larger extent. At the same time the local moneylenders and traders who were opposing the concept of cluster approach are now silent.



Santosh Prasad Mandandi, ULCM, Muniguda



...earned a good profit to SHG

Most of the tribals and other communities in Keonjhar DMU have special affinity for duck meat and eggs. Ducks are quite hardy, easily brooded and more resistant to common avian diseases. It is for these reasons, Maa Kalika SHG of Brundabanpur VSS under Patna FMU were facilitated to take up this activity as a business.



With a proper business plan, the group had taken a loan of ₹ 15,000 for duck farming from VSS revolving fund. They purchased 150 ducklings at a cost of ₹ 7000, spent ₹ 5000 on their feeds and medicines and also constructed a shed costing ₹ 3000. After a period of 6 months they sold 110 ducks @ ₹ 250 each which amounts to ₹ 27,500 which brought good profit to the group. The group repaid the loan amount along with agreed interest for a total of ₹ 15400. The ducks also laid 90 to 100 eggs per year. Those eggs get sold @ ₹ 5 each. They have now taken a 2nd loan for the same purpose in the month of April 2011. The group has developed business acumen and they have geared up to earn more and more in the coming days through the available resources and potential in their forest fringe village.

Sandeep Patnaik
Programme Manager, BISWA



Foundation laid for Alternative Income

Kerakhal is a small village under Chandragiri FMU of Paralakhemundi DMU. There are 48 households in the village and most of the villagers are very poor and illiterate. Besides farming and NTFP collection, they have no alternate income source. In the year 2009-10, OFSDP promoted 3 SHGs namely Maa Mangala, Maa Durga & Maa Biraja SHG. Maa Mangala SHG having 13 Members agreed to save @ ₹ 20/- per month per member.

ULCM assessed the feasibility of brick making and sensitized the group to produce bricks. A business plan of ₹ 30,000 was prepared and the SHG approached their VSS for providing loan of ₹ 25,000. Rest of money was contributed by the members.

They purchased instruments worth ₹ 2000 and raw material of ₹ 8000 while spending ₹ 5000 towards the lease rent of the land. Their expenditure towards labour and food for labourers was ₹ 15000. They produced 40000 bricks, but due to heavy rain 10000 bricks were damaged. So they could only sell 30000 bricks @ ₹ 2 per brick. Within few months they earned a profit of Rs 30000. Now the SHG is planning to enhance their income by taking different Income Generation Activities (IGAs).

Subash Nayak,
ULCM, Chandragiri





SOLAR LIGHT Ray of Hope for Chudakhai VSS

Chudakhai is a small hamlet of the village Kasada under Bonai FMU. The hamlet consists of 30 households and most of them earn livelihood through daily wages and sericulture. Due to the geographical position of the village, they were unable to bring electricity to their village till March 2010, though they have a strong wish to use that.

In the year 2009-10, OFSDP work started in the village. Apart from forest related issues, electricity in their village was one of the prime demands of villagers. Member Secretary, Sri Bijaya Pradhan took initiative and contacted the OREDA at Bonai. Several rounds of discussion was organized between OREDA and villagers. Finally, a user committee was formed and as per the decision, each family contributed ₹ 20/- for the solar light connection. In return they got two lights, one solar panel and a battery from OREDA in the month of March, 2010. OFSDP facilitations made their dream come true, says president of the Chudakhai VSS, Sri Kanda Kisan. He says "earlier we were unable to do usual activities in the night and were depending on Kerosene, which was difficult to be purchased by some families. Now our children are studying at night; women SHG members are organizing meetings and SHG activities; small village functions and meetings are being conducted in the night hours." Villagers now know how to maintain the Solar lights and they happily thank OFSDP for the sincere effort to bring Solar light to their village. Similar convergence activity has been done in another interior VSS named Lamsi in Bonai FMU.

Bijaya Kumar Pradhan,
Member Secretary, Chudakhai VSS.



Convergence for Electrification



Convergence is one of the important thrust of Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project for community capacity building for development, which is the need of time.

Phakhnaguda is one of the 1st batch VSS under Dengapader GP of Borigumma FMU under Jeypore DMU. Due to active participation of the members of the VSS, it has been proposed to be the model VSS under Jeypore DMU. During situational analysis, villagers of Pokhanguda demanded & proposed for village electrification on priority basis. VSS President, Sri. Padalam took the leadership and NTPC was approached for the purpose. But the proposal was declined by NTPC as Pokhanguda is a hamlet. FMU Chief explained the matter and sought support from DMU Chief. The DMU Chief brought the matter to notice of the Collector, Koraput. Collector directed electricity department for electrification of Pokhanguda. With active participation from the VSS members and villagers, electricity department completed the work within three months. Now 70 below poverty line (BPL) families of the village are using electricity, which was a dream for them. Encouraged by this development through convergence, Koraput DMU has planned to do similar action for Mankadital, Chilamandi, Nuaguda VSSs

Rama Kant Mohanty
FLE, Jeypore



ENHANCING INCOME THROUGH SIALI LEAF TRADE

Angarpada VSS is first batch VSS of Banki FMU under Rourkela DMU under the project. SHGs of this VSS were doing Siali leaf business in unorganized manner. It was observed that they were not getting good return from their business though Siali leaves are available in large quantity in the area. Therefore, this VSS was selected for Siali leaf cluster with 6 other VSSs by the IGASA team. 14 SHGs were included in the cluster and accordingly IGA training was conducted. After formation of the cluster, a strong mobilization has been initiated in the area and SHGs were properly guided to keep stock of their product for selling at higher market price through direct procurement by the trader at their door step.

A procurement day for Siali leaf was fixed on 2nd June 2011 at Angarpada. On that day Siali leaves were purchased by the SHGs from various sources and stored there. Maa Nivani, Dibyanari, Chandni, Rajnigandha, Rashmi & Saraswati SHGs from 3 VSS named Sialikudar, Badbahal and Angarpada participated in the event. According to the grading of the product, they purchased leaves at a price of ₹ 1200 and ₹ 1500 per quintal and a total of 19.53 quintals of leaf were procured on that day. Banani Cooperative of Barkot was contacted by the IGASA team to purchase Siali leaves from the cluster, and they happily agreed for that. On 4th July'11, a sale event was organized at Angarpada cluster point. Banani Cooperative of Barkot purchased the leaves from the SHGs @ ₹ 2000 per quintal. This was a higher rate for the SHG members than the local market at Banki. Within one month and with the cooperation from the IGASA team, six SHGs earned a profit of ₹ 11,343. After sale, the members are very happy and became interested to start this business in large scale. They have also planned for installation of leaf plate making machine, by which they can produce 'Siali leaf plate' and 'cups(dona)' to earn more profit.

Adaitya Kumar Mishra, FLE, Rourkela

SIALI LEAF: TRADE OF PROFIT

Maa Khambeswari SHG was formed in the year 2003 with 13 members. Besides saving practices, members used to collect Siali leaf from forests and sell those at local market mainly to the middle men. Agriculture in this area is at subsistence level and rain fed. Inadequate irrigation facilities, low market price of their agricultural produce compels them to depend on forest heavily. Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project intervention started in Phulabani DMU and this SHG of Bilabadi VSS, was included in the first batch.

Due to rich potential of Siali leaf in the area, SHG members decided to commence activity of Siali leaf plate making. They collectively purchased Siali leaf from the villagers of their own village as well as from outside village. A business plan for ₹ 2,000/- was prepared and SHG contributed ₹ 500 from their fund. IGASA provided Micro Enterprise Management Training which enlightened the SHG about the art of rough stitched Siali leaf plate making.

They started stitching leaf plates into a common size i.e. 14" instead of their old practice of 10" to 13" for which buyers were paying ₹ 10 per chaki. But due to the common and larger size, members were able to bargain with the trader and sold their product at ₹ 13 per chaki instead. SHG sold 282 chaki of rough stitched siali plate and due to value addition, grading and collective marketing, the group got ₹ 3366/- with a profit of ₹ 846/-. This has made their confidence level very high to proceed ahead with the business for higher scale.

Sabita Subudhi, ULCM, MART

JOBAJIRI SIALI MANDAL

Siali leaf play a very significant role in the livelihood of forest fringe people. It has good growth during the rainy months (May-November). As this product is available for nearly nine months in a year, the dependency on it for supplementary livelihood is high. The best part is that generally tribal women are involved in the collection and rough stitching of the leaves.

IGASA team formed a cluster named Jobajiri Siali Mandal under Simonbadi FMU of Baliguda DMU. 15 SHGs of five VSSs were part of the cluster. The team finalised all the modalities and arrangements for the cluster. Accordingly business plan was developed and VSSs provided loan to SHGs. The cluster purchased Siali leaves of 408 quintal @ ₹ 227 per quintal worth ₹ 92,616. After processing they sold those leaves for ₹ 1,10,160. In just 15 days they earned a profit of ₹ 17,544.

After getting the skill up gradation training, the SHG members will be involved in preparing fine stitched leaf plate to earn more profit. With increased income, members are getting encouraged for collective marketing.



CLUSTER ON POTATOES

Kandhamal district is known for its special kind of potatoes. The local variety of potato is confined to a specific geographical locality of Balliguda Forest Division i.e to K.Nuagaon FMU. During the course of discussion with the SHG members and as per the demand of the VSS members, the product based cluster named Maa Barala Devi Anchalika Mahila Alu cluster has been formed looking the uniqueness of the local potato, 15 nos of SHG from 8 VSSs named Chanchalasahi, Bilabadi, Mundasahi, Gutsulaguda, Dadi, Kanibidika, Jiridikia and Gindapanga of K.Nuagaogan FMU are part of this cluster. Major potato growing villages are Kanibidika, Jiridikia, Gindapanga, Chanchalasahi, Bilabadi and Mundasahi. Although, potato consumption in the tribal villages is very low, they are very much interested to undertake this activity over years as an additional source of income. After harvesting usually local farmers' sale their surplus product within 2 months, during which the selling rate remains completely under the control of local traders.



After formation of the potato cluster, regular cluster level meetings were organised in order to mobilize the SHG members as well as the VSS members for storage of their products and to adopt collective marketing. To facilitate this activity, the Animator and VSS President along with the ULCM regularly collected the market information. The members of the Cluster had undergone exposure visit to nearby local markets in order to assess the market rate.

The SHGs purchased 238 quintals of potatoes of three sizes i.e big, medium and small at a rate of Rs. 6 to 4 respectively. The total amount spent was ₹ 1,30,250. Sale events were organized on various dates (see Table). Expenditure like purchase of plastic net bags, transportation and labour charges were made. They could able to sell 237 quintals of potatoes. In this process they earned a profit of Rs. 45,905 /-. This profit made them more determined to do the business collectively in a regular basis.

Event	Date	Big			Medium			Small			Total	
		Quantity	Price	Total	Quantity	Price	Total	Quantity	Price	Total	Quantity	Price
1	25.2.2011	53.00	7.5	39750							53.00	39750
2	27.4.2011	62.00	8.5	52700	40.70	7.5	30525	14.30	6	8700	117.00	91925
3	26.5.2011	29.00	8.5	24650	21.00	7.5	15750	17.00	6.5	11050	67.00	51450
		144.00		117100	61.70		46275	31.30		19750	237.00	183125

Honif Mohammed,
DFO-cum-DMU Chief, Balliguda

VEGETABLE FARMING BY SHG

Kamankama VSS under Phiringia FMU of Phulabani DMU has a strong perspective of seasonal vegetable cultivation. Some of the SHG members used to cultivate vegetables in their field individually. But Income Generation Activity Support Agency (IGASA), MART led them to collective farming. Their earnings increased heavily by selling their produces in collective marketing approach.

Maa Mangala Self Help Group comprising 15 members of Kamankama VSS was formed in the year August 2007. Except saving practices and money lending, SHG had no other activity. Due to strong prospect of seasonal vegetable cultivation, IGASA team prepared a business plan for vegetable trading and SHG immediately started the activity. VSS sanctioned a loan of ₹ 30,000 and group contributed ₹ 39,000 from their savings. SHG started cultivating cabbage in 2 acres of land by applying modern techniques like use of sprinklers, fertilizers, diesel pump set hiring from VSS and better water management. In first harvest cycle, the group sold 2 truckloads of cabbages to the traders of Nayagarh and Berhampur from their village. In second and third round of harvests, the group sold cabbages to the inter district traders of Phulbani, Sarangarh, Khajuripara areas. In the first lot, group got ₹ 90,000 by selling 6000 pieces of cabbage for ₹ 10/ K.G. with average weight of 1.5 Kg. During second & third lot, group earned ₹ 67,000 with the average price of 6 to 7 rupees per Kg. At the end of season, the SHG group made a profit of ₹ 87,250 after repayment of loan i.e. ₹ 30,000 principal loan and ₹ 750 interest thereon for 5 months. Animator guided the group to sell their produce in local markets and to deal with the traders. After getting such a profit margin, the group is enthusiastic enough to cultivate different vegetables according to the season.



Sanjeeb Kumar Mishra
ULCM-IGASA Phiringia

Trainings & Exposure visits organised by OFSDP

Capacity building is one of the primary objective of OFSDP. Project is organizing the required trainings for different stakeholders from time to time. During the quarter following trainings/Exposure visits have been organized.

1. To strengthen the knowledge about Clean Development Mechanism and their importance in formulating new projects, identifying thrust areas and scope of carbon credit business, preparation of CDM- PoA Project Proposals and propagating new ideas, Project sent RCCF, Baripada Sri Ajit Bharthuar, IFS for a training course from 26th to 30th April 2011 on "Kyoto Protocol, Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) & Programme of Activities (CDM – PoA) for multiple CDM Projects" at Centre for Climate Change, Engineering Staff College of India, Hyderabad.

2. To share knowledge and experiences on innovations in fodder species that will allow large scale adoption of these by farming communities in Project operational VSS, a training was organized at Koraput on 5th and 6th May 2011. The training was facilitated by Sri Subash Balakrishna Badve of Maharashtra where 30 no. of participants in the category of R.O, FEO, Frs and Animators of Jeypore, Rayagada and Koraput DMUs participated.



3. With an objective to help the officers to identify their strengths and weaknesses, understand if there is decline in their competence, and if so what are the reasons and what are the tools to overcome them scientifically, a training named "Extempore Role Leadership Lab for Orissa Forest Officers" was organized in the PMU Bhubaneswar. The training was conducted by 6th Sense, Bengaluru in two batches from 18th -19th and 20th -21st May 2011 where 53 nos of participants in the rank of Addl. Pr.C.C.F, C.C.F, C.F, D.F.O, A.C.F and R.O participated.



4. In order to build the capacity and improve the income generating activities of bamboo artisans/ members of SHGs on technology in Bamboo utilization, Project arranged one "Interactive Training cum Exposure on innovation in Bamboo Utilization" at Shree Bhargav Fibres, Pune.



Ten no. of VSS and SHG members from Deogarh DMU & Paralakhemundi DMU participated in the training under the leadership of Sri A.R. Parida, Dy. PD (LLI) for 2 days on 4th & 5th June 2011. They learnt different technology to use bamboos like; preparation of agarbati sticks, construction of roofs and walls of the house made of bamboo, bamboo made bridges, different bamboo craft items and bamboo plywood. Two machines for preparation of agarbati sticks were purchased & are in use by the above SHG groups for demonstration purposes.

5. To study the techniques in restoration of degraded mangroves, process of Joint Forest Management and Integrated Mangrove Fishery farming system as alternate livelihood a training cum exposure visit on "Mangrove Forest Conservation & Management" was organized at Pichavaram, Chennai from 6th to 10th June 2011. Sri M. R. Bhatta, Dy.PD, Sri K.C. Samantray, Dy. PD, Sri K. K. Swain, DFO-cum DMU Chief Balasore (WL) Division, Sri Basanta Kumar Barik, R.O. Chandbali (WL) Range, Sri P.C. Das, R.O., Jaleswar (WL) Range & Sri. Ghanashyam Barik, Fr., Bhadrak (WL) Division, attended the training.



6. With an overall objectives of providing immense practical learning opportunities to senior forest officials on various aspects of Forests and Wild life management, participatory management of reserves and biodiversity with indigenous communities, the initiatives taken to combat climate change, ecotourism and structure of management and regulations an overseas study tour to Australia was organized by the Project from 5th to 16th June 2011. Sri. Rabinarayan Senapati, IAS, Agriculture Production Commissioner, Shri Vinod Kumar, IFS Project Director, Shri Ajit Bharthuar, IFS Regional CCF, Baripada, Shri Subash Chandra Swain, IFS, Regional CCF, Rourkela, Shri Armugam Periasamy, IFS DFO, Koraput, Shri Hanif Mohammed, OFS DFO, Balliguda Division participated in the said study tour.



ହେ ଭାଇନା ଚିକେ ବଣକୁ ଅନା

ହେ ଭାଇନା ଚିକେ ବଣକୁ ଅନା,
 ଗଛ ସବୁ ନିତି ଚାଲିଛି ହଣା ।
 ଗଛ କଟା ଦେଖୁ ଭାଇନା କୁହ,
 କେମିତି ତୁମର ସହୁଛି ଦେହ ।
 ହେ ଭାଇନା ଚିକେ ଗଛକୁ ଅନା,
 ଗଛ ଡାଳପତ୍ର ମୋତେ ଭାଜନା ।
 ଗଛ ବିଏ ପରା ହେ ଅମୂଳାନ,
 ଫଳଫୁଲ ଛାଇ କରଇ ଦାନ ।
 ହେ ଭାଇନା ଚିକେ ବାଟକୁ ଅନା,
 ବାଟ କେତେ ଗଛ ନାହିଁଟ କମା ।
 ଧୂସୁଧୂସୁ ଖରା ପଡ଼ିଛି ବାଟ,
 ବାଟୋଇ ବିଚରା ହୁଏ ଛଟପଟ ।
 ହେ ଭାଇନା ଚାରିଆଡ଼କୁ ଅନା,
 ବନଜଙ୍ଗଲ ସବୁ ପଦା ବର୍ଷା ହୁଏନା ।
 ହେ ଭାଇନା ମୋତେ କରନା ମନା,
 ଦେଖ ଆସିଲାଣି ଓ.ଏଫ.ଏସ୍.ଡି.ପି. ବାନା ।
 ନିତି ନୁଆଁ ଗଛ ଲଗାଇ ଚାଲ,
 ଗଢ଼ିଉ ନୁଆଁ ନୁଆଁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ।

ବିଜୟ କୁମାର ପ୍ରଧାନ
 ବନପାଳ, ବଣାଇଁ ରେଞ୍ଜ

Transfer/Posting

R. Raghu Prasad, IFS on promotion to Conservator of Forest joined as Joint Project Director at PMU OFSDP on 8.7.2011



This quarterly newsletter of the JICA assisted Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project provides timely information relating to different project activities for the knowledge of various stakeholders.

For any comments/Suggestions, please write to:
 Deputy Project Director (P&A)
 E-mail : dpd.pa@ofsdp.org

Published by
Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project
 SFTRI Campus, At/Po. Ghatikia, Bhubaneswar-751 003
 Phone : 0674 2386016, Fax : 0674 2386085
 E-mail : webmail@ofsdp.org
<http://www.ofsdp.org>

Editorial Board
 Editor-in-chief : Project Director, OFSDP
 Managing Editor : Jt. PD (HRD & R)
 Editor : Dy. PD (P&A)
 Advisors : Resident Manager GC, OFSDP & Jt. PD (A&F), JPD (IME)

Printed at : Jyoti Graphics, 0674 2544209
 Designed by : Fingerprint, 9937707069