



OFSDP

Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project

NEWSLETTER



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PD's Desk

The project will soon enter into 5th year of its implementation. After 4 years of implementation project has established developmental pace in all the areas. Activities are in progress in 2044 VSSs in 11 forest divisions and 31 EDCs in 3 Wildlife Divisions. Interventions in 1262 1st & 2nd batch sites have reached a sizeable proportion and those in 764, 3rd batch JFM sites are in initial stage of implementation after completion of micro-planning. On the basis of experience gained in 1st & 2nd Batch implementation, project has initiated a process of revisiting the micro-plans to analyse gaps in forest treatment and make them more responsive to livelihood needs.

Though livelihood promotion activities are in different stages, impetus is being given to mobilize community towards mainstreaming through convergence with ongoing programs and existing support system. Keeping long term sustainability, project is putting efforts for developing VSSs offices into Village Resource Centers.

VSS and partner NGOs are doing many innovative works. One of the partner NGO in Rayagada has been instrumental in rescuing 20 migrant labourers who were sent by labour contractor to different states, and were exploited. These labourers are now earning their livelihood through OFSDP and other Govt. schemes. Similarly the SHGs have participated in state level Annual Adivasi mela and sold their products worth Rs. 2.25 lakhs. This is a unique platform for the SHGs products.

Under income generation initiatives, about 1500 SHGs have availed loans from VSS Revolving Fund for different activities of their choice. This initiative has not only revitalized the SHGs for taking up activities for earning additional incomes and enhancing their entrepreneurial skills, but has also provided great insight to the project for promoting focused/cluster IGAs.

The feedback provided by the VSS leaders and representatives during the 2nd Annual Review Meeting "Sameekshya-2009" was very encouraging and show the grass-root level concerns and commitment for success of project interventions. I am thankful for their active participation and expect prosperous forest livelihoods in the offing.


Arun K. Bansal, IFS
Pr. CCF & Project Director



Migrant Labourers rescued

An innovative step taken by one of our partner NGO teams at Tikiri Field Management Unit under Rayagada Forest Division was to rescue 20 migrant labourers from different parts of the country who remained away from their villages for 9 months. The victims expressed that they had been exploited very badly by the so called labour contractors. The migrants are from Baringpadar and nearby villages in Garkhopur Gram Panchayat.

The Dalal (Labour contractor) gave false assurances to these villagers of more income and high rate of wages. Then he handed over them to another labour contractor, Manu Pradhan at Balugaon in Khordha district, who took 4 days free labour by them at his Farm house. Then Manu divided them into small groups and handed over to other labour contractors i.e one group for Rajasthan, 2nd group for Hyderabad and 3rd group for Balliery in Karnataka where they worked from 3 AM to 6 PM each day.

The NGO Team with the help of VSS members took the matter to police station and followed up with concerned officials at different levels. District Collector, Rayagada forwarded the case to District Labour Officer (DLO) Balugaon for enquiry & necessary action. DLO, Balugaon, took immediate step for searching out of migrated labourers. Due to above concerted efforts within a week the Contractor took all labourers back to their villages and paid their 7/8 month wages in the presence of DLO-Balugaon and Rayagada.

These Villagers are now very happy and earning their livelihood by engagement through different Government programmes as well as through different works and livelihood options provided by OFSDP in their villages.

M. Santosh Prasad
Team Leader, Tikiri FMU, Rayagada DMU



Adivasi Mela

Project SHGs sale product worth Rs. 2.25 lakh

The state level Annual Adivasi Mela was held at Bhubaneswar from 26th January to 9th February 2010. Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project, facilitated participation of 45 VSS / SHG members from 29 SHGs from 20 VSSs from Angul, Balliguda, Deogarh, Jeypore, Koraput, Paralakhemundi, Phulbani, Rayagada and Rourkela Forest divisions. They did a business of Rs. 2, 25,347/- in 15 days by selling around 44 types of NTFP, Agricultural and farm and non farm products. Total profit earned by the members, was approximately Rs.62000/-. There was a great demand for Hill brooms, Honey, Turmeric powder, Ragi powder, Jhuna etc. SHG members were highly satisfied on this participation, which not only provided them opportunity to sale their products, but also exposed them to an entirely new opportunity of being a part of state level event. A model for project village displaying various activities undertaken by VSS was displayed. The visitors very enthusiastically saw the underlying strategies of village / VSS development depicted in the model.

Some video documentary films on project activities undertaken by DMUs had also been showed to the visitors.

Drinking Water for improving livelihoods

Hatiadanda Village is situated near Rengali Dam. In the east side of the village river Brahmani is flowing, in the north there exists Saluamada Reserve Forest. About 45 families are living in this village. One VSS was formed during 1999, under Joint Forest Management Programme, covering 160 ha. Forest Area of the Reserve Forest. The VSS was selected in the 1st phase VSS of the Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project. Though the village is situated on the bank of River Brahmani, the villagers were facing much difficulty in getting drinking water as the river water has been polluted day by day. By using unpurified drinking water, the villagers were suffering from stomach diseases. They have appealed before the Dam Authority, Hydro Power Project Authority and local BDO for supply of drinking water, but it could not materialized. The VSS members making resolution decided for digging of the Bore-well and constructing an over-head tank with provision for water supply through pipe to village. Finally from the available funds under EPA the work was successfully completed. Now the villagers of Hatiadanda are very happy and they say that their long pending ambition to get safe drinking water is fulfilled only through OFSDP.

Sri Dillip Kumar Raut
R.O. cum FMU Chief, Kaniha



Therlibahal is a small village with 49 households in Kumjharia G.P of Birmitrapur FMU under Rourkela Division. People of the village were facing problem of water. At the time of preparing the Micro plan in 2008 they urged for providing drinking water facility.

Prior to this situation there were 2 tube wells in the village, but those were in defunct condition. The villagers were dependant upon a private bore well of stone crusher. OFSDP set up 1 Tube well under EPA at Shingtola village and a bore well with a sintex tank near the VSS building with 0.5 HP motor. The stone crusher owner is supplying electricity free of cost for the motor. Not only the villagers but also the people of out side the village also use this tank for drinking water purpose.



Few Snaps of Elephant Census in Satakosia Wild-Life Division

Photo by : Sri Prasanna Ku. Behera
Secretary, NEWS (Partner NGO)
and Member, OFSDP Governing Body

Maize Cultivation: Combined effort of Maa Dharuni SHG

Maa Dharuni SHG of Pokhanaguda VSS made a fantastic effort for the Maize cultivation after successfully completing the vegetable cultivation. The twelve members of Maa Dharuni SHG of Pokhanaguda VSS took a Loan of Rs.25000/- from the VSS for Maize Cultivation. The SHG invested another Rs.25000/- from their savings for the purpose. This idea of investing from own saving was the result of guidance from the partner NGO Team. The SHG members contributed labour for harvesting along with their husbands. They graded maize according to their size. They harvested 300Qtls of maize from 10 acres of land within 90 days and sold @ Rs760/-per Qtl at Borigumma market. The SHG got a profit of Rs.75000/-. They have repaid the loan of Rs.25000/- along with the agreed interest of Rs.1500/- to the VSS.



It increased their per Capita Income and enhanced their self confidence for taking up further activities.

Mahendra Patra

FMU Chief, Borigumma, Jeypore DMU



Workshop on JFM and Sustainability

A workshop on Joint Forest Management and Sustainability - Developing Methods for Monitoring and Evaluation was organized by JICA India on 26th March 2010 at New Delhi. Experts from Academia, NGOs, National Institutes, and project Execution official from JICA assisted forestry projects in various states, consultants participated along with



representatives from JICA India, and Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India participated in the workshop. Sri A. K. Bansal, Project Director OFSDP participated at this workshop at the invitation of JICA India, along with Mr Pranab Choudhury, Livelihood Expert with OFSDP General Consultants. Sri Bansal chaired the second session in which a paper titled "Does JFM Reduce Poverty – Applying Randomized Evaluation and Quassi-Random Methods to JICA funded Forestry project was presented by Mr. Nicholas Ryan along with comments by three experts. Ha also presented comments on the paper presented by Prof P. Bhattacharya, IIFM- on "Performance Monitoring System in JFM Consolidation".

PROJECT ANIMATORS BECAME A PART OF NATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL



An exposure visit of selected animators to Bhubaneswar during National Youth Festival-2010 was facilitated by PMU. 50 animators from different DMUs attended the festival. This was the national forum for Arts, Music & Culture, Environment, Livelihoods, Social & Developmental work and Sports. The animators also attended one day workshop on 'Weight & Measures' organized by Food & Civil Supplies Dept. near Khandagiri, and also visited Horticulture Farm at Tangi, Choudwar, Cuttack. They visited Dhauli Shanti stup and Nandankanan, enjoyed the shows of Babul Supriyo, Usha Utthap, Rock band show of North-Eastern states and the dare devil show of Indian Army. In the mean time they had discussion with PD about various topics. This trip was organized by PMU. This was the first ever exposure of almost all Animators to Bhubaneswar. They became proud and extremely happy being a part of National event.



Banaraj Chicks: Good business for SHG

OFSDP intervened in Patna FMU of Keonjhar DMU by forming VSS at Khamuan village in 2008. After that Anantakeshari Self Help Group was formed with a membership of 19 members. All the lady members were very enthusiastic to improve their livelihood. The partner NGO motivated them and encouraged them to start some IGA. From their own saving, they started vegetable cultivation. After the success of this, they applied to VSS for a loan of Rs.10, 000/- for poultry. They got the loan from VSS revolving fund and started poultry with 189 Banaraj chicks. Within few months they sold 40 chicks and got Rs. 8420/- for that. After the profit they repaid the loan of VSS. Now they have applied for another loan to do this business in a bigger way.

Manoj Ku. Hati,
TL. Patna FMU, Keonjhar DMU

Mushroom cultivation:

IGA for many families

Mushroom cultivation was started under OFSDP during 2008-09 at Satbhauni, Bhadrak DMU on experimental basis. Surprisingly, it has got the spread effect with as many as 19 families in Haripur village near Bhadrak Range Office catching up mushroom cultivation as IGA. Sri Santosh Ku. Pradhan of Haripur village has earned profit of Rs. 31,520/- in 16 month long Mushroom cultivation. Initially he invested Rs. 86,800/- and produced 3142 Kg of Mushroom. After selling those in the market he got an amount of Rs. 1, 18,230/-. Other families are now earning on an average Rs. 3,000/- per month. Of late, some of the EDC members in the project villages along the coast have shown interest to adopt mushroom cultivation as income generation activity. They will be trained at the mushroom cultivation site at Satabhauni.

Sudarshan Patra, DFO cum DMU Chief, Bhadrak Wildlife Division



2nd Annual Review Meeting

Sameekshya-2009, the 2nd State level Annual Review Meeting was held on 29th and 30th of January 2010 at Bhubaneswar. The major objectives were to review progress & sharing views amongst various stakeholders of PMUs/DMUs & FMUs on various ongoing field activities and identifying technical, social and managerial issues with remedial measures for smooth implementation of different interventions. Meeting was inaugurated by lighting of ceremonial lamp by Chief Secretary, Sri Tarun Kanti Mishra, Agriculture Production Commissioner, Sri R.N Senapati, Pr. Secretary, Forest &



Environment Sri U.N Behera, Project Director Sri Arun Ku. Bansal, one animator, one SHG member and one VSS president. Inaugurating Sameekshya-2009 Chief Secretary stressed upon the need for Convergence and forest dept. staff should take greater initiative in this regard. He told that VSS members have a greater role in making the project interventions sustainable.

On first day, besides the officials from PMU, DMU & FMU, the meeting was attended by Animators, VSS Presidents, NGO Team Leaders and SHG Members. A booklet on "Institutional Strengthening" was released by the Chief Secretary. Similarly a brochure on "Simaruba" was released by Sri S.P.Nanda, the Development Commissioner, Orissa & he expressed his satisfaction on the overall progress of the project. The best performing VSS from each DMUs were felicitated by the Project Director. A photo Exhibition was also organized showcasing different successful approaches in the field. Some SHGs displayed their products.



Release of Performance assessment & 1st batch VSS Institutional Strengthen



Release of Brochure on Simaruba an.....

Congratulation ! Top ranking 1st batch VSS in respective divisions



Bairiandakranja VSS, K. Singpur, Rayagada (FMU Chief) Receiving Certificate



Baupala VSS
Kuliposh, Bonai



Rangapar VSS
Belghar, Baliguda (FMU Chief)



Pakhanaguda VSS
Borigumma, Jeypore



Pajimaha VSS
Raikia, Phulbani



Khaprabada VSS
Chandragiri, Puri



Tapatada VSS
Kaniha, Angul



Chhidi VSS
Banki, Rourkela



Khandapathar VSS
(Chaka), Keonjhar



Timajholla VSS
Laxmipur, Koraput



Rugudidihi VSS
Pallahara, Deogarh

SHG Representatives visited Karnataka

20 SHG/VSS members and NGO team leaders including one Deputy Project Director of OFSDP visited Karnataka for exposure. The team visited Chitra Durga & Davanagere districts of Karnataka during February 2010. The group visited 3 model Village Forest Committees (VFC). On 4th, the team visited Molkalmur range in Chitradurga district. On 5th February 2010 (2nd Day) they visited the VFC in the village Arasapura in Davanagere Forest Range in Davanagere District. A meeting was organized with the members of VFC and that of the SHG. District Collector is playing proactive role and supporting for the integration of income Generation Activities in a convergence mode. In addition to Micro Plan they have developed a system called Integrated Management Plan. Under such system SWOT Analysis is being carried on and accordingly necessary/appropriate steps are being taken for the community development and individual socio economic upliftment. It is for the first time that the SHG & VSS members have been sent by the project to outside state for an exposure visit. The members are extremely happy and expressed their views towards the better implementation of the project, after learning the skills of Karnatak JICA project.



World Wetland Day

OFSDP celebrated World Wetland Day on 2nd February 2010 at Bhadrak. Focus of deliberation was on enhancing community participation in Restoration of Mangroves, which are important wetland along Bhadrak and Balasore coast.

Inaugurating the celebration Sri R.N.Senapati IAS, Agricultural Production Commissioner and Chairperson OFSDP Governing Body appealed to community for active participation in plantation of mangroves and choose alternative IGA programme to reduce pressure on the wetland being facilitated by the Project.

Speaking about the role of Mangroves, Sri. D.D.Biswal IFS, Jt. P.D described them as the kidney of the wetland ecosystem. Sri A. K. Bansal, IFS, PCCF and Project Director highlighted the activities and facilitation under the Project aiming at restoration of Mangroves along with promoting alternative sources of livelihood for people depending on Mangroves. Mr.A.Brahma, DFO Baleswar & Mr.S.Patra, DFO Bhadrak requested the EDC members to be prepare to achieve the coming year Mangrove plantation in 1409ha. Prize awarded to six students out of 156 student participated in the essay competition "the Importance of Mangrove Conservation". Posters, pictures depicting project activities, and potted Mangrove plants were put on display. 145 persons participated.

DE-WORMING OF ANIMALS



Animal Husbandry Department, Phulbani has started a programme for de-worming of goats and creating awareness on animal health care. Such health camps were organised in 5 villages having VSSs named Sarupada where 55 goats were treated with the syrup for de-worming. So also in Biragudas 72 goats, 56 goats in Lahabadi, 65 goats in Sartagudas and 43

goats in Dagarsuga. Besides, film show were held on the theme of animal health care with highlights on the causes & consequences, signs & symptoms, treatment procedures and preventive measures against certain common and typical diseases that are prevalent among different domestic animals.

Manoj kumar Mishra,
Team leader, Sudrukumpa FMU, Phulabani DMU

CAPACITY BUILDING OF FRONT LINE FUNCTIONARIES

Non-destructive Harvesting, Processing and Value addition of NTFPs : A training on Non-destructive Harvesting, Processing and Value addition of NTFPs was held from 25th to 29th January 2010 at Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur. 9 Range officer-cum-FMU chiefs and 11 FEOs attended the training programme. Subsequently similar trainings were organized at circle level in association with TFRI, Jabalpur at Rayagada, and G.Udaygiri at which 51 officers participated.

Root Trainer Nurseries : Based on the impact of the previous year's exposure visits to Gondia and Chulband Nursery of MFDC and considering the importance and contextual appropriateness of Root Trainer Nursery (RTN), OFSDP intends to orient and equip number of its functionaries with the theory and the practice of RTN in forestry. Interactive Trainings cum Demonstration on Root Trainer Nursery were held in Orissa Circle wise for which experienced Resource Persons(s) were invited from Maharashtra Forest Development Corporation (MFDC). These all training programmes were organized at Rayagada, G.Udaygiri and Rourkela in which 79 field level functionaries participated.

Initiative towards Eco-Development & Eco-Tourism

Eco-development in protected areas is one of the subcomponent of Bio-diversity conservation component outlines in Orissa Forestry Sector Development project. Similar to the idea creating Vana Samrakshyan Samiti(VSS) in forest fringe villages, as one of the instrument where people's participation and active cooperation is sought in protecting the forest resources, creation of Eco-Development Committees(EDC) are mooted inside Protected Areas in Joint Forest Management Resolution, 2008. These committees are expected to take up activities under eco-development that would include eco-tourism and will provide specific alternatives to local biomass dependencies in protected area. "Conceptual Framework for Eco-Development including community based Eco-Tourism and its application in Satkosia Gorge Sanctuary" is the result of several rounds of consultation with the villagers by the experts and forest officials. It is expected that they would be useful in implementing Eco-Development activities in protected areas with active participation of the people living in and around such areas. The involvement of the potential participating communities in the evolution of the framework which makes this unique deserves special mention.



Chief Minister Sri Naveen Pattanik is releasing the "Conceptual Framework for Eco-Development including community based Eco-Tourism and its application in Satkosia Gorge Sanctuary" published by the project at DFO's conference held at Bhubaneswar on 24th January, 2010.

VSS Building: Centre for Learning

Pandrimati is a small village comprising 36 households in kerimity GP of Kundra FMU under Jeypore DMU. For livelihoods' villagers depend on forest produces, animal husbandry and also shifting cultivation. In 2007-08 this village was selected under OFSDP. Partner NGO studied the situation of the village and assisted the VSS in preparing Micro plan. It was decided that emphasis will be given on education. Few children of the village were going to Kerimity School covering a distance of four k.m. Rest 21 children were left out of school. In Oct 2009 VSS started literacy programme for woman and children through a village volunteer in VSS building. Children come to study post 4.00 P.M and on Sundays from 10.00 A.M. The women members of SHGs are also conducting their SHG meetings on social issues. Now the VSS building is used as educational centre, SHG & VSS meeting hall, trading centre for SHGs and community hall for village functions.

Kishor Ku. Sahu
TL, Kundra FMU, Jeypore DMU



2nd National Workshop of JICA assisted forestry projects

Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project had initiated the process, National Cross Learning Workshops last year by organizing a three days workshop on "Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods" for all JICA assisted forestry sector projects in the country. Rajasthan JICA assisted project carried forward the initiative and organized the second National Workshop at Udaipur from 20th to 21st February 2010 on "Sustainable Forest Management for Poverty Alleviation and Livelihood Security". Project Director Sri Arun Kumar Bansal represented the project at this workshop. This workshop was inaugurated by Chief Minister of Rajasthan Sri Ashok Gehlot and attended by PCCFs, and of the organizing state and Project Directors of various JICA assisted forestry sector projects in the country. Sri Bansal made a presentation on Sustainability through Convergence under OFSDP. In his presentation Sri Bansal highlighted about all the convergence work going on through the project. The presentation was highly appreciated by the participants.





Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha, Sri Naveen Pattanaik visited kandhamal on 31st March 2010.

He inaugurated the district level exhibition showcasing the activities of various departments. In this exhibition Phulbani Forest Division also participated. VSS and SHG members of OFSDP displayed several NTFP products. DFO cum DMU chief Sri M. Yogajayananda, IFS briefed the CM that these SHGs have availed loans from VSS revolving Fund under OFSDP for various income generating activities thereby enhancing the livelihood options and are involved in protection and management of assigned forests under JFM which is helpful in reducing pressure on the forest.



Winner of Quiz # 1

VSS/SHG

President & Executive Body, Gouranga Vana Samrskhyan Samiti
Manko, FMU Bisra, DMU Rourkela

FOREST OFFICIALS

Bijaya Kumar Nayak, Sr. FEO, Phulabani DMU

ANSWERS TO OFSDP QUIZ #1

1. c	6. d	11. c	16. a
2. b	7. c	12. a	17. b
3. b	8. c	13. d	18. a
4. d	9. a	14. b	19. d
5. a	10. d	15. d	20. c

We have received above 150 responses, but no one answered all the questions correctly. So it was decided to award the prize to the entry with maximum correct answers. The Demand draft will be sent shortly through the respective DMU Chiefs.

Congratulation to the winners !



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:
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