



# OFSDP

Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project

## Newsletter

Vol. 3 Issue No.1

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### PD'S DESK

#### Engineering IGAs ....

Full fledged IGA integration in the developmental efforts will be started shortly, as most of the pre-implementation exercises for understanding resource base, marketing structure & capacity building scenario for defining effective area specific regimens & comprehensive packages to the budding rural entrepreneurs are in the completion stage.

Project organised many workshops & seminars to explore various potentials and sensitizing its workforce about the nitty-gritty of the IGAs in the rural settings and convergence with existing programmes & projects as an effective tool for augmenting a robust sustainable livelihood structure. In many areas, project is working with different Line-departments for providing livelihood support to the community, and there is absolute need to utilize these potentials for fulfilling basic human needs in all the project villages for successful livelihood interventions.

Successful SHG enterprises in the Pilot IGAs are healthy signs for implementation of focussed IGAs & I expect grassroot project functionaries have attained a greater understanding of livelihood interventions and will utilize their collective wisdom, alongwith the participating communities, for adopting best possible options.

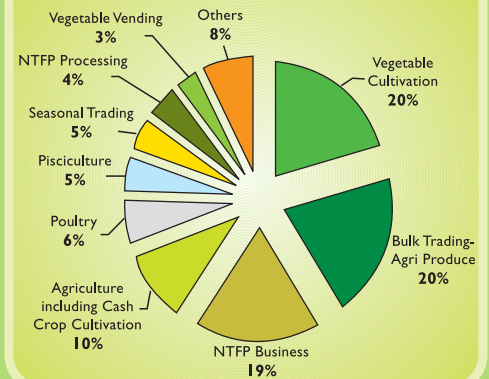
For more effective monitoring and consequent process improvement, PMU has designated Jt. PDs and Dy. PDs as nodal officers for two DMUs each, who will have monthly field visits to the assigned divisions.

- Arun K. Bansal

## SHGs...the livelihood pivots

OFSDP's envisaged livelihood augmentation for sustainable forest management and weaning away the forest dependent community towards alternate & more sustainable livelihood avenues requires active participation of the community based organisations/groups for effective implementation of different forest & livelihood interventions. Self Help Groups with the equitable participation of the vulnerable section of the community will play an effective role in livelihood augmentation process under the project. Besides the project support through VSS revolving fund to the respective SHGs, there are efforts to generate the resources through healthy convergence with other agencies in the field of SHG support. Strengthened SHGs will be able to benefit more from the existing efforts and will provide a robust livelihood support to its members and additional income to the VSS. This will in turn reduce pressure on the forest. Project

### IGAs taken up in Pilot IGA (341 SHGs)



aims at achieving the following through SHGs activities-

- Organising the poor inhabitants especially the

Contd... pg-8

## Fine Tuning ANR

### Biodiversity Conservation for sustaining forest & livelihood growth

From the experiences of ANR activities undertaken in the 1<sup>st</sup> batch areas, future ANR interventions are proposed to be fine tuned with a view to conserve species of livelihood significance to the community.

The major changes proposed in ANR interventions are :

- Focus on in-situ conservation of Bio diversity and promoting livelihood specific biota in the ANR areas for increasing livelihood potentials with restoration of degraded areas.
- Promoting multi storied forests.
- Emphasis on retaining livelihood specific species during silvicultural cleaning.
- Selection of species, sites for block plantings, tending and SMC work on grid basis - 4 ha. grids.
- Plantation is to be supplemented by seed sowing of suitable species of shrubs, climbers, herbs, and tubers.

# PMU Watch



JPD (HRD&R) OFSDP Dr. J.P. Singh taking stock of the progress during his field visit to Bonai & Rourkela Division.

## Capacity Building

### Trainings in the Quarter

In this quarter following trainings were conducted -

**Training on NTFP based Micro Enterprise, value addition & marketing** was organized at Bhubaneswar from 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> January, 09 by EDI, Ahmadabad. 6 FEOs, 12 VFWs participated.

**Training on accounting procedures** was organized on 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> January, 09 at PMU Bhubaneswar. 16 FEOs & 10 DMU staff were trained on OFSDP Accounting Procedures.

**Integrated Community Development training** at National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad - 2 DFOs, 1 ACF, 12 ROs, 2DPDs & 1JPD were trained from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> February, 09.

**The theory and practices of Bio fertilizers** for nursery & plantation improvement was organized at Department of Forestry, OUAT, Bhubaneswar on 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February, 09 where 2 ROs, 11 FEOs, 15 VFWs were trained.

**Soil & moisture conservation** training was organized at Orissa Professional Development Service Consultants(OPDSC), Rayagada, coordinated by DFO, Rayagada from 25<sup>th</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March, 09 where 2ROs, 11FEOs, 15VFWs, were trained.

**Calendar for VSS and SHG Training** has been prepared and sent to all DMUs/FMUs for time execution.

## Convergence Crucials

### ...for Holistic Development

OFSDP aims to capitalize from various developmental interventions being undertaken by different gov./non-govt. agencies to enhance the efficacy of the project interventions, specifically for livelihood promotion and sustainable income to the community. Hence, convergence with other developmental agencies / line departments is the most desirable option to utilize the expertise & innovations with these agencies to complement the efforts of stakeholders under OFSDP.

In this perspective, after preparation of micro-plans and assessment of the requirements of the villages,



project is making all out efforts to explore convergence with programmes of other agencies and line departments. Chief Secretary, Orissa has issued specific instructions to all the District Collectors of the project districts for convergence with different line department programmes. This will provide tremendous boost to the efforts of the project officials in defining convergence for upcoming livelihood related interventions.

Some of the convergence initiatives undertaken in the project areas with different departments are -

- National Rural Health Mission has been requested to cover the project villages in NRHM activities like ASHA, GKS and other public health activities on priority basis. Mission Director has directed all the Chief District Medical

Officers to give emphasis to the OFSDP villages.

- Department of Animal Husbandry is supplying bucks through its clusters to our project area. These bucks are insured for the first year and there after the beneficiary will do the insurance for the following year. They are promoting Vanaraja Chicks to increase the income level of the forest dwellers.
- Department of Agriculture is supplying hybrid seeds, fertilizer and pesticides. Also they are



guiding the beneficiaries to get the best production.

- Department of Panchayati Raj is running the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in the project areas. Dam, Canal, Tank, road are being constructed in this scheme.
- In many areas rural sanitation works are being taken up through Rural Water Sanitation Mission (RWSS).
- Department of Horticulture is supplying hybrid seeds for various types of fruits.

Project expects concerted efforts & synergetic approach through purposeful convergence by different stakeholders to enhance the rural opportunities in augmenting a sustainable developmental scenario for forests & forest dependent communities.



# Sameekshya, 2008

## (1<sup>st</sup> Annual Review Meeting)

**Sameeksha-2008**, the 1<sup>st</sup> State level Annual Review Meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of January at Bhubaneswar. The major objectives were to review progress, sharing views amongst PMUs/DMUs & FMUs, and identifying technical, social and managerial issues with remedial measures for smooth implementation of different interventions.

Meeting was inaugurated by lighting of ceremonial lamp in a unique style by an Animator, a NGO Team Leader, a VSS Chairperson, a FMU Chief, a DMU Chief and the Project Director.

The meeting was attended by 22 Animators, 20 Forest Rangers, 18 VSS presidents, 21 NGO Team leaders and 19 VFWs. In total 134 project personnel from Various DMUs attended the meeting apart from Officers from PMU, concerned Conservator of Forests & DMU Chiefs.

Opening the discussion, Project Director made a presentation highlighting the project strategies and achievement. He emphasised upon the need for meaningful interactions in successful execution of the project activities.

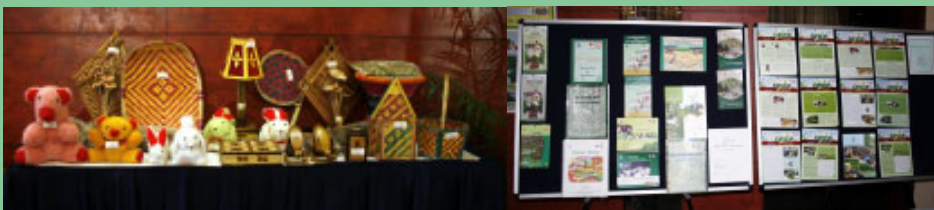
A photo Exhibition was also organised showcasing different successful approaches in the field. Some partner NGOs displayed various products



from the SHGs under the project, which can be emulated for further IGA interventions in other areas.

Mr S.P. Nanda, IAS Agriculture Production Commissioner, Orissa & Chairperson OFSDP Governing Body addressed the gathering. He released IEC posters and Video presentation and expressed his satisfaction on the progress of the project. Mr. Nanda suggested to workout all the convergence prospects and emphasized on rural health. He suggested for deworming of children to reduce the malnutrition & eye-testing for children below 15 yrs of age. He also stressed on Pisciculture and Poultry activities for enhancing income of the VSS members.

Sameekshya - provided a platform for getting feedback and views of the main stakeholders the VSSs and the frontline facilitators for process improvement/refinement.



### Project Displays...

in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Review Meeting being shown to Shri S.P. Nanda, IAS, APC & Chairman, OFSDP Governing Body by Shri Arun K. Bansal, IFS, PD, OFSDP



## National Cross Learning Workshop

OFSDP organized a National Cross Learning Workshop on "Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods" on 24-25 February, 09 at Bhubaneswar. Delegates from JICA & all the JICA assisted projects in India, besides the officials from OFSDP participated in 2 days deliberations. Main objective of the workshop was to provide a cross-learning opportunity to the project officials executing forestry projects, for mutual learning from the experiences and innovative approaches adopted in JICA assisted forestry projects in the country.



# National Cross Learning Workshop

The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Ajit Kumar Tripathy, IAS Chief Secretary, Orissa and President OFSDS & Chairperson HPC-OFSDP. The inaugural function was presided by Shri S.P. Nanda, IAS, Agriculture Production Commissioner, Orissa and Chairperson of OFSDP Governing body.

Shri Hidetoshi Irigaki, Chief Representative, JICA, India was the Guest of Honour, and other dignitaries included Shri R.K. Goel, IG Forests (EAP) Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India; Shri U.N Behera, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Forest and Environment Department, Orissa; Shri B.K.Patnaik, IFS, Principal CCF Wild Life, Orissa and Shri Arun K Bansal, IFS, Addl. PCCF & Project Director, OFSDP. Other JICA delegates were Shri Vineet Sarin Lead Development Specialist JICA India, Ms Nami

Shinahara Programme Officer from JICA India and Ms. Kakuta from JICA, Japan. 17 representatives from 9 JICA assisted forestry projects in Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Punjab, Haryana, Tripura, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and 4 Forest officers representing 4 adjoining States- West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chattishgarh & Andhra Pradesh participated alongwith CFs, DFO-cum-DMU Chiefs, PMU Officers and GC experts in OFSDP.

At the inaugural function, "OFSDP - a pictorial Glance" and latest issue of project Newsletter were released and circulated. A photo exhibition highlighting activities of different forestry projects in the country was also organized. The workshop was coordinated by Dr J P Singh, Joint PD, OFSDP who also proposed a formal vote of thanks.



Inauguration, was followed by a technical session chaired by Shri R.K.Goel, IGF (EAP) MoEF, GOI and Co-Chaired by Shri B.P.Singh, CCF (Aff & SF) Orissa. Two presentations were made first by Shri Vineet Sarin highlighting JICA's forestry sector support scenario in the country, and second by Shri Debidutta Biswal, Joint Project Director





JICA Delegation



Delegates from other states



DFO-cum-DMU Chiefs, OFSDP



# Learning Workshop

highlighting innovative features and achievements of OFSDP.

In the afternoon, two technical sessions were held at which presentation by Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhatishgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Sikkim were made in two session Chaired by Shri M.G.Gogate

Retd PCCF Maharashtra and Team Leader, GC to OFSDP, and Dr. C.R. Mohapatra, Retd. PCCF Orissa with Shri Vinod Kumar, Managing Director OFDC and Shri Bhagwan Singh Addl. PCCF Tamilnadu as CoChairs respectively.

The first day's proceedings were concluded by a entertaining cultural programme of Tribal Dance by VSS representatives from Koraput and traditional Odissi dance.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day presentations were made by representatives of Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, and Tripura. Shri Taneja, Addl PCCF Haryana, and Shri Iqbal Singh CCF, UP chaired & co-chaired the session respectively.

There after the participants were divided into 3 groups to deliberate on the 3 main themes i.e. Livelihood, Convergence and Sustainability.

These 3 groups' recommendations were presented and refined through intense discussion, which led to the formulation of recommendations of the workshop. Discussions were moderated by the respective Chairmen of group namely Sri Vineet Sarin of JICA, Delhi, R.K.Goel IGF of MoEF, Govt. of India and M.G.Gogate, Team Leader, GC, OFSDP and the consolidated recommendations were discussed in afternoon session in the presence PD, OFSDP Shri Arun K. Bansal.

Workshop concluded with presentation of certificates and mementoes to the participants and vote of thanks. In the concluding session JICA representatives appreciated the initiatives taken by the project and observed that such experience sharing workshops need to be organised at least once a year in different states.



Learning for Livelihood -

## SHGs Exposure to Palishree Mela, Deogarh

Livelihood improvement strategy has specific IGA interventions to be undertaken by SHGs under different VSSs in project areas. It is fairly imperative to build the capacities of these SHGs through different trainings and exposure visits to different IGA implements for undertaking fruitful activities in the project villages.

Deogarh DMU facilitated one such exposure for 35 nos. of SHG members from different FMUs to Palishree Mela jointly organized by DWMS & DRDA at Pradhanpat, Deogarh from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2009. These Palishree Melas provide a marketing platform & exposure to different rural SHG products.



During the exposure 3 groups consisting of 12-14 SHG members including Team Leader Partner NGO interacted with the persons present in the SHG stalls. Project SHGs learnt on procurement process, production techniques, credit facilities & marketing avenues for products ranging from handicraft, food products to different utility items of daily use like incense stick, candle etc.

At the end of the exposure participants were happy and confident of getting the benefits through the learning. Participants also expressed their gratitude for facilitating such a fruitful visit. As a followup, various skill trainings are proposed to be organised as requested by the SHGs.

## MAA DHARUNI SHG - Pokhndaguda VSS

### ... efforts for Self Reliance



saving increased to 8,327/- which served as ATM (all time money) for them.

In December, 2008 they got a loan of Rs.25,000/- from Pokhndaguda VSS under OFSDP for vegetable cultivation. A business plan was developed and to materialize the plan meetings were organised by the SHG members. With the loan they started the vegetable cultivation with necessary guidance from the project facilitators and collectively raised brinjals and tomatoes. They sold a total of 15 quintals of brinjal & 16.5 quintals of tomatoes at Nabarangpur market. They invested Rs.25,000/- in this activity. They

sold Brinjal and Tomato @Rs.20/- and Rs.15/- per Kg respectively. After repaying the loan with interest to VSS, they got net profit of Rs.29,250/- and the amount has been deposited in their bank pass book within a period of three months.

Now they are planning to trade in Cashewnut and Tamarind. The VSS has deposited the interest in their VFDF pass book at Utkal Gramya Bank, Challanguda.

With raised confidence level these SHG members are taking active part in overall development of the village with participation in forest management work, anti liquor campaigns, health awareness and children's education.

Anil Patnaik, Team Leader  
ARYAN, Borigungma FMU

## Successful Protection Measures by- JABAPADAR VSS

KUNDRA FMU, JEYPORE DMU



Jabapadar is a revenue village of Kundra Block which is 17kms from Kundra FMU Hqrs. It consists of 139 Households; 132 H/H ST and other 7 households general. Total population is 590. All villagers are daily wage earners and mostly dependant on NTFP. After the VSS formation in 2007 villagers participation in forest protection increased and "Thenga Pali" was regularised. Even they teamed up with forest department personnel for night patrolling and assisted in detecting theft cases. In the last six months they have detected two cases and collected a fine of Rs.1500/- and has been deposited with the department. The total seizure was finished wood of 15 Cft, costing around Rs.7500/- which has been deposited in the FD Corporation.

Mr. Rasmi Ranjan Naik, DMU Chief, Mr. Ratikant Padhi, Asst. DMU Chief and Mr. Ganesh Padhi FMU Chief visited the VSS and appreciated the efforts of VSS members. This has helped to bring unity among the VSS members for protection of forests.



## Increasing Accessibility

... road to prosperity



used to remain disrupted due to breaches in the road due to water logging.

These villages were included under OFSDP in the year 2007-08. Four culverts were constructed on this road for making it all weather road. Now they can use the road for

Bulajhar, Dholgandia, Balijharana and Tumugula villages in Talcher range under Angul DMU had 12 kms stretch of road in very bad condition. The road connects from Gaham in West to Tumugula in East. The road is surrounded by Chua protected forest in North and Bulajhar protected forest in South.



People of these villages are mainly Schedule Tribe and they depend on collection of Non Timber Forest Produce from the protected forest for their livelihood. They use the road to collect the NTFP and go to market to sell those produce. But in Monsoon, road communication

communication through out the year. People of these villages appreciated the project support for the road, which will increase the accessibility and livelihood prospects for the villagers.

**Sudhansu Sekhar Mishra**  
DMU Chief, Angul

## Pisciculture Prospects

.... Flourishing through Fish Farming



Fish Farming has been taken up in many villages of Deogarh Division & SHGs are reaping good dividends from pisciculture. In Jamara village in Pallahara FMU two SHGs namely Sibani and HaraGauri of the village availed a loan of Rs 12500/- each and started Pisciculture in the near by Kata which is perennial one spreading over an area of around 2 hectare. They released 44000 fish fingerlings of Rohi, Bhakuda, Mirkali. china rohi. Up till now 2.17

quintals of fish has been netted and sold for Rs. 15,000/-, they are expecting total 15 quintals and hoping to earn a profit of more than Rs.50,000/-.

Similar activity has been taken up by many VSSs of the division and are expecting good profits.

**Divisional Forest Officer,**  
Deogarh Division, Deogarh

## Badi making

...a prospective IGA option



Swati Mahila Mandal, a women self help group of Santa Badigaon VSS, was formed in the year 2001 with 15 members. Except saving practice, group was unaware about internal lending, micro enterprise, Income generation activity etc.

Ankuran one NGO team sensitized the group about Income Generation Activities. Few activities under IGA were selected by the group such as Vegetable cultivation, Paddy business, Petty business, mushroom cultivation, NTFP (Tamarind / Mahul) business, Badi / Papad making, Masala preparation etc. The group took interest to start Badi making. At

that time there was about Rs. 25,000/- with the group. But due to lack of sensitization group was only interested for loan.

Swati Mahila Mandal asked for loan to start badi making. Project provided a grinder at the cost of Rs.3, 600/- to the group. From their own saving



the group purchased 40 Kgs of Biri @Rs.25/- per Kg. and also decided to return the fund to the VSS immediately. In Rayagada Mahatshova they sold 500 packets of 100 gm each @ Rs. 10/-. They are also lending the grinder for grinding of Biri, Masala etc. by individuals with a user fee @Rs.5/- per Kg. The earning is proposed to be utilized for maintenance of the grinder. Although profits are not high, the intervention has resulted in manifold increase in the self-confidence of the SHG members, who are utilizing their idle time productively and gainfully.

- Ashok Panda, FLE Rayagada

## SHGs...the livelihood pivots

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vulnerable sections for sustained efforts in livelihood promotion

- Effective IGAs implementation through strengthening these groups.
- Improving overall economy and sustainable income to the community & group members.
- Consequent confidence building and involvement in sustainable forest management.

OFSDP envisages that the SHG members should play a pivotal role in JFM by being active partner of VSS and sounding board for the concerns and voices of the vulnerable group. They should attend the VSS meetings regularly and participate in forest management / protection activities as well as

community development activities. The Project has targeted to groom 4550 SHGs, linking them with various income generation activities with support from VSS revolving funds, training, exposures and making their networking with Banks, Govt. resources, marketing collaborations and activity based federating to strengthen their foundation.

The project has initiated IGAs with SHGs on pilot basis. Within a year 341 SHGs have been linked with various income generation activities with the support from VSS. Chart given above shows the SHGs involvement in different IGAs. Pilot IGAs provided greater insight about SHGs' preferences for trades like vegetable cultivation, bulk trading in agricultural produces, NTFP, cash crop cultivation etc. They are also progressing towards other trades. Project has planned to impart need based skill training and exposures

to SHGs for taking IGAs to the next level.

With the support of FMU field Officers, NGO Partners have been assigned with the task to monitor the day to day activities of the SHG and



their involvement and growth in the project perspective.

The project in its first batch VSSs has assessed the performance of the existing SHGs and already developed the interventional strategy for capacity building measures and IGA frame work for the SHGs. A specialized market research agency



MART has done "Livelihood Opportunity Analysis" in 14 OFSDP project divisions, including Value Chain Analysis / business plans for 20 priority produces/ products across these divisions for promoting micro enterprises development.

## Bandhaguda Women's

.... Darshan for Prosperity



Bandhaguda VSS was formed in the year 2007 under Kotapada FMU of Jeypore DMU. Population of the village is 96 with 19 households. People are in BPL category. They are wage earners and Bamboo artisans. Most women are Bamboo artisans. After frequent visit of Gramya Vikas Sangathan, the facilitating NGO of OFSDP, Women of Bandhaguda village formed a SHG named Darshan. OFSDP supported the SHG with Rs. 3000 /- for NTFP based business. With this support SHG started Mahua business and got profit of Rs.762/-. They have also started Pisciculture activity in a small pond. They purchased the fingerlings from Fishery dept. in Jeypore. As of now they have made a profit of Rs.1580/- from this business. They have refunded the loan amount to the VSS and applied for a bigger loan. They believe that pisciculture will be one of the alternative and sustainable livelihoods in time to come.

- Dilip Rout, DO, Kotpad, FMU

## Publications...



**Project Glance** - A pictorial report on developmental interventions.



**Annual Report-07-08** - on 2<sup>nd</sup> year's achievements



Livelihood specific posters



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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## Appointments/Transfers

- **Basudev Behera**, OFS-I joined as DPD (JFM)