

Annual Report 2006-07



VISION STATEMENT

AFPRO as a secular socio-technical development organization with Christian inspiration visualizes itself as working to enable the rural poor – including women and men belonging to small and marginal farmers and the landless, dalits, tribal people, fisher folk and unemployed youth – to move towards sustainable development, through and overall increase in their knowledge and skills in areas that directly affect their standard and quality of life. It visualizes itself as an organization, which over the next decade will enable the marginalized rural groups to achieve enhanced socio-economic and personal status in society through appropriate technologies for the management of natural resources.

MISSION STATEMENT

AFPRO dedicates itself to its mission of alleviating rural poverty by promoting and working through voluntary organizations; with a focus on enabling the marginalized and weaker sections of rural society to participate in the process of rural development by strengthening their resource base and capabilities through improved knowledge and skills, both in the technical and socio-economic development areas.

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Front cover : The illustration depicts AFPRO's program approach – a participatory methodology, specialized socio-technical guidance, appropriate capacity building activities and support for income generation programs, together provide a critical framework for pro-poor socio-economic development in rural areas.

Back cover : A low cost wood stove from the V & A Program (Pg. 18)

Title Illustration Pg. 18 : Mentally challenged trainees at the CIMR model farm at Trivandrum pose for group photograph.



Executive Director's Note

Perseverance, confidence, courage and passion for intense participation are essential pre-requisites for effectiveness of the voluntary sector in development. Those who do believe and envision can accomplish programs and tasks to the satisfaction of all the partners. The reward for voluntarism is the fulfillment of having done fruitful work for the underprivileged. Thus organizations and individuals working in the voluntary sector should be wary of adopting attitudes of mediocrity and pretence.

It was another year of painstaking hardwork on the ground, of enthusiastic and committed action to kindle hope. AFPRO's pride lies in its ability to reach out and provide qualitative services that leave their imprint on the lives of ordinary villagers. While in early years AFPRO focused more on one-time services, we have focused more on engagement with communities through program-based approaches during the past few years. The learning over the years was that such engagement with communities provides ample space for participatory approaches based on capacity building of communities, a very crucial component for the sustainability of interventions.

The lessons from projects AFPRO has been working on confirm this understanding. Take the case of Jalswarajya Program in Maharashtra that has entered it's final year and has involved intense effort from AFPRO. An initiative of the State Government with fund support from the World Bank, the program strategy of sector reform for decentralized management of water supply and sanitation facilities in the state through capacity building of communities has resulted in remarkable levels of community initiative. This has primarily resulted as people

are taken in by the idea of complete participation in the management of their own water and sanitation facilities.

A greater concern regarding climate change has wrapped the world during the year. The motion picture made by former US Vice-President Al Gore presents a sharply poignant image of the issue at hand. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change established in 1988 by the United Nations Environment Program and the World Meteorological Organization has been releasing Assessment Reports regarding climate change since 1990. These reports have been highlighting the possible devastating effects of climate change, and have greatly influenced international mindsets and policies. AFPRO's involvement in the Vulnerability Assessment and Enhancement of Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change Program has given it an opportunity to work at developing specific coping strategies.

While AFPRO has been working at similar approaches for Drought Mitigation using the Integrated Watershed Development Approach, this program adopts a participatory research methodology for providing people low-cost technological aids to enable early detection of climatic variability and adoption of suitable remedial measures. Thus, through an innovative approach, the project seeks to establish some ground rules for preservation and optimal utilization of natural resources to meet the challenge of climate change in rural areas. These will benefit advocacy efforts aimed at development policy at all levels. The three sectors being studied viz. Agriculture, Water and Energy (Biomass), represent a sum-total of critical influences on rural livelihoods in developing and under-developed countries.

Partnership with World Vision India has expanded, and AFPRO supported 18 ADPs during the period. It has thrown open critical area of strategic connectivity between the organizations – each finding deeper program effectiveness through this partnership. World Vision's core work of community development is being effectively partnered and supplemented by land and water development activities. This is a unique opportunity for AFPRO to share values with World Vision India.

For every organization there is a time of looking back and self-examination, and for AFPRO the year being reported was one such period. The year was the last of the 4 year phase with support from our Consortium of Funding Partners. It was marked with an Organizational Evaluation by an independent team of consultants. The exercise lasted for a period of three months and made crucial suggestions.

As a follow-up AFPRO initiated a process of revisiting its program approach to help it prepare for the future. An external consultant guided the process which included generation of a common understanding of futuristic needs and realities, both inter-sectoral as well as within the influence of an overwhelming globalized external environment. This was accompanied by 5 Regional Workshops conducted by AFPRO. What has been a critical outcome of the workshops, in spite of the diversity of regions, is the identification of a desire to contribute in qualitative policy formulation through all levels of governance, planning and execution. Thus participation is being seen not just in terms of openness of political and governmental thought to suggestions from society, but also in their actualization.

We would like to acknowledge the guidance and encouragement provided by the Governing Body. AFPRO has completed 39 years as a registered NGO. The vision and insights of the Governing Body has always been a light for AFPRO to take up the challenges that affect the livelihoods of the rural poor.

We also extend our sincere gratitude to our consortium resource support partners for their support and regular participation through dialogues, on issues pertaining to development. They have

consistently contributed and partnered with AFPRO for sharpening the poverty reduction strategies and the repositioning of AFPRO.

A special thanks to our partner NGOs, Government and International agencies with whom we have worked at the field level for taking programs to the ground and implementing shared visions.

We cannot derive satisfaction till the community we serve expresses happiness with our interventions. This is only possible with their cooperation and participation in the efforts. A word of gratitude to them for their positive acceptance of our programs and openness in sharing of experiences; these help us work towards our dream of supporting them with meaningful interventions and create the fundamental synergy required for the success of participatory approaches, and also crucially add to our learnings that enhance the quality of our engagement totality.

D K Manavalan
Executive Director



Water and Sanitation

Water and sanitation is recognized all over the world as a sector where individual adoptability is very critical to human dignity and facilities that are implemented using the generally acceptable top-down approach are difficult to utilize and maintain in a sustainable manner, unless effectively cared for.

This is the challenge put forward by Goal 7 of the Millennium Development Goals viz. Ensuring Environmental Sustainability. The requirement of reaching resources for water and sanitation to remote and marginal communities cannot be looked at in isolation, but as an act of human responsibility and initiative. Target 9 speaks of integrating the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reversing the loss of environmental resources. Target 10 fixes an aim of halving by 2015 the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

While the earlier approach emphasized the meeting of set targets, the time has come to have a decisive focus on empowerment of communities for managing facilities of water supply and sanitation available with them. This shift itself is crucial, and demands a process based approach which includes a heavy capacity building component. At the same time programs should address the large sections of population while ensuring improved and adoptable facilities.

Promoting Sector Reform through Jalswarajya

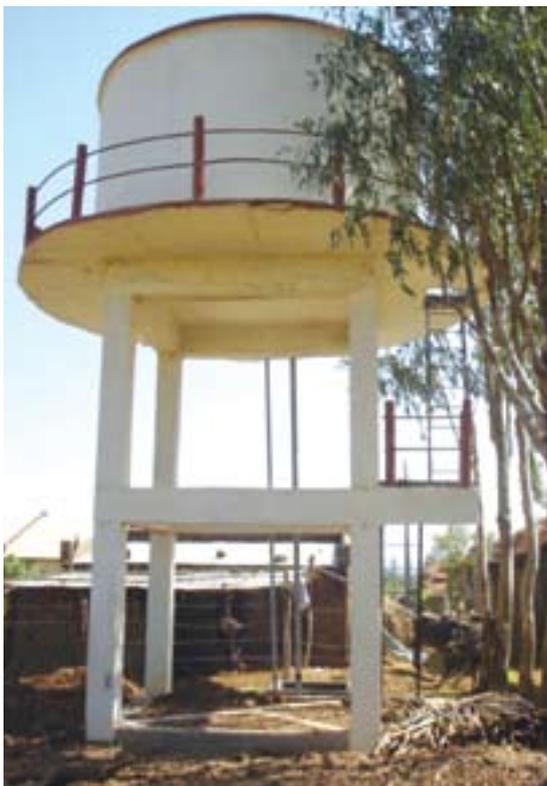
For the last 3 years, AFPRO Ahmednagar has been providing support for a Sector Reform Project initiated by the Government of Maha-

rashtira, with funding support from the World Bank. Aply called Jalswarajya, the project promotes divergence from usual governance practices of centralized supply based management of water supply and sanitation facilities, towards decentralized demand based management of the same through sector reform. The main objectives are to improve people's access of drinking water and sanitation facilities in rural Maharashtra and to strengthen the lowest tier of Panchayati Raj Institutions i.e. the Gram Panchayat, for planning, implementation and maintenance of water supply schemes.

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Maharashtra
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satara District in Western Maharashtra • Osmanabad District in Marathwada Region • Yavatmal in Vidarbha Region
Program Promotion and Resource Support	Government of Maharashtra
Implementing Agency	39 NGOs (Program Support Organizations)

AFPRO's role is that of a Capacity Building Consortium for three districts viz. Satara in Western Maharashtra, Osmanabad in Marathwada region and Yavatmal in Vidarbha region covering 437 villages with 39 NGOs playing the role of Support Organizations for facilitating the implementation of the project objectives.

The project reflected the adoption of open-minded decentralization process. The most appreciative part of the plan are the capacity



An Elevated Storage Reservoir (ESR) constructed at Village Kasarshirambe

building elements planned throughout the entire process.

The interventions made by AFPRO are as follows:

- Organizing theme-based capacity building events on social, technical, financial and management aspects for District level teams, Block level functionaries, NGOs, technical service providers (TSPs), village level institutions and paraprofessionals – all of who are part of the huge implementation strategy.
- Helping the District-level teams to formulate the strategy for effective program management at the village level.
- Monitoring the performance of NGOs (Support Organizations), TSPs and village level institutions and suggesting the remedial measures
- Developing model villages in each district for its replication in other project villages
- Documenting best practices and sharing the experiences in form of case studies and photo documentation.

- Developing training manuals and IEC materials on different themes of the project

Quality Assurance Appraisal Study for UNICEF

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Jharkhand
Location	22 districts
Collaborating Agency	UNICEF

AFPRO Ranchi is conducting a quality assurance appraisal study of the school sanitation program of UNICEF in 22 districts of Jharkhand. The program activities were implemented by district and block level agencies with the help of local NGOs.

The methodology being followed is of random appraisal by selecting one school in each block. After the study is complete, the findings will be shared at State level workshop with UNICEF, PHED and District level officials, as well as partner NGO representatives. At this workshop, the outcome of the study in terms of statistics regarding proper implementation and utilization, best practices and recommendations will be placed before the stakeholders.

Some of the key recommendations till now are enumerated below:

- Groundwater investigations need to be undertaken before the installations of hand pumps as there are cases reported on failure of installed borewells. In addition, drainage arrangements also need to be made with each hand pump. Timely repair and maintenance of hand pumps need also be carried out.

One of the School Toilets that was appraised by the AFPRO team during the study





- Construction of sanitary blocks and toilets need a significant amount of monitoring by those having technical expertise. Motivation for utilization and maintenance of the structures needs to be continuous and persevering.
- Funds need to be generated for repair and maintenance activities, either through local contribution or from the project budget. Capacitating of local mechanics for the same would be ideal.
- Capacity Building of Village Education Committees needs to be qualitative.
- Regular health education needs to be ensured in each school through use of adequate IEC materials.

Rejuvenation of Water Bodies and Rainwater Harvesting Systems in Coimbatore City

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Tamil Nadu
Location	Coimbatore
Collaborating Agency	Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation
Program Promotion	Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renovation Mission - JnNURM

AFPRO Bangalore has ventured into JnNURM and is assisting Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation to prepare a Detailed Project Report on rejuvenation of water

bodies and rainwater harvesting.

The project has given AFPRO an opportunity to carry out technical studies for revival of eight water reservoirs that receive water from the Noyyal River. These water reservoirs have been in existence for many centuries and are recorded in the Irrigation Memoir of the pre-independence British Government. The eight reservoirs form a chain that receives water through anicuts on the Noyyal River. They also receive rainwater through a network of natural drains running a total length of 44 kms. As per the Irrigation Memoir mentioned above, the tanks had a combined storage capacity of 20 M. Cu m. However the present combined storage capacity was 5 M. Cu. m. The main reasons for this decline in the storage potential were sedimentation, encroachment and pollution.

AFPRO Bangalore conducted a technical study of the entire system of eight reservoirs and natural drains, and has submitted a detailed project report defining structural and socio-environmental problems, and proposing design principles and feasible options for rejuvenating the eight tanks.

Planning Village Water Supply Solutions

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Tamil Nadu
Location	4 villages in Nagapattinam district
Resource Support	MCC, Kolkata
Implementing Agency	SUCHI, Cuddalore

A tank survey exercise of the Kumarswami Tank underway as part of the project for rejuvenation of water bodies in Coimbatore



A satellite image of the Wakal River Basin further developed at the AFPRO GIS Lab

The application of technical knowledge in planning village water supply measures for rural development enhances the quality and effectiveness of interventions. This was the case of an intervention by AFPRO Bangalore, for identification of potable water in four villages in Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu.

The villages, inhabited by members of the marginalized Dalit community making their living as allied fisher folk, had inherent saline groundwater resources. The field unit conducted a detailed technical feasibility study in the villages, and arrived at a plan for location-specific groundwater management. The plan cut across the common groundwater resources of the four villages and provided a collective solution.

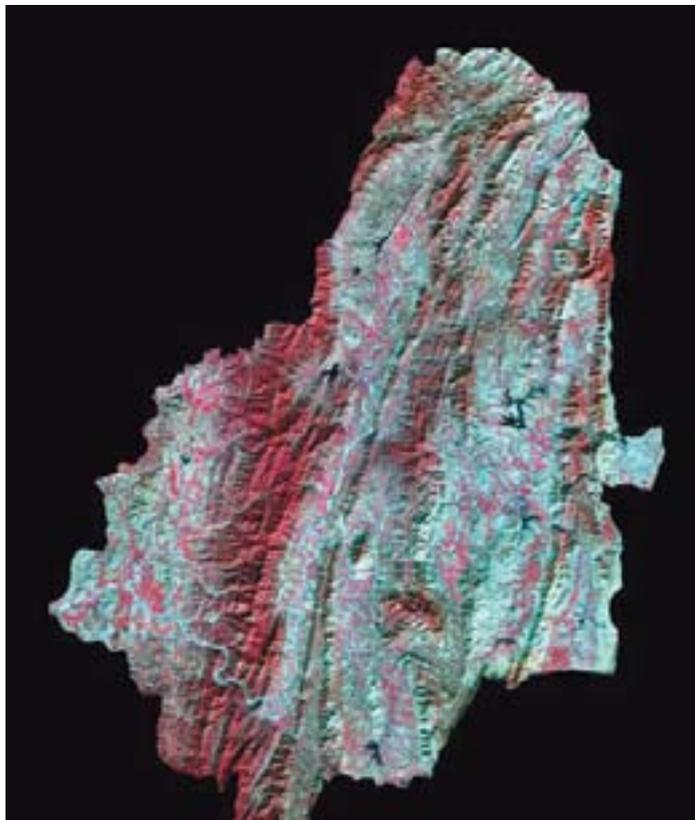
At first, the team identified and demarcated freshwater pockets (salinity level 500-1500 ppm) in the saline water affected area and shallow bore wells (measuring 15 ft in depth) were drilled at the periphery of village ponds. Of these borewells, those where the salinity was identified to be below 500 ppm, were recommended for drinking utility, while the others where salinity was identified to be between 500-1500 ppm, were recommended for domestic utility.

In all, 27 bore wells were drilled, seven for drinking water and 20 for domestic usage. The bore wells meant for domestic usage were fitted with India Mark – I hand pumps. In the case of bore wells meant for drinking water, a mono-block pump was provided for pumping the water to a storage tank.

To round off the intervention, three village ponds were renovated for improved storage and recharge of the shallow bore wells. Of these, based on the location of the sites of the shallow bore wells, one pond, identified as directly recharging the bore wells meant for drinking water, was provided protective fencing to prevent contamination from animals.

Studying Socio-Economic Conditions of Inhabitants of the Wakal River Basin

Wakal river basin in Rajasthan has been selected by GLOWS as one of the three river



basins i.e. Pastazain Peru, Wakal in India, and Mara in Kenya/Tanzania from three critical regions (South America, Asia and Africa) for the study of water resources and for identifying site-based activities that seek to foster sustainability through the development and implementation of integrated technical, economic, organizational, and political approaches to water resource management.

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Rajasthan
Location	Wakal River Basin
Collaborating Agency	ADP Navprabhat, World Vision
Program Promotion	Global Water for Sustainability Program - GLOWS, a consortium sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

ADP Navprabhat of World Vision is involved as field level facilitator for the Wakal River Basin Study in Rajasthan. AFPRO is supporting them by conducting the study for projecting socio-economic conditions of the inhabitants of Wakal river basin, and the current utilization and management of water resources.

During the reporting period, the demarcation of the Wakal river basin together with identification of villages coming under the basin has been carried out. Secondary data related to socio-economic condition of the villages like total households, population, sex ratio, literacy rate, population of backward castes

and tribes, worker's participation rate, etc were also collected and compiled. Different thematic maps like village location, drainage pattern, road network in Wakal Basin were also prepared at the GIS lab at AFPRO Head Office.

Water Pumping and Purification System using Solar Energy

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Andhra Pradesh
Location	Coastal sites in Krishna, Vishakhapatnam and Vizianagaram Districts
Collaborating Agency	Solar Fabric, Germany

AFPRO Hyderabad is working on a one year project for studying the efficacy of Water Pumping and Purification System, a technology that combines the technologies of water filtration and solar pumps. With the use of this equipment, drinking water from various sources can be filtered for bacteriological contamination, and subsequently pumped to local households. However, the instrument does not treat chemically polluted water.

The Water PPS Module comprising a solar panel, a control and electrical unit, and a stand.



The Water PPS System being installed at one of the sites

The project is specifically focusing on the viability of the instrument in coastal sites in Krishna, Vishakhapatnam and Vizianagaram Districts of Andhra Pradesh inhabited by tribal and marginalized communities. In all three instruments have been installed, one in each of the districts. The viability of the instrument has been studied in terms of its effectiveness, adoptability and the modifications required.

When ordinary technology meant for the development of resources that serve basic human wants, like water filtration, are combined with renewable energy components, a new horizon of possibilities is thrown open. Solar energy pumps override the innate requirement of village or individual connectivity to an electrical grid, and localize the generation of power. Thus, such combinations multiply the reach of basic amenities, transcend the limitations of existing delivery systems, and may eventually transform them.

However, cost of renewable energy systems still make them not just unaffordable for the needy, but also unviable for the rest. Appropriate policy mechanisms need to be implemented for setting off the costs that the rural poor, especially marginal and remote categories, would need to incur to adopt and maintain such appropriate technology.

Capacity Building in Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting for Masons

AFPRO Hyderabad, UNICEF and District Water and Sanitation Mission have collaboratively implemented a pilot capacity building project



on Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting Structures (RRHS) in three districts, Anantapur, Medak and Nizambad. The main objective were to demonstrate RRHS to masons and head masons, and capacitate them on construction of the same, as well as to conduct district level workshop-cum-orientation for district officials and other stake holders. In one of the districts, the trainee masons included both women and men. A manual on RRHS has also been developed in the local language Telugu.

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Andhra Pradesh
Location	Districts Anantapur, Medak and Nizambad
Collaborating Agencies	UNICEF & District Water and Sanitation Mission

With RRHS now forming part of the skill sets of these masons who form an elementary cadre in society, this project has created space for non-formal promotional campaign for rainwater harvesting based at the level of household and institutional economies. These masons,

who in India form a specialist cadre that provides a spectrum of services that varies from skilled labor to unqualified but competent consultancy for construction of households, including sanitation, will now be advocates of RRHS as well.

Apart from the addition of a new capacity for employment, the model, once adopted will generate its own demand. The social good that masons can promote will however be limited by the capacity of individual households or institutions to invest in RRHS, which itself would depend on their estimation of the cost-benefit payoff. A good amount of persuasive effort will need to be used at this level for encouraging the adoption of RRHS.

However, the twin impacts that have been immediately felt are the greater corpus of rainwater harvesting goodwill at the level of skilled labor, and an adequate capacity base for its implementation. This knowledge is effectively transmitted to new masons through the system of apprenticeship, around which the profession of masonry is organized in India. It is now very important for these new rainwater harvesting specialists to stay connected and network to replicate RRHS in a big measure.

Promoting a Sustainable Model for Groundwater Use

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Madhya Pradesh
Location	Chhattarpur District, Buxawaha Block
Collaborating Agency	Rio Tinto Exploration India Ltd

On becoming aware that a corporate agency, Rio Tinto Exploration India Ltd., was planning to create bore-wells for its own use, AFPRO Gwalior took the initiative to advise them on a sustainable approach towards the same. 5 step draw down tests for well-performance and 2 long duration test for aquifer performance were conducted to study the groundwater resources of the area and aquifer properties, and further determine well performance properties. Based on the tests, AFPRO recommended appropriate sites and measures for sustainable use of ground water in the region together with suggestions for suitable recharge measures in respective catchments.



A woman mason participates in a "hands-on" session on construction of a Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting System.



District Level Monitoring of Programs of MoRD

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Orissa
Location	10 Districts
Collaborating Agency	Ministry of Rural Development, Gol

Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India has been implementing programs for poverty alleviation, employment generation, infrastructure development and social security which include the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojna (SGRY), the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojna (SGSY), the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) and Swajaldhara, among others.

AFPRO's units in Raipur and Bhubaneswar are engaged in MoRD's District Level Monitoring mechanism for two quarters i.e. from October 2006 to March 2007, for carrying out monitoring exercises in 10 districts of Orissa. Accordingly, AFPRO Raipur and AFPRO Bhubaneswar have shared the task at 5 districts apiece on the basis of easy accessibility.

For achieving the objective, the units have collected physical and financial progress reports, verified flow of funds and disbursement of funds, physically verified assets/beneficiaries, and prepared quarterly qualitative and quantitative reports as per the guidance given by MoRD

The methodology used included involvement of Socio-Technical Specialists, discussions with authorized government staffs at the Block office (BDO), the Sarpanch and Secretary at the Panchayat level, physical verification of activities at field level based on the data collected from Government departments, interaction with the community/beneficiaries on their involvement with respect to employment, impact and quality of implementation, and feedback of ground realities to MoRD. The benefiting communities of these programs are mainly backward castes and tribes.

Timely channelisation of funds, subject oriented training on different components for Gram Pan-

chayat officers, monitoring of implementation activities by concerned Government officials from various departments for ensuring quality, promoting community ownership of implemented structures, providing of information about various schemes-including various components and technical aspects involved - and a centralized mechanism for the purchase of materials by BPL category beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojana, were among the main recommendations that came out of the field monitoring exercises.

Water Quality Assessment Project

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Chhattisgarh
Location	District Rajnandgaon
Collaborating Agency	UNICEF Raipur

AFPRO Raipur is working with UNICEF Raipur in its project "Multiple District Assessment of Water Quality Survey (M-DAWS)" in district Rajnandgaon of Chhattisgarh. The program was launched since November 2006 in partnership with Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Rajnandgaon.

It's objectives are to fill the 'data gap' concerning assumed quality of drinking water from "protected" water supplies, and to fill the 'capacity gap' linking testing and sanitary surveillance scores to action for improving water quality, and protect water supplies.

The project will cover physical, chemical and bacteriological parameters of drinking water safety. The study will contribute in risk assessment vis-à-vis the quality of water, and support the local system to involve the community in management of sources under the water quality and surveillance program.

As of now, cluster based sampling designs have been made to test 400 samples including hand pumps, piped water supply, open and protected wells in four broad zone area (9 blocks) of the entire Rajnandgaon district. The collection of samples is currently under progress.

Watershed Management

Innovative methods at seeking solutions to the rural development agenda abound, and there are few that are more appreciated than the watershed development approach. Yet it throws up questions of upstream-downstream benefits and leaves the very crucial economic assumption of free percolation of economic benefits down to the bottom-most rungs in the economy much in doubt. However, watershed development provides a natural logic for development activities and is well worth a strategy for persevering with.

Through the knowledge gained from experiences with watershed development, the crucial issues spoken of above need to be addressed in newer ways. Benefits need to be marked out in cyclic terms of socio-economic growth, so as to arrive at a manner of engagement at the grassroots that would encourage livelihoods of the poor, weak and marginalized, while not exerting an intemperate pressure on scarce resources at their disposal.

The use of an inclusive approach, supported with capacity building and adequate credit facilities with pro-poor and pro-primary sector sensitivity and protection will strengthen the poor and local rural economies. It is to this effect that the watershed development approach promotes economies within rural areas by acting not just as natural resource management technology but also as socio-economic development and capacity building space.

Development of Village Commons Owned by Dalit Communities

The Project was completed in the year 2005-06. During the year of reporting, the project was reviewed twice, once in a Joint Progress

Review, followed by a Study by an external agency. The purpose behind authorizing the Study was to have the project assessed by an independent consultant regarding the socio-economic strategy adopted and its viability as a model for future programs. The study was conducted by the Indian Social Institute based at New Delhi, which specializes in social research and advocacy.

PROGRAM BRIEF

State	Maharashtra
Location	District Beed Village Borkhed and Village Mangwadgaon
Resource Support	SDC-AFPRO Innovations and Learning Program
Implementing Agency	Janvikas Samajik Sanstha

It was in the background of a socio-legal struggle that the project was initiated. Landless marginalized communities had forcefully occupied degraded village commons that are usually kept aside for grazing of livestock. The local NGO (Janvikas Samajik Sanstha) had stepped in and helped the community get the lands regularized against favorable legal provisions existing at the time in the state.

In this context, AFPRO decided to support the community with socio-technical support for land and water development activities. However fund disbursement for the activities was planned in the form of a revolving fund placed under the supervision of the Village Development Committee. Farmers were required to take loans for land and water development activities on their landholdings, to



be returned in installments and the revolving fund could subsequently be utilized for other development initiatives.

The study has revealed crucial learnings from the process. Even though the community and the NGO partner were initially reluctant to adopt the proposed mode of funding, after a significant amount of convincing, clarification and motivation, they agreed to the strategy.

The concern of the community regarding their ability to repay was allayed by assurance that sufficient time and installments would be allowed for repayment. An argument that was promoted was that adopting an investment habit would not only promote the self-respect of the individuals but also provide necessary motivation for deriving productivity from the land, and simultaneously ensure the availability of funds for similar future initiatives.

Systems with regard to loan disbursement and repayment have been established and are being followed by the beneficiaries. Community based organizations have been created under the project and are taking lead in overall village development process and there is already a sense of ownership regarding the project and its outcome. These organizations have to ensure a high level of motivation and dynamism regarding the project objectives.

The activities undertaken also are having effect and leaving their imprint on the villagers. Land development activities like bunding, diversion drain, farm ponds etc have significantly contributed in controlling the soil erosion and enhancing the land productivity. Activities like Nala training have brought area under cultivation which were hitherto inundated by floods during the monsoon. The impact of the project needs to be studied after an interval so as to develop a mature framework for replication of the model through policy advocacy.

Capacity Building of PRIs On Soil and Water Conservation

The project was initiated to enhance capacities of rural communities of the villages in the severely drought affected Bundelkhand region distributed over the states of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Many Government programs

were functional in the region had linkages with natural resource management and soil and water conservation activities. In all these programs PRIs & NGOs play a vital role in planning, implementation and monitoring of the programs. In the absence of comprehensive understanding, the involvement of PRIs is far less than desired and it is this problem that is addressed in the current project.

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh
Location	Madhya Pradesh District Morena <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villages Rithora ka pura, Bholaram ka Pura & Mahadev ka Pura District Datia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villages Sunari, Pali and-Madhora Uttar Pradesh District Jalaun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villages Meegani, Himmatgarh, & Madha - Bhawan-pura
Resource Support	SDC-AFPRO Innovations and Learning Program
Implementing Agencies	Madhya Pradesh Dharti, Morena District Sambhav, Datia District Uttar Pradesh Parmarth, Jalaun District

A participatory planning exercise underway in one of the villages



The project focused on villages in Datia and Morena Districts of Madhya Pradesh, and Jalaun District of Uttar Pradesh, with two specific aims. One was to capacitate PRIs and the community in the formulation of a micro plan for NRM activities in their villages and to mobilize Government funds for these activities. The second was to train them in the technical managerial aspects of soil and water conservation activities. AFPRO Gwalior through three NGO partners has conducted various workshops, trainings, exposure visits for PRI members, community as well as the project staff of the concern NGOs.

As a result, most of the project villages have made micro plans for natural resource management and are mobilizing the implementation of these plans. These have created synergy with existing programs supported by other donor agencies.

In Mahadevpura the people are participating in a Water Aid project on sanitation and have been nominated for the best village award. This has boosted their confidence and given them the energy to mobilize the Panchayats for implementing the NRM microplan made by them. In another case, villagers realized the importance of participatory NRM and integrated an ongoing program into the new microplan developed by them after training under this project. In other villages, activities have already been initiated on the lines of the micro plan. In Meegani village, and the NGO has even managed to get Rs14 lakhs allotted from the Government under small irrigation schemes.

Integrated Land and Water Resource Development Program

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Maharashtra
Location	District Pune 10-villages in Junnar and Ambegaon blocks of Pune District
Resource Support	Arbiter Volfort, Germany
Implementation	Maharashtra Arogya Mandal, Pune

In this project, AFPRO Ahmednagar is providing socio-technical support for field interventions, capacity building for the community and NGO staff, and conducting periodical review and monitoring of the project.

During the year the unit carried out drainage line survey, selected sites and designed appropriate soil and water conservation components including masonry check dams, gabion structures, earthen nala bunds, farm ponds, diversion drains etc. Technical support was also provided during field implementation of the activities. A 3 days field based training on Simple techniques for soil and water conservation was conducted for the field supervisors and NGO staff. Another training on Integrated Crop Management practices was conducted for selected farmers and

Bullocks being used for land levelling in one of the project villages





the NGO staff. Technical inputs were also provided for a demonstration plot promoting Sloping Agricultural Land Technology. AFPRO also provided guidance for preparation of plans, and conducted periodical monitoring on quarterly basis for reviewing progress and suggesting improvements.

Interestingly, there has been a shift in the program approach of the implementing partner i.e. MAM. Earlier, MAM used to address the immediate needs of the community by creating physical infrastructure only, without giving much thought to establish village level systems for their long-term management. Now, after associating with this project, they focus on organizational as well as community level sustainability as well. AFPRO has also used tools like joint progress review and social audit under the project to establish direct linkages of the designed project interventions with the inner realities at the community level.

Integrated Natural Resource Management Project

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Karnataka
Location	District Chickmagalur N R Pura Taluk Villages Chettikudige, Makkodu and Kargunda
Resource Support	Manos Unidas
Implementing Agency	Social Welfare Society (SWS)

Occasional droughts over the past decade and lack of proper soil and water conservation measures have caused acute drinking water scarcity and low agricultural production in the project area. Hence AFPRO Bangalore conducted a detailed technical study for developing a comprehensive plan to combat the situation, both for drinking and irrigation purposes, and to effectively manage the natural resources.

The objective of this 2-year project was to introduce suitable soil and water conservation measures, develop sustainability in agriculture, ensure safe drinking water and alternative live-

lihood support (IGPs). Both the SWS staff and the project beneficiaries were given orientation training on the need of the project, its components and the implementation procedure. Till March 2007, 150 acres of cultivated land was treated with 600 m of bunding and trenching, 10 gully plugs, and 7 farm ponds. 2 tanks were desilted to store more rainwater. 10 shallow open wells have been dug to ensure drinking water in the 3 villages.

The villagers were properly trained on improved composting and its importance. 20 composting tanks (11 Vermi-compost & 9 Nadep compost) are already constructed that are functioning full fledged. Horticultural activities were undertaken and a diverse variety of trees have been planted. Around 1500 fruit trees were distributed to promote horticulture in a scientific way. As an Income Generation Activity, the beneficiaries were trained in mushroom production. Presently, 65 families are engaged in producing mushroom while 20 are engaged in bee-keeping. Production of areca nut leaf plates and soap powder are the other two IGPs that have been supported. One herbal garden is set up in one of the project villages. The community there maintains more than 50 herbal species. The most important part of the project is the active participation of the community, especially of the women, in all steps. Women members were found to be more active than their counter part in Vermi-composting and Mushroom production.

Integrated Watershed Development Program

AFPRO Udaipur is supporting the Integrated Watershed Development Program that has been planned for conservation and development of natural resources in 3 watersheds namely Daiya, Dhabeli and Ramela.

The project has been designed for 4 years and was launched in April 2006. It has been designed, keeping in mind the existing situation,



to alleviate drought, unemployment, awareness, drudgery of women, water, food and fodder scarcity and other problems. It envisages regenerating the natural resources base for sustainable development by using soil and water conservation measures, and helping the rural people work in the direction of a self-reliant future by organizing the community through people's institutions.

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Rajasthan
Location	Daiya, Dhabeli and Ramela Watersheds
Collaborating Agency	CARITAS India

AFPRO conducted training programs for operating partners on project management and implementation, whereas Field supervisors, Animators and community leaders were trained on program implementation, record keeping and reporting during the reporting period.

Assessment of Community Based Groundwater Management Experiences

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Andhra Pradesh
Location	7 Districts
Collaborating Agency	Government of Andhra Pradesh, supported by World Bank

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up the revival and restoration of about 3000 minor irrigation projects in villages across 7 districts of the State with the assistance of the World Bank through Small and Minor Irrigation Projects. Accordingly it initiated a study of Groundwater Management experiences in Andhra Pradesh to help it plan appropriate policy initiatives through Community Based Groundwater Management (CBGWM). 30 sample villages that benefited from three programs of CBGWM implemented in Andhra Pradesh were surveyed. These three CBGWM programs were the Andhra Pradesh Groundwater Borewell Irrigation Scheme (APWELL), Andhra Pradesh Farmer Managed Groundwater Systems Project (APFAMGS) and Center for World Solidarity programs. The 30 sample villages were located across seven districts viz. Mahabubnagar, Nalgonda, Anantapur, Kadapa, Chittoor, Kurnool and Prakasam.

A multi-disciplinary study team from AFPRO carried out the data collection, analysis and report writing. Information was collected in respect of communication and awareness strategies, community participation, water resources and their management with special attention to community management of groundwater, watershed projects, and other socio-economic details.

Some findings of this study are presented in brief below:

- The use of tools such as Participatory Hydrological Monitoring (PHM) and Crop Water Budgeting (CWB) piloted in APWELL project and upscaled thereafter have created intense awareness in the community on discouraging over-exploitation of groundwater resources through excess and individualized drilling number of borewells, and unsustainable cropping practices.
- The formation of WUGs, SHGs and BUAs have created a convergence of social and technical elements by offering mechanisms for operation and maintenance of groundwater irrigation systems by the farmers themselves.
- Similarly the strategy of groundwater sharing adopted by the APWELL Project, through the provision of group irrigation systems to



A participatory discussion with villagers as part of the assessment exercise

small and marginal farmers has created opportunities for economically weaker sections to their share groundwater resources. The villages surveyed revealed that in the APWELL project villages, about 88 percent of the wells were still functional and water was being shared among the members. Water sharing for irrigation is a common practice in Andhra Pradesh in areas and could be institutionalized to overcome times of scarcity.

- The involvement of local NGOs in these projects has had a crucial role to play in the creation and sustainability of groundwater management institutions.
- It is necessary that linkages be developed between surface water, groundwater, and soil moisture through integrated water resources management.

Watershed Development for Tribal Community in Orissa

AFPRO Bhubaneswar provided support to Jana Vikas, an NGO working in K Nuagaon, Kandhamal District, Orissa, which is implementing

a project for enhancing food security and livelihoods of tribal communities.

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Orissa
Location	K Nuagaon, Kandhamal Distict
Resource Support	Troicaire
Implementation	Jana Vikas

Two watersheds are being developed under the project that covers 14 villages of 2 Gram Panchayats in K. Nuagaon block, Kandhamal District. The villages are inhabited by 1900 people belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward castes and dalit families. AFPRO provided technical guidance for Soil and Water Conservation measures like land development, gully plugs, construction of canals, check dams, and various agricultural development activities including establishment of a nursery. AFPRO provided training on watershed development and agricultural practices to the communities and staff of the implementing partner.

Construction of two check dams at Burdakia Nallah and Sajujodi Nallah were completed and



The check dam constructed in the Burdakia Nallah watershed



A farm pond under construction in the project area of ADP Giridih, Jharkhand



are providing irrigation water for 40 hectares (approximately) of land through canal-based irrigation system. Land development work for uplands, medium-lands and lowlands has been partially accomplished. Gully plugging upstream of the check dam at Lamber over Burdakia Nallah stream has been completed. Three tanks for water harvesting were constructed at Patamaha and Gaudipadar villages of Burdakia Nallah watershed and one was constructed in Bikangia village of Bakanga Nallah watershed.

With respect to bio-measures, the models of agro-horticulture, agro-forestry and social forestry have been promoted in the project. Vegetable gardening has been taken up in project villages after training was provided by AFPRO.

A Joint Progress Review (JPR) was conducted during October 2006. All the stakeholders including target groups/beneficiaries, VDCs, WDAs, the implementing agency and AFPRO Bhubneswar jointly carried out the monitoring and evaluation of the activities.

Partnership with World Vision India

Forged on a common vision of poverty alleviation through community participation, AFPRO's partnership with World Vision India continued to grow in strength. The understanding of mutually supportive and complimenting program objectives has prompted this partnership. While World Vision India works on multi-sectoral interventions viz. development of child, general

health, economy, environment, agriculture, disaster mitigation, etc. through 107 Area Development Programs (ADPs) spread across 24 Indian states, AFPRO's technical expertise in natural resource management, especially land and water, provide the necessary leverage for effective contribution in terms of livelihoods. This has to be specially seen in terms of socio-economic benefits eventually brought about through an increase in agricultural and livestock productivity, village health and quality of life effected by an increase in the water table, access to potable water, and prudent utilization of land.

In the year of reporting AFPRO has provided socio-technical support in the areas of technical feasibility studies and surveys, preparation of activity plans and monitoring to 18 ADPs of World Vision India. The table provides more information about the interventions.



An awareness building event being conducted for World Vision staff and beneficiaries by AFPRO Ranchi



ADP	District	State	No. of villages	Service Rendered/Recommended Interventions
Amri	Kamrup	Assam	1	Feasibility study for developing a training center for promoting animal husbandry practices
Mon	Mon	Nagaland	5	Socio-technical survey for Integrated Farming System and Soil and Water Conservation activities.
East Khasi Hills	East Khasi Hills	Meghalaya	10	Socio-technical survey conducted and recommended construction of 2 check dams, 8 water distribution tanks, 2 gully plugs and 1 collection chamber for spring water, and 2 foot bridges
Sadar Hill	Sadar Hill and Tamenlong Districts	Manipur	16	Analysis of results of PRA information and preparation of Action Plan
North Tripura	North Tripura	Tripura	11	PRA exercise and 5 year plan for strengthening livelihoods based on socio-technical interventions
Ratlam	Ratlam	Madhya Pradesh	25	Construction of 10 earthen dams, 5 school buildings with wire fencing, construction of 60 toilets, 4 water storage tanks, renovation of two wells and installation of two new wells.
			7	Construction of 3 earthen dams, 1 masonry stop dam, renovation of 2 ponds, and soil and water conservation activities
			6	Socio-technical survey and plan for water harvesting structures
Dewas	Dewas		6	Socio-technical Survey and plan for Soil and Water conservation activities, and preparation of action plan and cost estimates
Giridh	Giridh	Jharkhand	40	Preparation of 5 year Strategic Plan for water harvesting structures
Rajnandgaon	Rajnandgaon	Chhattisgarh	1	Socio-technical survey for water for drinking and irrigation
Daringbadi	Kandhamal	Orissa	80	Socio-technical survey for the development of Integrated Watershed Development & Management Program
Ranpur	Nayagarh		11	Socio-technical survey and proposal for water resources development
Uttar Kan-nada	Dharward	Karnataka	3	Construction of one checkdam with shutters and lining of Canals
Thally	Krishnagiri	Tamil Nadu	2	Construction of a check dam and repair of tank sluices
Usilampatty	Madurai		5	Renovation of tanks, strengthening of bunds, silt trap and construction of retaining wall on the sides of tanks
Kalrayan Hills	Salem and Villupuram Districts		10	Construction of 9 check dams and 2 gabion dams (proposed)
Manampathy	Kanchipuram		5	Renovation of 5 village tanks
Palani	Dindigul		3	Construction of a bed dam, one RCC open well and construction of water storage tank
Gingee	Villupuram		6	Water conservation measures

Food Security and Livelihoods

Making an impact in food security levels amongst the poor and marginalized in rural sector is critically dependant on agriculture, horticulture and fodder development. This in turn falls back on to the natural resources – primarily land and water – that are available and sustainable means of reaping good harvest.

The struggle for food security is a global phenomenon, the decreasing land to man ratio being an important reason. But another aspect that has influenced food security in recent history are unfair terms of international trade in agricultural commodities which has eaten into hitherto traditional markets of the individual middle or low income farmer.

Genetically modified forms of agricultural inputs are also being promoted on a global scale, resulting in the same farmer adopting unsustainable practices. The tragic suicide deaths of farmers in the states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and even Uttar Pradesh and Kerala, are the fall-outs of this approach.

In this backdrop, the question of addressing the agricultural needs of landed poor and marginal farmers, as well landless agricultural laborers, is indeed a difficult question to answer. But natural farming practices do seem the way forward, with the question of integrity with and within the whole system of contemporary agricultural practices and market economy to be better answered.

V & A Program

The Vulnerability Assessment and Enhancement of Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change Program (V&A Program) has been developed on the basis of the outcomes and experiences gained from earlier projects related to mitigation and

adaptation to climate change in India and other countries funded by SDC's Global Environment Fund. The four year program aims to enable poor and vulnerable rural communities to cope with adverse impacts of climate variability, through adaptive measures and enhanced individual and community level capacities.

PROGRAM BRIEF

States	Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh
Location	<u>Rajasthan</u> District Udaipur, Village Amda in Jhadol Tehsil Village Kundai in Vallabh Nagar Tehsil
	<u>Andhra Pradesh</u> Mahabubnagar District Village Srirangapur in Kondurg Mandal Village Kothur in Midjil Mandal
Resource Support	SDC Global Environment Fund
International Consortium	INFRAS, IC, Switzerland
National Consortium	AFPRO (Field Units Udaipur and Hyderabad) MSSRF, Chennai MANAGE, GoI
Implementing Agencies	<u>Rajasthan</u> Vikas Sansthan, Village Amda Sahyog Sansthan, Village Kundai
	<u>Andhra Pradesh</u> Eco-Club, Mahabubnagar





The Project has provided space for AFPRO to participate in designing a methodology to address the issue of climate change in rural areas. It is based on two principles, i.e., assessing local vulnerabilities in the light of climate change and the need for adapting to the impact of such change. The methodology includes estimating the local influence of climate change on rural environment and livelihoods, while specially addressing the vulnerabilities, and deriving community level strategies and plans for adapting to these influences.

The focal themes are Agriculture, Water and Energy, being addressed through four program components viz. Research and Analysis, Natural Resource Management, Capacity Building and Action Learning & Community Empowerment.

The focus of the program has been on developing a community level mindset of readiness and preparedness for adaptation in the face of the difficult reality of climate change. The currently observed and recognized phenomenon of gradual and uncontrolled global climate change, together with its critical impact on livelihoods, needs to be addressed in the rural development agenda. Therefore, this project goes beyond existing rural development approaches that focus on preparedness for extreme climate events, and on awareness building with regard to unsustainable human practices that cause environmental harm.

Hence the project adopts a combination of mitigation and natural resource management principles

and approaches, adaptive capacities in tune with local vulnerabilities, seen in terms of methods and technology for close observance of local climate change influences, and readiness for immediate and long-term adjustments.

The adaptation measures need to be formulated on location specific requirements, understood against the village resources, existing village practices and opportunities that are not being availed.

A variety of technological alternatives have been planned with the purpose to enhance adaptive capacities of communities in variable climatic conditions. The focus of field level interventions has been to carry out assessment of potential of different options for coping with emerging challenges

Besides various awareness and capacity building programs for the communities related to irrigation management, sustainable agriculture, livestock development, pastureland development and vegetable gardening & horticulture development, physical activities like renovation of water sources for e.g. wells, pastureland development, construction of improved Chulas or wood stoves, crop demonstration, breed up-gradation through Sirohi goat, have been carried out on pilot basis with selected farmers. Water quality and water balance studies have been conducted. Observation bore wells too have been identified for water balance analysis.

Agri-Implements were provided to the villagers to encourage SRI paddy. Three farmers in Sriran-

gapur village and eight in Kothur village practiced “SRI” Paddy. Under the Energy Component, “Good Stoves” designed by AFPRO were adopted by communities in both the villages. A total of 227 households have adopted these efficient and less smoke stoves.

An Agro-met observatory lab has been set up in each of the project villages. The labs have anemometers to record wind speeds, Stevenson screens wherein minimum, maximum, and dry and wet bulb thermometers are kept, as well as a non-recording rainfall gauge. These will provide the farmer information like temperature, rainfall, wind velocity, etc. at the village itself, which will help farmers plan their activities.

Similarly, a Village Resource Center has been established at village Jhadol in Rajasthan to collect and disseminate information related to agriculture, weather, health, education, etc. This will also provide information to communities in neighboring villages.

By arriving at aggregate influences in the selected regions, deriving appropriate benchmarks to measure these influences, framing significant indicators for analyzing these influences and intervening with relevant adaptive natural resource management and livelihood enhancement measures, the project hopes to set in place the fundamentals of a strategic framework to address the impact of climate change in rural areas.

Development of a Model Farm Promoting Organic Agriculture

The project is being implemented in a 73-acre farmland near Mettupalayam town, 47 km away from Coimbatore city. AFPRO is providing technical guidance and periodic monitoring support. The basic objective of the project is to educate resource poor and marginalized farming communities about effective management of natural resources for sustainable eco-friendly livelihoods.

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Tamil Nadu
Location	Mettupalayam, 47 km from Coimbatore
Resource Support	Manos Unidas
Collaborating Agency	Coimbatore Multipurpose Social Service Society (CMSSS)

AFPRO has been involved from the project formulation phase and is providing technical support for implementation as well. The farm is being developed as a model platform of integrated sustainable farming. It is equipped with a residential training center and demonstration units on various aspects relating to sustainable agriculture, organic farming, soil and water con-

Inter cropping in the orchard at the CMSSS Model Farm



Mentally challenged trainees caring for a plant at the CIMR Model Farm



ervation activities, rearing of fish and livestock, and other similar components.

As of the year of reporting, 17 trainings have been organized by the NGO covering around 500 farmers from the surrounding 10 villages. Farmers have been trained in principles and practices of sustainable agriculture and soil and water conservation measures.

Livelihood Support for Mentally Challenged

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Kerala
Location	Trivandrum
Resource Support	SDC-AFPRO Innovations and Learning Program
Implementing Agency	Central Institute on Mental Retardation (CIMR)

The project aims to provide Capacity Building for Farm Related Livelihoods to Mentally Challenged persons. AFPRO is providing technical guidance and back-up support to the CIMR, Trivandrum for implementing the project. The project envisages establishment of a model farm where mentally challenged children, especially from poor farming communities, can be trained in various farm-based income generation activities. This will provide these individuals with opportunities for gainful employment whereby they will generate their own livelihoods or support family incomes, thus building up their confidence levels.

The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 presents a vision for empowering disabled population with opportunities to develop their talents, or skills and capabilities, which would make them employable, and bring them into mainstream community life. In this context, this project has created a model of affirmative action, where mentally challenged youth find space for diverting and developing their latent energies and abilities.

A specially designed model farm has been set up to serve the purposes of the project based

on a mutually consultative approach requiring AFPRO's technical inputs and CIMR's understanding of the needs of mentally challenged individuals. The farm is equipped with 15 separate sections demonstrating various aspects of soil and water conservation, multiple cropping, biodiversity, livestock development, other water resource development models and allied farming activities.

The mentally challenged students are being trained through innovative methods of training developed by Fr. Felix, the Director of CIMR. There are 8 mentally challenged students at the institute, who are being guided by 6 teachers, specially trained in the care of mentally challenged individuals. The course has been planned to last for almost a year and residential facilities are provided on the farm itself. The center plans to train a similar number of mentally challenged students each year. While the project ended on 31 March, 2007, the center is now equipped to serve as a full-fledged training institute.

Community Based Natural Resource and Livelihood Development Program

In this project supported by EED, Germany, AFPRO supported 6 local NGOs for implementation of project objectives in the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Manipur. The project was initiated in 2001 and came to an end at the end of September 2006.

In March – April 2006, an independent team of external consultants has carried out a detailed post-program evaluation. The evaluation has spoken positively about the efforts made in the program. They have also made recommendations for future programs in the region. Some of these are presented below:

- Promotion of a demand based approach for planning interventions and adoption of loca-

tion specific interventions based on community preferences would increase the ownership of programs.

- Capacity building is a key tool for conceptual understanding of development processes, the benefit of which should permeate through to the communities being served.
- Backward and forward linkages for each intervention are propellers for development.
- Linkages with different government and non-government organizations, research institutes etc. will promote gains from their experiences and resources.

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Manipur
Location	Arunachal Pradesh Districts Tirap and Changlang Nagaland Districts Jalukie Manipur Districts Tamenglong, Thoubal, Churachandpur and Chandel
Resource Support	EED (Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst), Germany
Implementing Agencies	Arunachal Pradesh Seva Kendra Nagaland Rongmei Baptist Association, Manipur Rongmei Naga Baptist Association Integrated Rural Development Society Rural Women's Upliftment Society Sita Women's Development Association

A participatory methodology was adopted for the evaluation wherein interaction was held with communities and program partners on the observations and findings of the evaluation. Fur-

ther, the outcomes, experiences and leanings of the program were also shared in a closing regional level workshop held on 25-26 September 2006, with representatives of the Government, project partners and regional NGOs, funding agencies and research organizations.

From the experiences shared, key considerations have come out for carrying forward the agenda of rural development in the region and are summarized below:

- Community participation is essential in all planned interventions; the success of interventions directly depends on the level of participatory efforts.
- Cultural values, traditional and communitarian norms, family belongingness, have to be included in all plan considerations, and preserved through all developmental efforts. Traditional establishments must be involved in the process of planning

A low cost twin pit Latrine constructed at village Sita which is set atop a hill in Chandel District, Manipur



A plot where mango and cashew have been planted using the Badi concept



- Community and family upliftment is the central objective of all rural development activity.
- Food Security should be a primary concern of all programs being planned for the region.
- NER Vision 2020 needs to be shared with rural communities, and included in planning exercises.
- A determined effort needs to be made for radical improvement in the agricultural sector and practices. The region has a significant number of agricultural graduates who need to be involved in the process.
- All educated youth have a common responsibility to bridge the gap between the laboratory and the common folk, and programs should encourage youth volunteerism.
- Marketing of rural produce needs to be facilitated both in terms of tactical support as well as policy advocacy. Linkages need to be developed with existing markets for the promotion of local rural produce.
- Experiences and information need to be shared across the region through appropriate media and communications strategies.
- A North-East Resource Center needs to be established for providing information to grassroots NGOs and other regional agencies working for rural development.
- Advocacy and lobbying on regional issues needs to be taken up on an active basis by all according to their competencies at appropriate levels and forums. This will help create a productive and proactive atmosphere for development debate and activity.

Promoting BADI Concept for Livelihoods

AFPRO Bhubaneswar is providing this project supportive socio-technical guidance and capacity building on soil and water conservation measures, agriculture and horticulture, and quarterly progress monitoring. The term BADI refers to backyards in homestead land where vegetables and horticultural plants can be grown.

PROGRAM BRIEF

State	Orissa
Location	Baripada, District Mayurbhanj
Resource Support	Misereor (Germany), Manos Unidas (Spain) and NABARD
Implementing Agency	Dulal

Soil and water conservation measures have been implemented on 2500 hectares. Organic farming has been accepted as a legitimate and productive method of agriculture. There are visible changes in the cropping patterns with mixed cropping being adopted in various forms. The concept of bio-pesticides and biological control has also picked up. Village groups have also set up seed banks and grain banks.

This has added to the growing popularity of the concept of 'Badi'. One of the motivating factors for the community in this project has been the immediate returns that were received after the planting of inter-crops on Badi plots.

Promoting ICT for Traditional Fisher Folk

PROGRAM BRIEF

State	Orissa
Location	District Ganjam
Resource Support	UNDP
Implementing Agency	Udyama and I-Concept

In this UNDP funded project, the NGO Udyama with the help of I-Concept is using ICT to support fisher folk. Establishment of ICT center, installation of computers and support infrastructure, installation of Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ)



boards for information, development of IEC material and capacity building are part of the activities of this project.

AFPRO is supporting this project for a need assessment studies, facilitation and coordination between state fisheries department, UNDP, INCOIS, partner NGOs and community level organizations, as well as for IEC material development and capacity building

During the year of reporting, PFZ boards have been set up in two centers. ICT material has been provided for educating children, processing of fish, health and hygiene aspects, etc. ICT centers have been planned for providing facilities like the Internet and efforts are being made in the direction of acquiring the same.

Food Security and Irrigation Project for Tribal Farmers of Chhattisgarh

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Chhattisgarh
Location	Districts Bastar, Bilaspur, Janjgir - Champa, Kanker, Raipur and Sarguja
Resource Support	Lutheran World Relief, USA
Implementing Agency	Bilaspur - MSKPP Bastar - SEBA and SMS, Jagdalpur Janjgir-Champa - RDSWS Kanker - NIWCYD Raipur - PRERAK, Rajim Sarguja - SGSA, Ambikapur, and SGVS, Wadrafnagar

This project was undertaken with the support of Lutheran World Relief for the benefit of 15 villages in Chhattisgarh. The project period was from July 2003 to September 2006.

From April to September in the year of reporting, activities have been undertaken for strengthening of existing SHGs, VDCs and formation of one User's group, soil and water conservation measures including bunding across 400 acres of land, construction of a gabion structure and a diversion structure, construction of six ponds, and setting



up five lift irrigation schemes and one gravity irrigation scheme. In addition 50 people were supported for off-farm IGPs, capacity building activities included five on bamboo handicraft, fishery and sericulture, five awareness camp on health, education, mushroom cultivation, etc. and four exposure visits.

Towards the end of the year of reporting, an evaluation of the project was undertaken by the representatives of the donor agency. The following are some of the crucial recommendations of the evaluation team:

- Dynamic linkages need to be developed between implementing NGOs and PRIs to ensure sustainability of programs.
- Similarly linkages with local and regional government entities need to be strengthened. This will lead to a greater integration of efforts of the NGOs and government institutions.
- Special efforts need to be made to ensure rights of the landless, marginalized and women farmers
- An appropriate capacity building strategy lays the foundation of any project. This is especially so in regions such as those addressed by this project, which require intensive development efforts.
- In this connection, proper classification of lands with socio-economic categorization, identifying ownership and usufruct rights



Improved agricultural produce at Village Khondra in Bilaspur District as a result of soil and water conservation activities

Pachayankuppam Village, of Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu. The community was severely affected by the Tsunami of December 2004, and lost all means of livelihood. The project goal was to provide support to the community in terms of both shelter and livelihood options.

PROGRAM BRIEF

State	Tamil Nadu
Location	Village Pachayankuppam, Thaikkal, Thonithurai, Cuddalore District
Resource Support	Swiss Re
Implementing Agency	PUSHES

would help in working out cropping and water requirements together with distribution and management of benefits.

A new project is being worked out with LWR to carry forward the efforts initiated for the region under this project. The planned project includes components such as wasteland development, natural resource management, and capacity building with a special focus on PRIs.

Post-Tsunami Rehabilitation Projects Livelihood Restoration for Village Pachanyankuppum

This is a special project that aims to rehabilitate a community of 30 families belonging to the Irular tribe, a scheduled tribe, residing in

For this purpose a total of 48,350 sq. ft of land was purchased. Subsequently each family has been allotted a house measuring 412 sq. ft of constructed area. These plots have been registered in the name of the women members of the family. The rest of the land is utilized for construction of roads, a community shed, a play park, etc. The women have formed two SHGs. The common land has been registered in the names of these SHGs.

29 households have been given livelihood support in the form of Catamarans and fishing nets. Each family now earns Rs. 100 - Rs. 125 per day from the use of Catamarans and nets. The remaining household was supported with a cycle-repair shop, as the earning member of the family was handicapped. The Self Help Groups have started saving and there is sufficient bank balance with them.



The houses constructed for the Tsunami affected community of village Pachayankuppam under the SWISS-RE Project



Provision of Boat Dockyard cum Marketing Center

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Tamil Nadu
Location	District Cuddalore, Village Pudukuppum
Collaborating Agency	Coca-Cola India Pvt. Ltd.
Implementing Agency	Church of South India

With support from Coca-Cola, AFPRO has undertaken yet another different project for Village Pudukuppum in Tamil Nadu, where a dockyard is being provided to the community.

During the Tsunami, apart from the loss of lives, the community had lost 45 small FR boats (fiber-reinforced) as they were docked near the sea without any protective structure. This particular community depended on direct selling of fish from their village itself and never went deep-sea fishing for large catches. Hence the dockyard was planned to provide a protective barrier for their boats. Shutters were also provided in the dockyard to control inflow and outflow of tide waters. As the community used to sell their catch directly to customers, marketing centers too have been constructed.

The boat dockyard constructed at village Pudukuppum



Restoration of Fisher Folk Livelihoods

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry
Location	146 villages in 9 coastal districts
Resource Support	CARITAS India
Implementing Agencies	Support NGOs of CARITAS India

AFPRO has conducted village level micro assessment and planning for a Caritas India supported project aimed at rehabilitation of sustainable livelihoods to Tsunami affected communities of 146 villages. The beneficiaries are fisher folk in 9 coastal districts of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. AFPRO is also providing monitoring and evaluation support, technical guidance, and quality assessment of boats manufactured for distribution to the target groups. Caritas is providing boats, engines and nets. Other activities under the project include promotion of fishery and non-fishery related income generation and guidance for value addition to products, training on skills for alternate livelihoods to women and youth, promotion of SHGs, formation of fishermen groups/cooperatives, and framing of participatory coastal resource management plans.

Action Research Projects

AFPRO has undertaken 11 action-research projects on its 40th Anniversary. A list of these projects has been included as Annexure. The experiences from two of these projects enumerated here

Promoting Household Lighting in a Remote Tribal Village

PROGRAM BRIEF	
State	Rajasthan
Location	Udaipur District Village Somavat in Kherwara Tehsil
Implementing Agency	Rajpurohit Seva Sansthan

AFPRO Udaipur has provided support for the implementation of Light Emitting Diode (LED) Lighting System in Somavat, a tribal village in Kherwara tehsil of Udaipur district, Rajasthan. The project is being implemented by Rajpurohit Seva Sansthan, Udaipur.

The southern part of the Aravalli Hills in Rajasthan has many remote tribal inhabited villages. Electricity services are yet to reach these villages that are generally very poor. Due to the undulating terrain, villages have scattered habitations. Thus these villages depend on kerosene lamps for those household activities that are scheduled after dusk. Being poor, these households only keep a single kerosene lamp.

In order to ensure widespread and maximum benefits from this action research project, the strategy adopted was to provide an LED kit each to 150 individual households. Each family identified was encouraged to contribute 25% of the cost. This sum of money has been earmarked for developing income generating programs for the womenfolk of the village.

For introducing the technology to the people, 25 LED lamps were installed in the homes of interested families. When the effectiveness of the lamp was obvious to everyone, the entire village comprising 451 households came forward to adopt the technology.



The LED-Lamp Unit comprising a solar panel, a charging-cum-controlling unit and two lamps

This was followed by an exercise for categorization of the households, which included wealth ranking to identify the poorest of the families, presence of school-going children, remoteness of habitation, and willingness to contribute the percentage fixed for 'own contribution'. On these bases, 150 households were shortlisted and supported with an LED Lamp each.

The installed LED lamp includes a ten watt solar panel, along with a charger-cum-control unit, and two 33 LED bulbs having an illumination capacity equivalent to 85 watts. The bulbs have been installed strategically - one to illuminate the kitchen and courtyard, and the other in the bedroom which also serves as study room for children.

The primary benefit of the LED Lamp is foreseen in terms of relief for the womenfolk involved in household chores after nightfall, an aid for chil-



A high level team from AFPRO visiting one of the houses where the LED Lamps have been installed

dren school-going studying at night, and a sense of security for the elderly. The fact that the light provided by the LED far outdoes the kerosene lamp's reach has not been lost on the rest of the community, and though the technology does not compare with the benefits provided by electric power, they have all openly expressed their desire that each of the households be provided with an LED fixture.

Demonstrating Paddy Cultivation through SRI Methodology

PROGRAM BRIEF	
States	Karnataka and Tamil Nadu
Location	Chamrajnagar District, Karnataka, Vellore District, Tamil Nadu
Implementing Agencies	Sneha Bharathi Education Society (SBES), Karnataka, Organic Farming Organization (OFO), Tamil Nadu

The normal practices of paddy cultivation require large quantities of water, fertilizers and pesticides. However these simultaneously eat into the farmer's economic status through increased credits, leading to unrepayable loan amounts, bankruptcy and even suicide.

AFPRO undertook a project based on a novel method of paddy cultivation called System of Rice Intensification. This method is believed to yield significantly high levels of output with lesser inputs in terms of water. The project con-

cept was demonstrated in two different agro-climatic set ups; one in Karnataka and another in Tamil Nadu. In Karnataka, the SRI was demonstrated in five villages covering 15 beneficiaries in Chamrajnagar district of Karnataka, whereas, in Tamil Nadu, the methodology was tried out with 14 farmers in Vellore district of Tamil Nadu.

The objectives were to increase water use efficiency in paddy cultivation, to maintain sustainability of soil health, to increase net productivity of Paddy and the transfer of modified Paddy cultivation technology to the farmers

The most important challenge was to make the farmers accept the alternative technology for trial. Repeated meetings were conducted by the implementing partners towards this end. Even though healthy financial assistance was assured, few farmers came forward to test the technology.

A general observation of the results revealed that except for two farmers in Karnataka, all the other farmers experienced a very good result from the demonstration. It was observed that the requirement of irrigation was around 40 % less in SRI demonstration plots, even though the availability of water had to be assured as SRI paddy has to be irrigated at regular intervals. SRI paddy also required lesser amount of labour.

Similarly, there was around 18% reduction in cost of cultivation in Karnataka, whereas, in Tamilnadu, the farmers experienced 30 % increase in yield.

The SRI-Paddy demonstration plot in Karnataka





Human and Institutional Development

Capacity building is the guiding principle for the implementation of programs, as well as for institutional building. The aim of the Capacity Building is to develop a more effective and viable organization by creating the conditions in which change can take place from within and flow out to all stakeholders in any project. In particular, AFPRO places emphasis on capacity building in an explicit effort to improve performance in relation to its purpose, context, resources and sustainability; and aims to create the ability to carry out specific activities. It is a process to enable staff and its stakeholders to continually reflect and adapt its purpose in response to change and learnings; to connect its purpose and vision on the one hand and its structure and development activities on the other.

Organizational Evaluation

The current phase of AFPRO Core Program came to an end on 31 March 2007. An organizational evaluation was carried out in the months from September to November 2006 by a 4 member independent team of consultants. The themes addressed by the team were Background and Relevance of AFPRO, Program Analysis, Equity and Cross Cutting Issues, Organizational Analysis, Finance Management and Recommendations.

For the purpose the team visited offices and program sites at 7 of AFPRO field units. As the last stage of the exercise, an Organization Self-Assessment Workshop was conducted over 5 days at New Delhi. About 30 AFPRO staff representing all field units and head office participated in the workshop. The team also interacted with members of the AFPRO Governing Body and former AFPRO employees. The report with detailed recommendations has since been submitted.

AFPRO Commemorates 40 Years

On 30 November, 2006, AFPRO completed 39 years as a registered NGO. In order to commemorate its 40th year, AFPRO planned a series of events with the objectives of planning and visibility. These included 11 action-research projects, two capacity building events, planning AFPRO's approach strategy for the coming years, the conduct of five regional workshops and dissemination of specially developed calendars and year planners for publicity. A list of the action research projects is presented in Annexure 1.

Training on Organic Agriculture

The training on Organic Agriculture-Principles and Techniques was held at Panchmarhi from 17th-22nd July 2006 for 77 participants, comprising 50 from of NGO partners and 27 from AFPRO. The training was conducted by a team comprising Dr. Sultan Ismail, Dr. A. Thimmaiah, Ms. Priti Joshi, Ms. Subhashini Sridhar and Ms. Asha Kachru, all renowned in the field. In addition, a field visit to Hosangabad and hands-on exercises were also part of the schedule.

The purpose for the event was to enable the participants to arrive at an overall appreciation of organic agriculture and its prospects. Beginning with the mistakes of the Green Revolution, the resource persons led the participants through the vast amount of wisdom that lies in organic agriculture. Explaining the rationale behind organic farming, they dwelt in detail on concepts and techniques such as the Ecosystems Approach, the basics of organic farming, ex-situ and in-situ manuring, bio-fertilizers, and others.

The crucial contribution of simple human ingenuity to organic farming, irrespective of the



A group exercise being conducted during the training event at Panchmarhi

presence of modern scientific application, was placed on high pedestal. Indigenous techniques of soil fertility management like Gaumutra, Amritpani, and Panchgayva were highlighted.

Modern innovations such as the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) too were addressed together with commonly adopted practices of sustainable agriculture such as mixed cropping.

The themes of disease management and pest management completed a well-rounded and proper mix. Keeping disease prevention as the key strategy, and the mainstays were techniques of cultural control through sanitation, tillage, time of planting, habitat diversification, water management, and physical and mechanical control. The framework of pest management was explained within the ambit of biological control defined in terms of biopesticides, conservation of natural enemies, pheromones etc.

For those interested to take up spiritual methods, practices Biodynamic practices, and religious approaches such as Homa (Agnihotra) farming and were also explained.

Training on Emergency Water Supply and Sanitation

AFPRO's experiences in emergency work have confirmed its stand for the need of specific interventions for water and sanitation in emergencies. Feeling the need to have a team of trained specialists for rapid intervention, AFPRO requested RedR India, Pune to conduct a training for it's staff on the subject. The training was organized

by RedR India at Pune from 8th - 13th January 2007, on "Emergency Water Supply and Sanitation" for interventions during emergencies. AFPRO deputed 15 participants for the training, comprising primarily of water and sanitation engineers, hydro-geologist and hydrologists.

The key components of environmental health and an introduction to epidemiology and disease surveillance, with emphasis on emergencies and humanitarian work, formed the background of the exercise. On these bases, rapid assessment, water supply and related issues in emergencies, water quality analysis and water treatment methods, sanitation models for different terrains, the procedures for disposal of dead bodies and handling the injured, and hygiene promotion were explained to the participants. A group exercise on toilet construction also formed part of the training event.

Formulation of Focal Area and Cross-Cutting Issue Approach Paper

Out of the recommendations of the AFPRO Evaluation carried out during the year, one was that AFPRO needed to adapt its focal area understanding to accommodate the changing global context.

Accordingly AFPRO initiated a planning exercise for preparation of it's Approach Paper for the coming years, by an analysis of the Focal Areas and Cross-Cutting Issues. The process was integrated with the Regional Workshops planned for AFPRO's 40th Anniversary. For this purpose AFPRO hired the services of an external consultant for the purpose of facilitating the process, streamlining the Regional Workshops and formulating the Approach Paper.

A base paper was formulated, which focused on the focal areas and cross-cutting issues from the perspective of a fast changing external environment, including the impact of globalization, increasing corporatization and climate change among other factors that would be pressurizing natural resources. The draft was extensively discussed within AFPRO.

A day was set apart in each Regional Workshop (details in next section) for moderated discussions regarding this changing context of civil society involvement. After the workshops, the AFPRO Approach Paper was revised to incorporate the recommendations of these workshops.

The revised draft was shared within AFPRO, and discussed at the Policy Planning Committee Meeting held from 9 – 11 May 2007 at New Delhi. The paper was finalized after incorporating suggestions and adopted by AFPRO as its Approach Paper.

Regional Workshops

AFPRO conducted 5 Regional Workshops during the months of February and March 2007. Planned for commemorating AFPRO's 40th Anniversary, these had as their objective the identification of the approach to be adopted for the coming decade. The participants included AFPRO's partner NGOs and invitees from associate civil society



The inaugural session of the regional workshop conducted at Puri

organizations, academic and research institutions, and government departments.

The two main aims were to arrive at a common understanding regarding the need of the times in the region of socio-technical support for rural development, and to plan AFPRO's approach accordingly. The workshops were held over 2 days, the first of which was dedicated to sharing of experiences and learnings, and the second to facilitated discussions highlighting present and changing realities, and possible courses of action. Separate workshops ensured that region-specific issues were highlighted and debated together with commonalities.

The details of these workshops are as under:

- Eastern Region (Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Orissa)– On the theme “Community Based Water Resource Development And Sustainable Management” February on 16-17, at Social Development Center, Ranchi, Jharkhand

- Northern, Western and Central Region (Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra): On the theme “Rainwater Harvesting – Scope And Challenges on February 23-24, 2007 at Hotel Surendra Vilas, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh



A participatory session at the regional workshop in Bhopal

- Northeastern Region (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Tripura and Sikkim): On the theme “Hill Farming Practices For Sustainable Tribal Livelihoods In North Eastern India” on February 27-28, 2007, at North-East Diocesan Social Forum (NEDSF), Guwahati, Assam.
- South-Eastern Region (Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and : On the theme “Approaches For Addressing Food Security Through Natural Resource Management “ on 27-28 February 2007 at Sterling Resorts, Puri, Orissa
- Southwestern and Southern Region (Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra): On the theme “Alternate Livelihoods Through Drought Mitigation” on 7-8 March 2007, at Navaspoorthi Kendra, Bangalore, Karnataka.

Outcome of Regional Workshops

The regional workshops have helped the participants to arrive at a common understanding regarding the changing external scenario in the development sector and the required response to these changes. Issues to be addressed together with corresponding challenges and approaches in the coming years have been identified from these workshops and further categorized according to common themes with corresponding attributes. These provide a general map and each organization has to identify areas for

Scenes from the Regional Workshops at Guwahati (top) and Bangalore (bottom)



engagement on this map. Briefly enumerated below, these are:

1. Theme - Policy

- a. Issues for Action – Planning, Formulation, Implementation and Action
- b. Challenges – Lack of information and data, Resource crunch (including skills), and Documentation
- c. Approaches – Policy Analysis, Networking and Linkages, Policy Advocacy, Promoting Community Participation in Policy Formulation

2. Theme - Governance

- a. Issues for Action - Transparency, Accountability, and Participation
- b. Challenges - Bureaucracy, Social Exclusion, and Education
- c. Approaches - Adoption of "Cooperate Where We Can, Resist Where We Must" Stand, Demonstration of Innovative Models, and Negotiation

3. Theme - Externalities

- a. Issues for Action - Upstream – Downstream Benefits, Climate Change, Market Influence
- b. Challenges - Capital(ism), Institutional Mechanism, Rapid Industrialization, Urbanization, Indebtedness, Land Alienation, Corporatization of Agriculture, Disempowering Impact, Safety Nets
- c. Approaches - Analysis, Advocacy, Dissemination and Empowerment

4. Theme - Legal Framework

- a. Issues for Action - Overlapping Laws, Traditional Rights, Coercive Laws
- b. Challenges - Interpretation of laws
- c. Approaches - Analysis, Advocacy and Dissemination

Re-Visiting Focal Areas

Based on a need felt within the organization, and emanating out of the reflections on the Approach Paper and the Workshops, AFPRO Senior Management have sought to re-identify two of its Focal Areas viz. Watersheds and Food Security, identified during the SOPP exercise conducted from December 2002- January 2004.

This need has been felt as it has been experienced that the existing definition of these two focal areas deal more with concepts and approaches towards AFPRO's objectives as revealed in its Vision and Mission, and not the actual socio-technical area for work for the accomplishment of these objectives.

Accordingly, AFPRO changed its focal areas as under:

- Focal Area 1: Water and Sanitation
- Focal Area 2: Livelihoods (Combines approaches identified in the earlier focal areas Watersheds and Food Security)
- Focal Area 3: Rural Energy (The fourth focal area, that was kept as a dormant option for exploration under the SOPP exercise, finds increasing relevance to tackle the phenomenon of Climate Change)



AFPRO's Capacity Building Interventions for Partners

AFPRO's capacity building interventions are closely connected with its projects. Throughout the year AFPRO technicians visit villages where ongoing projects are being implemented, and provide capacity building inputs as per project requirements and action plans. However, AFPRO has also conducted separate training events for staff of partner NGOs and selected members of village communities.

AFPRO provides a vast variety of trainings which are strengthened by its deep institutional understanding of the capacity building requirements of implementing partners as well as benefiting communities.

In this connection, the Jalswarajya Project has heralded the initiation of AFPRO in a new project model that promotes public-private partnership for ensuring progress in rural development through intensive hand-holding and capacity building support.

Under the Jalswarajya Project (Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Program) AFPRO is working as the Capacity Building Consortium where the main responsibility is to build the capacities of various stakeholders like Zilla Parishad Officials responsible for the implementation of the project, NGOs, Technical Service Providers responsible for the preparation of technical proposal of water supply and sanitation schemes, Block level officials, Village level institution and Paraprofessionals. Following are the training events that have been conducted for various stakeholders during the year of reporting. at different times for different stakeholders. Since AFPRO is working in 3 districts, the trainings mentioned below have been repeated across the districts. During the year, 2006-07 76 training events were conducted under the project

This project has been reported earlier under the chapter "Water and Sanitation". However considering the massive scale of capacity building events that have been carried out requiring intense and extensive involvement of AFPRO, mark it as a unique model of a project being carried forward on the thrust of Capacity Building.

The variety of Training Events conducted under the Jalswarajya Project

- a) Orientation of Project Approach and Principles
- b) IEC workshop
- c) Training on Participatory Approaches
- d) Participatory situational assessment and Baselines Survey methods
- e) Gender Sensitization
- f) Moderation skill
- g) Communication skill
- h) Community Mobilization and Institutional Development
- i) Micro planning exercise
- j) Project Appraisal and Monitoring
- k) Community based project monitoring
- l) Training on Financial Management & Audit
- m) Training on Quality Control & Construction supervision of water supply scheme
- n) Technical issues in water supply
- o) Training of Trainers
- p) Yield testing of source
- q) Survey, Design and Costing of water supply scheme
- r) O&M Methods and Process of water supply scheme
- s) Community Procurement, Tendering and Contracting
- t) Water quality testing and treatment
- u) Water conservation and resource management (water budgeting, source strengthening, GW act)
- v) Roof Water Harvesting and Recharge
- w) Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion
- x) Technical options for Household sanitation
- y) Women's Development - SHG formation, Mahila mandal
- z) Entrepreneurship and skill Development
- aa) Fund/credit management and accounting; book keeping
- bb) Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation; MIS
- cc) Training on Social Audit
- dd) Training on Village Panchayat strengthening
- ee) Training on Maintenance and Repairs
- ff) Training on report writing and process documentation
- gg) Training on Knowledge Management
- hh) System Completion and Exit from the project

Films and Websites under EED Package VIII

Package VIII of the EED funded programs, that supported the Community Based Natural Resource and Livelihood Development Program in North-East India came to a close in September 2006. Keeping in mind the special development requirements of the North-Eastern states, a decision was taken to produce documentary films of the project impact for dissemination to a appropriate audiences. The project was initiated during the year 2005-06 and completed in the year of reporting.

The film crew conducted shoots at program sites of the program implementing NGO partners over a period of 21 days in March 2006. Subsequently, 7 documentary films were produced, one each on respective perspectives and program interventions of the partners involved in program execution – the 6 program implementing partners and AFPRO.

Additionally, websites have also been launched for the 6 NGO partners, for providing them an international platform to share their experiences and learnings.

International Trips

Course on 'Leadership for Integrated Water Resource Management' at Amman

Mr. S. C. Jain, Deputy Program Coordinator, participated in this course conducted from 9th December to 15th December 2006 by the UN

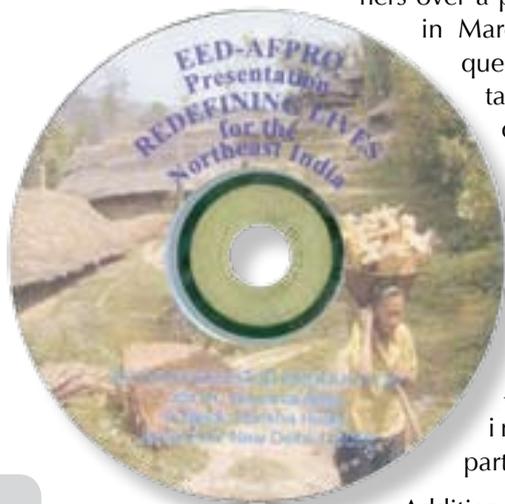
University at Amman in Jordan. There were 58 participants from 15 countries, with a large representation of the Middle East and North African regions. The participants were mainly from government departments working at senior levels except a few from NGO sector. The course brought together practitioners, researchers and academia, policy and decision makers, civil society and community leaders working in the field of Water Resource Management for sharing experiences and emerging practices from different parts of the world regarding Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM).

The objectives of the course were:

- Enable capacity building on technical issues of IWRM
- Enable capacity building on leadership issues and concepts related to IWRM in a developing and Arab cultural context
- Facilitate dialogue leading to peer to peer learning
- Facilitate learning from examples of good practices
- Start a gap analysis of existing practices of IWRM

International Workshop on Rainwater Harvesting at Sri Lanka

Mr. R Amarnath Babu and Mr. Sunil Simon, presented a Paper at an International Workshop on Rainwater Harvesting held at Kandy in Sri Lanka from 27th – 29th September 2006. The theme of the workshop was "Making Rainwater Everybody' Business". The paper presented by AFPRO was titled "Mainstreaming Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting Technology for Livelihood Promotion of Labourers, Masons and Head Masons in Arid, Semi-Arid, Dry Sub-Humid Regions of India'. The workshop was jointly organized by Rainwater Harvesting Secretariat, Ministry of Urban Development and Water Supply, Sri Lanka, the National Water Supply & Drainage Board, Sri Lanka and the Lanka Rainwater Harvesting Forum.



Operational Report



OPERATIONAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2006-07 (OUTREACH, HID, REPORTING AND DOCUMENTATION, WORKSHOPS, etc.)

I.Outreach								
Sl. No.	Activities	No. of Interventions	No. of NGOs	Target group	No. of villages	No. of Families	Area in Ha.	Person Days
A. Food Security/ Agri/Fisheries/ Forestry/Energy/Livestock								
a.	Technical Guidance	37	36	Women/Landless/ Marginal Farmers Agriculture farmers ST community	217	8647	9019	614.5
b.	Guidance for preparation of Project Proposal	34	37	ST, SC, VT, General, Kolam, Gound, Banjara, Dalit , Pradhan, Golkatr and kunbhi.- Tibal Farmers Small and Marginal farmers and women Women/ Landless/ Marginal Farmers/fisherfolk.	226	10991	14614	271
c.	Project Appraisal/ Review	9	10	Women/landless and small and marginal farmers, SC/ ST/OBC/ General.	35	1200		27
d.	Monitoring & re-view	143	70	Women/landless, Fishermen , Small and marginal farmers, petty shops and local establishments, NGOs and students, mentally challenged persons, SC/ST/ OBC/General, Fishermen and women (Tsunami hit) farmers and students, Women & Children,	1484	61054		501
Sub Total : (A)		223	153		1962	81892	23633	1414
B. Water								
a.	Site Location/well development/ drilling of bor-wells/pumping/ yield test	114	30	All category, Rural community, general, staff and students, women, men, tribes. School children, Church staff of Jeur village (Mah), Women , Marginal farmers, Dalit, SC/ST , OBC , general & Govt staff ,NIRPHAD, Mathura staff and Patient, student & staff of GEC Gwalior, ST/SC families	224	8841	228	264
b.	Guidance for project dev./Technical Survey/Water quality	34	18	SC/ST/OBC/General, marginal farmers, Hospital - Tibetan Settlement, earthquake affected families & individual households	416	51532		333
c.	RooftopRain Water Harvesting	18	11	Xavier Institute students & Staff, students of St. Al-bets College, ST, all categories, disabled children, 138 school children in 2 villages under V&A program.Staff/ Students of UTC Bangalore, St. Johns School, Bangalore, 4 centres of SSSS, Gandhinagar, 15 Womens group, 3 000 school children - project supported by UNICEF.	13	138 school children		63
d.	Guidance for preparation of Project Proposal	47	31	All sections, SC/ST/OBC, marginal farmers, Disabled children of ASSADEEP-Bijinore, restorationof 8 tanks - CMSSS Coimbatore and 4 tanks - Madurai Corporation, student & staff of Don Bosco-New Delhi Abhi-yan-Attara, Women, Landless and farmers, 4 blocks of Rajnandgaon District (15000 popn.)	120	12907		347
e.	Monitoring & re-view	104	60	Gram Panchayats & Sos in the districts Satara (3 vil-lages 2000 families, 10000 population), Osmanabad (3 villages 900 families, 7000 population) and Yavatmal (3 villages 2200 families, 12000 population) under the Jalswarajya project, One school in each block - 210 blocks (UNICEF supported), School children of Tokio school hostel, farmers of World Vision Nayagarh, 390 students of Seva Kendra , Arunachal Pradesh.	467	10051	5062	722





I.Outreach								
Sl. No.	Activities	No. of Interventions	No. of NGOs	Target group	No. of villages	No. of Families	Area in Ha.	Person Days
f.	Project Appraisals	11	11	Individual household/community SC/ST, Assessment of the project submitted to CAPART - Nagaland & Manipur.	30	1029		23
	Sub Total : (B)	328	161		1270	84360	228	1751
C.	Watershed/NRM							
a.	Technical guidance	48	25	Tribals, marginal farmers, SC - 15 % ST - 80% OBC - 5 % women farmer, Small and Marginal farmer, Landless, (Jana Vikas Orissa), World Vision India, ADP, Daringbadi	134	5250	16203	204
b.	SWC	22	13	Marginal Farmers of World Vision ADP Ratlam, MP, World vision Dewas, MP, SARD Jhalawar, PRADAN-Hosangabad,	46	4469	3656	72
c.	Guidance for preparation of Project Proposal	16	16	Women / Landless /SC /ST/OBC/ Gen, Landless & Marginal Farmers, women, Tibetan community Manipal,	124	13536	10234	426
d.	Project appraisal	2	2	SC and ST, Marginal farmers and Tibetan Community.	8	485	-	30
e.	Monitoring & re-view	15	21	Women/small and Marginal farmers. MSKPP & RBKS, Jhadol	122	2025	-	209
	Sub Total : (C)	103	77		434	25765	30093	941
	TOTAL (A+B+C)	654	391		3666	192017	53954	4106

II. Human Institutional Development (HID)

Sl. No.	Activities	No. of Interventions	Target group	Participants		Person days
				Men	Women	
a.	HID for AFPRO staff					
i)	Inhouse trainings (AFPRO staff)	12	Specialists of NGOs, Staff of AFPRO, & NGOs,	148	26	579
ii)	Abroad trainings					
	Trainig course on "Leadership for Integrated Water Resources Management" Amman, Jordan	1	Program Coodinator, AFPRO participated in the training from 11th to 14th December 2006 organised by United Nations University International Leadership Instiutte, Amman, Jordan	1		7
b.	HID - AFPRO sponsored trainings	4	Staff of NGO partners	148	2	36



II. Human Institutional Development (HID)						
Sl. No.	Activities	No. of Interventions	Target group	Participants		Person days
				Men	Wom-en	
c.	HID - CB of NGO/community (including special projects viz., Jalswarajya, V&A)	94	ZP Satara (3 villages, 2000 families, 10000 population) , Osmanabad (3 vil-lages, 900 families, 7000 population) andYavatmal (3 villages, 2200 families, 12000 population) , Rural community, Gramdoots, Farmer groups, Batch III SO Staff, CRS Partners. SC/ST/OBC &SHC members 171 VWSC members and Waterman from the pilot and Batch – I & Batch lfrom 33 villages, training on livestock rearing and animal husbandry imparted to 15 professionals, rural community, staff and labours of the Dohnavur fellowship, staff and community of ADP Dhraward, GWB staff of Andhra Pradesh, 30 women and 30 men from 6 villages trained as masons and head masons - RRWH, NGOs, State fisheries officials, state agriculture universities.	1973	881	974
d.	HID - Cadre Building	6		8		105
TOTAL:		117		2278	909	1701

III. Reporting, Documentation, Papers & Information		
a.	Annual Report, Half-yearly report, audio, work schedule, work done, technical reports, other documents viz. training reports, monitoring visit reports, Quarterly narrative reports (Form B1 & B2) and financial statement for three districts viz Satara, Os-manabad & Yavatmal under Jalswarajya project, Manual Preparation under Jalswarajya project - Manual on Operation & Main-tenance of Rural Water supply scheme, Preparation of progress report for LWR project, full length paper for submission to International workshop on Groundwater-2007, Quarterly details of Monitoring & evaluation of MoRD work, Documentation of Pro-poor Integrated Water Resource Management Program of ISNRMPO Project	945
TOTAL:		945

IV. Workshop/Meeting/Conference						
Sl. No.	Activities	No of events	No. of Partici-pants			
a.	AFPRO Inhouse meeting	48	348	(Consortium meeting, external evaluation meetings (AHO), regional evaluation meet-ings, OD process, PAC, PPC, in Units, Sr. staff meeting, staff meeting at AFUs/AHO, monthly work plan meetings and sharing. - ongoing programs)		820
b.	Regional thematic Workshops (AF-PRO)	5	275	5 Thematic workshops organised by AFPRO in different regions Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Guwahati and Karnataka (40th anniversary Ruby Jubilee - AFPRO)		400
c.	Program Promo-tion Meetings	147	1534	Program Meetings (Jalswarajya, V&A project, Action projects, , Wakal River basin proj-ect., Nirmal Gram Puraskar - MoRD) Steering committee meetings and NGOs/partners (Workshop, seminar, conference, meetings)		945
d.	Network Meetings	28	484	Sharing of information with network partners FCFC meeting, ODAF Orissa meeting, Attended "International Rain water Harvesting conference" at Kandy Sri Lanka (2 spe-cialists of AFPRO).		86
e.	General Meet-ings/Others	68	1081	Meeting with various oganisations, Govt. Depts., educational institutions.		156
TOTAL		296	3722			2407



Financial Statements

ACTION FOR FOOD PRODUCTION : NEW DELHI BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2007

Particulars	31st March 2007 (Rs.)
SOURCES OF FUNDS	
Funds and Reserve	143,031,465.41
Program Balances	(790,224.92)
TOTAL	142,241,240.49
APPLICATION OF FUNDS	
A) Fixed Assets	
i) Gross Block	60,561,851.44
ii) Less: Depreciation	36,877,368.46
iii) Net Block	23,684,482.98
iv) Capital Work in Progress	5,253,346.17
	28,937,829.15
B) Investments	72,730,424.00
C) Current Assets	
i) Interest Accrued on Deposits	3,109,451.37
ii) Recoverables & Prepaid Expenses	14,698,645.58
iii) Cash & Bank Balances	26,682,781.94
	44,490,878.89
D) Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions	6,878,128.89
Net Current Assets	37,612,750.00
E) IGP - Aligarh Deficit	2,960,237.34
TOTAL	142,241,240.49

As per Books of Account,
explanations & information provided to us

- Sd -
Cyril Mathew
Chief Finance Officer

- Sd -
D. K. Manavalan IAS (Retd.)
Executive Director

- Sd -
Dr. Jimmy Dabhi
Treasurer

- Sd -
(Martin P. Pinto F.C.A.)
for Pinto M.P. & Associates
Chartered Accountants

Place : New Delhi
Date : 11th October 2007



**ACTION FOR FOOD PRODUCTION : NEW DELHI
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st MARCH 2007**

Particulars	31 st March 2007 (Rs.)
INCOME	
Core Contributions	50,477,189.96
Program Contributions	7,291,878.00
Training Course Receipts	115,975.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	545,067.87
Sale / Disposal of Assets / Old Items	200,503.00
Interest - Savings & Deposits	1,078,061.48
TOTAL	59,708,675.31
EXPENDITURE	
Core Integrated Development Program	
Human and Institutional Development	12,500,470.03
Socio - Technical Personnel Cost	19,394,713.44
Outreach Support	4,513,896.18
Information Services	2,095,080.98
Administrative Cost	
Admn. - Personnel Cost (F & A)	3,341,629.09
Outreach Support	328,360.81
Office Expenses	4,683,955.69
Hired Services	1,714,422.10
Capital Expenses	7,820,910.62
ED's Discretionary Fund	271,570.00
	56,665,008.94
Excess of Income over Expenditure	3,043,666.37
TOTAL	59,708,675.31

As per Books of Account,
explanations & information provided to us

- Sd -
Cyril Mathew
Chief Finance Officer

- Sd -
D. K. Manavalan IAS (Retd.)
Executive Director

- Sd -
Dr. Jimmy Dabhi
Treasurer

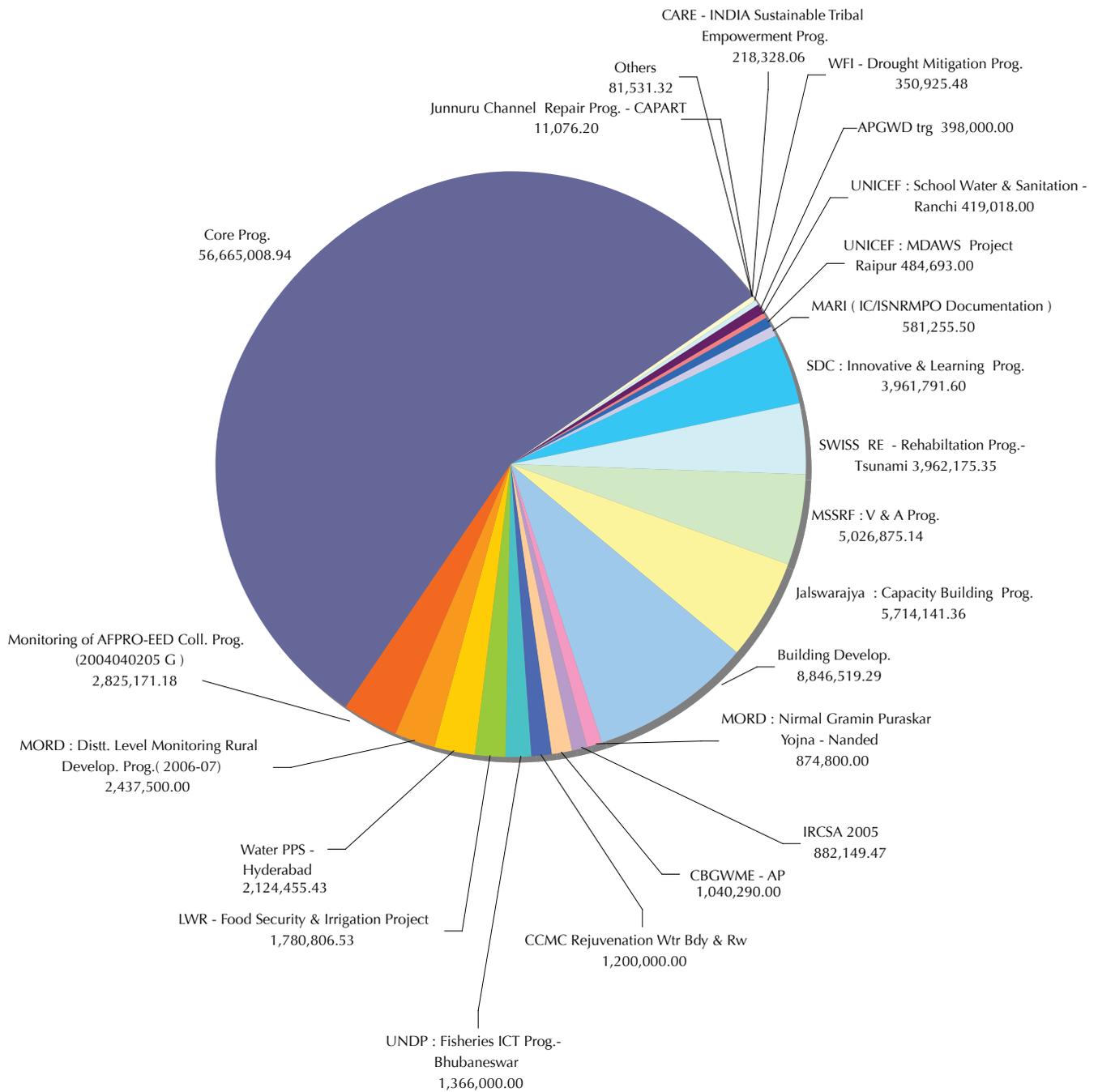
- Sd -
(Martin P. Pinto F.C.A.)
for Pinto M.P. & Associates
Chartered Accountants

Place : New Delhi
Date : 11th October 2007





EXPENDITURE ON AFPRO PROJECTS 2006-07





SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES & NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES :

- (i). Basis of Accounting :
The financial statements have been drawn up under historical cost conventions, on accrual basis of accounting.
- (ii). Revenue Recognition
 - a) Contribution received towards the core program are recognized as income to the extent of the expenditure incurred on this program. Contributions, grants, donations and receipts received without any specific direction are recognized as income.
 - b) Funds received for a particular program / project (other than the core program) are recognized as Program Contributions in the Balance Sheet and expenditure incurred against such funds is reflected against the particular fund. The unutilized portion of such contributions, grants, donations are retained as part of Program Balances for utilization as per the donors' directions. Where AFPRO meets the stipulations provided for accessing particular funds for its own use, such income is transferred to a Program Fund forming part of Funds and Reserve in the Balance Sheet.
 - c) Interest earned on savings bank accounts is reflected in the income and expenditure account after allocation of such interest derived on unutilised donor funds, which is allocated to the relevant program balance accounts and in the case of the core contributions it is recognized as income and forms part of such core contributions.
 - d) Interest earned on investments allocated for a particular fund is credited directly to that particular fund. Interest earned on other investments i.e. fixed deposits placed for more than one year, is credited directly to the general reserve.
 - e) Foreign Contributions are accounted for on the basis of the credit advice received from the bank.
- (iii) Fixed Assets :
Fixed Assets are stated in the Balance Sheet net of depreciation, with a corresponding credit to the Capital Fund Account. Assets received as donation in kind, are incorporated at a value stated by the donor and adjusted for depreciation.
The cost of assets is charged in full to the relevant program in the year of acquisition. Cost of acquisition is inclusive of freight, duties, levies and any directly attributable cost of bringing the assets to their working condition for intended use.
- (iv) Depreciation :
Depreciation on fixed assets are charged on the Written Down Value (WDV) method at the rates prescribed under the Income Tax Rules with a credit of the assets account and correspondingly reflected in the Capital Fund Account.
- (v) Investments :
Investments include long term fixed deposits having a maturity period exceeding one year at the time of placing the deposit and reflects principal amount placed as deposit. Mutual funds reflects the amount invested.
- (vi) Retirement Benefits :
Contribution to Provident Fund is charged to the relevant program as attributable to the concerned staff.
Encashment of leave at the time of retirement is permissible and in special cases at the discretion of the management during the tenure of employment. A Group Leave Encashment Scheme insurance policy to cover the liability has been taken with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). The amount paid to LIC is charged to the revenue.
Gratuity payments are covered under the Group Gratuity Scheme of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). The premium paid during the year is charged to revenue.

2. NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

- (i) Action for Food Production has been notified by the Government of India as an institution of national importance in terms of Section 10(10C)(viic) of the Income Tax Act 1961.
- (ii) No provision for taxation has been made as the Society is registered under Section 12A of the Income Tax Act 1961 and claims exemption under Section 11 of the Income Tax Act 1961.



List of Action-Research Projects

As a part of the commemoration of its 40th Anniversary, AFPRO has undertaken model action-research projects during the year of reporting. These are listed below:

- 1. Development of Low cost irrigation model aimed at sustainable development of tribal farmers**
 - Region – District Yavatmal in Maharashtra
 - Implementing Partner - Bhartiya Cultural and Rural Development Society, Mohada & Dilasa Sansthan, Ghatanji
 - Object – To created diversion canals for protective irrigation at two sites covering an area of about 300 Acres.
- 2. Demonstration on modified paddy cultivation through system of Rice Intensification (SRI)**
 - Region - Kollegal Taluk of Chamarajanagar Dist., Karnataka
 - Implementing Partner - Sneha Bharti Education Society, Bangalore, Karnataka
 - Object – To demonstrate SRI method of paddy cultivation and observe the result for arriving at a prospective model
- 3. Demonstration on modified paddy cultivation through system of Rice Intensification (SRI)**
 - Region - Tirupathur Taluk of Vellore Dist, Tamil Nadu
 - Implementing Partner - Organic Farming Organization, Dhanalakshmi Illam, Vellore, Tamil Nadu
 - Object – To demonstrate SRI method of paddy cultivation and observe the result for arriving at a prospective model
- 4. Recycling of City-Waste to Compost**
 - Region - Semparuth Farm training center at Sakkilipatti village, Tamil Nadu
 - Implementing Partner - People's Education For Action and Liberation (PEAL), Madurai, Tamil Nadu
 - Object - Recycling city-waste to form compost to develop a system for waste management and compost production
- 5. Recycling of City-Waste to Compost**
 - Region - Padappai, near Tambaram, Kancheepuram district, Tamil Nadu
 - Implementing Partner - Manampathy Area Development Program (ADP) – World Vision India, Tamil Nadu
 - Object - Recycling city-Waste to compost to develop a system for waste management and compost production
- 6. Recycling of City-Waste to Compost**
 - Region - Sathanavadi and Neikuppai, Perambalur District
 - Implementing Partner - Perambalur Area Development Program (ADP) – World Vision India, Tamil Nadu
 - Object - Recycling city-Waste to compost to develop a system for waste management and compost production
- 7. Suryabijlee For Lighting In Tribal Houses**
 - Region - Geha Mukhila, Block Kherwara, Udaipur
 - Implementing Partner - Rajpurohit Seva Sansthan, Rajasthan
 - Object – Promotion of LED lamps as viable units of lighting in a village where there is no electricity and observe the results to arrive at a prospective model
- 8. Sustainable Livelihoods through Organic Farming in Bhilangana Valley of Uttaranchal**
 - Region - Ghansali Block, Tehri Garhwal Dist., Uttaranchal
 - Implementing Partner - Shri Jagdamba Samiti, Rishikesh, Uttaranchal
 - Object – Promotion of organic farming as a means of sustainable livelihood model
- 9. Preparation of spatial database for socio-environment changes after completion of Tehri dam project**
 - Region - Tehri Garhwal, Uttaranchal
 - Implementing Partner - Daliyon Ka Dagriya, Garhwal, Uttaranchal
 - Object – Action research on impact of large dams and post-project impact analysis using GIS
- 10. Promotion of Ecological agriculture with emphasis on role and contribution of rural women**
 - Region – 5 villages in Mahboobnagar District, Andhra Pradesh
 - Implementing Partner - Rural Development Society, Wanaparthi, Mahboobnagar Dist., Andhra Pradesh
 - Object - Promote organic farming and marketing by enabling and involving rural women for creation of a demonstration model.
- 11. Sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation**
 - Region – 2 villages in Kokrajhar Dist of Assam
 - Implementing Partner - Bosco Reach Out, Guwahati Assam
 - Object – Create demonstration model for increasing access to sustainable and safe facilities of water and sanitation in north-eastern region



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Vice President
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11. Mr. D.K Manavalan
Secretary cum Ex-Officio Member
Executive Director, AFPRO
New Delhi



Abbreviations Used

AFPRO	Action for Food Production	PHED	Public Health Engineering Department
BPL	Below Poverty Line	PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
CBO	Community Based Organizations	PRI	Panchayati Raj Institutions
DRDA	District Rural Development Agency	RRHS	Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting System
EED	Church Development Service	RWH	Rainwater Harvesting
GOI	Government of India	SC	Scheduled Caste
HID	Human and Institutional Development	SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
ICT	Information Communication Technology	SHG	Self-Help Groups
IGP	Income Generation Program	ST	Scheduled Tribe
ITDA	Integrated Tribal Development Agency	SWC	Soil and Water Conservation
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
LWR	Lutheran World Relief	UNDP	United Nations Development Program
MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development	VDC	Village Development Committee
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization	WUA	Water User's Association
NRM	Natural Resource Management		



Core Consortium Partners

Bischofliches Hilfswerk Misereor e.V. Aachen, Germany

Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e. V. (EED – Church Development Services), Bonn, Germany

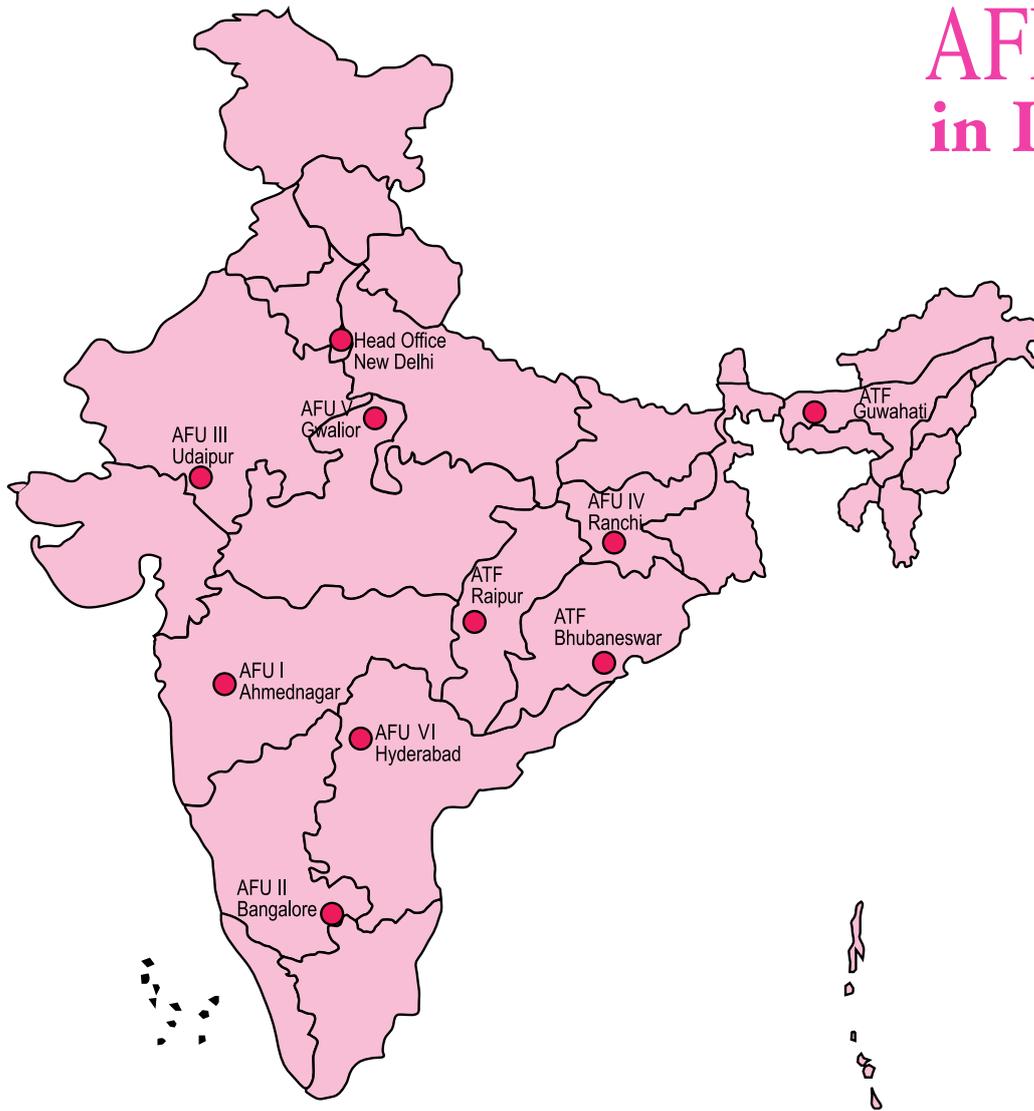
Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO), Zeist, The Netherlands

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Berne, Switzerland

Project Resource Support Partners

- Action Aid, India
- Aga Khan Foundation, India
- Arbiter Volfort, Germany
- Bread for the World, Germany
- Care India
- Caritas India
- Catholic Relief Services
- Centre for World Solidarity
- Canadian International Development Agency
- Christian Aid
- Coca-Cola India Pvt. (Ltd.)
- Council for Advancement of Peoples' Action and Rural Technology (CAPART)
- Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)
- Department of Rural Development, Government of Gujarat
- Department for International Development (DFID), India
- Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.
- Department of Water Supply and Sanitation, Government of Maharashtra
- Foundation for Rural Recovery and Development (FORRAD), New Delhi, India
- Government of Andhra Pradesh
- Government of Rajasthan
- India-Canada Co-operation Office, New Delhi
- India-Canada Environment Facility
- International Development Enterprises - India
- ION Exchange
- Indo-German Social Service Society (IGSSS), New Delhi
- Intermon
- ITC Ltd.
- KKID
- Lutheran World Relief, Baltimore, USA
- Manos Unidas
- Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India
- OXFAM (India) Trust
- Solar Fabric, Germany
- Swiss Re
- The Royal Netherlands Embassy
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Development Program
- Water Aid (India/U.K.)
- Wells for India, U.K.
- World Bank
- World Vision India

AFPRO in India



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