



# Annual Report 2010-11

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**Front Cover:** (Background) Pond renovation under PIKA project in Atara Village of Fatehpur District, Uttar Pradesh. (Insert from L-R) - 1. Cleaning and Desiltation of Irrigation Channel by Community in Ukkarampakkam Village of Thiruvallur District, Tamilnadu. 2. BMP Farmers in Wagholi Village of Yavatmal District, Maharashtra. 3. SHG meeting on nutritional cooking in Yelgondaguda Village of Rangareddy District, Andhra Pradesh. 4. Farmer with harvested cabbage in Jatiachopori Village of Dhemaji District, Assam.





## Aim of the Society

The Aim of the Society is development of weaker sections of the rural community, and to move towards sustainable development through overall increase in their knowledge and skills, in the areas which directly affect their standard and quality of life.

# GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS

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# Abbreviations



ACDI/ VOCA	Agricultural Cooperative Development International/Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance	INM	Integrated Nutrient Management
ADP	Area Development Programme	IPM	Integrated Pest Management
AFPRO	Action For Food Production	ITDP	Integrated Tribal Development Programme
BCI	Better Cotton Initiative	IWF	India WASH Forum
BCS	Better Cotton System	IWM	Integrated Watershed Management
BMP	Better Management Practice	JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
C-AIM	Convergence of Agricultural Intervention in Maharashtra	LBS	Loose Boulder Structures
CBO	Community Based Organization	LWR	Lutheran World Relief
CBP	Capacity Building Phase	MDG	Millennium Development Goal
CBR	Cost Benefit Ratio	M-DAWS	Multi-District Assessment of Water Safety
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism	MMC	Member of Management Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organization	MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility	MSAMB	Maharashtra State Agriculture Marketing Board
DBIS	Diversion Based Irrigation System	NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
DPR	Detailed Project Report	NAIP	National Agricultural Innovation Project
EED	Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
FANSA	Freshwater Action Network South Asia	NGP	Nirmal Gram Puraskar
FIP	Full Implementation Phase	NHWDP	NABARD Supported Holistic Watershed Development Programme
GIS	Geographical Information System	MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
GT	Geospatial Technology	MVM	Mahila Vikas Mandal
HID	Human Institutional Development	NRWQMSP	National Rural Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance Programme
HYV	High Yielding Variety	PIKA	Partnership for Innovation and Knowledge in Agriculture
ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research	PIM	Participatory Irrigation Management
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross	PPP	Public - Private Partnership
IDP	Internally Displaced Person	PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
IEC	Information, Education and Communication	PRIs	Panchayati Raj Institutions
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	RAJMIIP	Rajasthan Minor Irrigation Improvement Project
IFS	Integrated Farming System	RS	Remote Sensing
IGWDP	Indo-German Watershed Development Programme		

# Abbreviations

RWC	Rice - Wheat Consortium	ULB	Urban Local Body
SACOSAN	South Asian Conference on Sanitation	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
SDTT	Sir Dorabji Tata Trust	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
SES	Sustainable Energy Strategies	UVM	United Way Mumbai
SHG	Self-Help Group	VDC	Village Development Committee
SLA	Sustainable Livelihood Approach	VWC	Village Watershed Committee
SOPP	Strategically Oriented Planning Process	WES-Net	Water and Environmental Sanitation Network
SRI	System of Rice Intensification	WSSCC	Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council
SRTT	Sir Ratan Tata Trust	WUA	Water User Association
SWC	Soil and Water Conservation	WV	World Vision
TSC	Total Sanitation Campaign		

*Candle moulds being displayed by the learning women during a training event organised under project titled 'Ensuring Food Security through Community Participation' in Andhra Pradesh*





# Executive Director's Note



AFPRO is committed to make positive changes in the lives of poor and marginalized communities across the country through innovative approaches to natural resources management solutions and capacity building support.

During the current fiscal year, AFPRO continued to serve rural communities by enhancing their knowledge and skills to achieve sustainable livelihoods, and focused more on engaging communities through programme-based approaches. The experience from such engagements provided plenty of space for participatory capacity building, a vital component for the sustainability of interventions.

AFPRO is pleased to present its Annual Report 2010-11 that highlights the organization's efforts to address issues related to food security and livelihoods based on natural resources. These efforts have brought a visible and sustainable change in the lives of thousands of people, spread all over the country.

AFPRO would like to acknowledge the valuable guidance and insights provided by the Governing Body which has been a source of encouragement for AFPRO, to take up the challenge of addressing issues pertaining to rural livelihoods. AFPRO would also like to extend its sincere thanks for the resource support extended by its partners for various projects, bilateral and multilateral agencies; and all the civil society organizations for their support and regular participation through dialogues, on issues related to development. A special thanks to our partner NGOs, Government and International agencies with whom AFPRO has engaged with at local level to implement programmes on the ground with shared visions. Lastly, AFPRO is obliged to the rural communities for their whole-hearted participation and sincere contributions that gives AFPRO the confidence to extend its support in the years to come.

D K Manavalan  
Executive Director



# 1. Programme Overview

2010 has been an extremely important year for India. It has been a year of much debate and discussion on issues central to India's democracy and the country's unprecedented growth despite the global financial crisis. It has also been a particularly energetic year for discourses on inclusion – and the millions left behind even as India's growth continues to accelerate.

Considering the need to increase growth and address issues of inclusion, AFPRO has contributed by improving the lives of poor and marginalized communities of India. AFPRO's work has led to a substantial improvement in the food security, livelihood and income of rural communities. This has only been possible through the organized Natural Resources Management initiatives.

During the year 2010-11, AFPRO has directly reached out to nearly 75,000 rural households from 13 States, through its project interventions in the areas of water and sanitation, watershed management, food security and livelihood. The natural resources management interventions have been able to substantially improve land conditions of 150,000 hectares. The capacities and skills of beneficiaries, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and others, have significantly improved conservation and management of resources and maintenance of assets created at local level.

As a part of its dissemination strategy, AFPRO has shared its experiences from the initiatives like Aquifer Water Management by communities, Diversion Based Irrigation Systems and Integrated Farming Systems to name a few, at different platforms. Such activities have led to AFPRO being invited to be a member of the drafting committee of India's Water Policy formed by the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India. This is a recognition of AFPRO's contribution to water resources management and conservation at the grassroots level.

AFPRO is also pleased to be associated with the Intercontinental (East and West Africa and South Asia) project on 'Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS)' by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Earlier, AFPRO has also contributed to Government of India's "Second National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change" by joining a study initiated by Ministry of Environment and Forest to assess livestock vulnerability and develop an adaptation framework for the livestock sector.

AFPRO continues its efforts as the consortium lead for the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) and World Bank initiated "National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP)". AFPRO is engaged in this initiative since 2009, to strengthen the livelihood security of rural areas in Dhemaji District, Assam. A wide range of integrated farming systems such as Rice-Fish-Horticulture, Livestock-Fish-Horticulture, Dairy-Fish-Horticulture and Sericulture-Fish-Horticulture are being promoted. The practices are adopted by the communities according to the flood situation in the area and are according to pre and post flood conditions. Significant changes are seen in terms of crop production and income of the beneficiaries due to improved knowledge and skills on integrated farming as well as non-farm based activities. Beneficiaries and the community level institutions are also encouraged to access credit and insurance to further improve their livelihood opportunities and income.

"Partnership for Innovation and Knowledge in Agriculture (PIKA)" in Uttar Pradesh and "Better Management Practices (BMP) in Cotton" in Gujarat and Maharashtra were significant for the strides made by AFPRO towards diversifying the cultivation practices of farmers. Both these initiatives have had a considerable impact on the production system, economies and environment of their respective project areas.

Support and collaborations with partners like Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, the various State Governments, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), World Vision (WV) India, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT), IKEA, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID), to name a few, have enabled AFPRO to achieve its organizational goal.

Based on learnings, experiences and knowledge acquired over the last 44 years, AFPRO is making a gradual shift in its approach by diversifying the focal areas to include emerging issues and challenges of the Indian and global context. Climate Change is a challenge in today's context as AFPRO sees it as a cross cutting issue that affects poor and marginalised communities. To address this, AFPRO is developing models based on the experience gained from previous and current projects, for future replication. Some insights of the same are presented in the following sections such as Diversion Based Irrigation Systems, Live Better with the Flood and others.



## 2. Food Security and Livelihoods

### OVERVIEW

Despite increasing food grain production (which was thought to be the solution) over the decades, India is still unable to cater to the growing demands for food, which is resulting in persistent hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity. As a result, the country is home to more than one-third of the world's malnourished children. This brings to the forefront another discourse - that an increased availability of food alone cannot solve the problems of malnutrition and hunger. Government of India, as well as, international and local organizations are actively trying to ensure food security by subsidizing food and other supplies, improving agricultural techniques and price supports, and increasing the access to loans, information and education. Still malnutrition and distribution of food commodities remain the key challenges. Presently the Government is on the verge of finalizing the "Food Security Bill", which ensures the right to food for all Indian citizens, especially the poor through an amended public distribution system.

Subsistence cultivation, by adopting improved agricultural practices, is a better strategy to promote food security among the rural population. Agricultural diversification with a strong emphasis on horticulture, animal husbandry, poultry, fishery and other farm and non-farm based activities can provide stability to rural livelihoods. This will lead to an improved nutritional status among children, and rural households will have a better and wider access to food.

AFPRO's illustrious work in the area of agriculture, food security and livelihoods have been done by adopting innovative models of sustainable agricultural practices which include SWC and organic farming, and promoting alternate livelihood options focusing on agriculture and allied activities. The interventions in this sector strongly focus on community based environment friendly models. In the year 2010-11, AFPRO moved one step forward through various project initiatives and was able to reach over 50,000 households by focusing on one or more of the following:

- Sustainable Agricultural Practices;
- Low Cost Water Saving Technologies;
- Lift and Diversion Based Irrigation Systems;
- Tree Based Farming by adopting the "WADI Model";
- Rural Livelihood Security by renewing the existing cropping patterns and incorporating Integrated Farming Systems;
- Food and Nutritional Security;
- SWC measures;
- Capacity Building of small & marginal farmers on agriculture, food security and livelihood.

### BETTER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) IN COTTON

State	Maharashtra and Gujarat
Location	Yavatmal District ( Maharashtra) Surendranagar and Rajkot Districts (Gujarat)
Collaborating Agency	IKEA
Beneficiaries	24533 Households
Duration	May 2008 – April 2011
Key Component	Sustainable Agriculture

Cotton in India is cultivated on 5 percent of the cultivable land and consumes 54 percent of the total pesticides that are applied to crops in the country. World Health Organization (WHO) has reported that the excessive use of pesticides in cotton cultivation causes health and ecological hazards. The application of chemical fertilizers and inappropriate use of water in cotton fields lead to a deterioration in the soil quality, which adversely impact the environment and increase the cost of cultivation. These factors in combination pose a serious challenge to the livelihood potential of farmers. To address these issues an innovative project - 'Better Management Practices (BMP) in Cotton' was initiated in 70 villages of Surendranagar and Rajkot Districts in Gujarat and 97 villages of Yavatmal District in Maharashtra. This project was implemented in collaboration with IKEA and benefited 24533 small and marginal cotton farming households.

BMP in Cotton focuses on technological options for optimum utilization and conservation of soil and water. This has proved to be a boon for household livelihood and income as the input costs have reduced and the net gains over a period of time are proportionately higher. Use of synthetic substances for cotton cultivation has reduced considerably, thus eliminating health and ecological hazards. The key impacts of the initiatives are:

- Over 39,600 hectares of land was covered under this project;
- Despite scanty, erratic rainfall and a majority of the farming being undertaken on light soils, the Cost Benefit Ratio (CBR) has increased to 2.73. (Average CBR of cotton farmers in Maharashtra is 1.97);
- Over 170 paraprofessionals have been trained on BMP in Cotton;
- 90 Village Level Agriculture Producer Committees

and 10 Cluster Level Associations were formed in Maharashtra; and 20 Farmers' Groups were formed in Gujarat;

- There has been a significant reduction in input costs and improvement in the cotton yield;
- Application of pesticides & chemicals has reduced and the amount of water used is also limited, as a result, the economic and environmental outcomes of cotton cultivation have improved;
- Structured and scientific approach to farming, like maintaining records, sharing best practices, and evaluating available options for controlling pest infestation is being practiced.

BMP in Cotton has brought hope in the lives of farmers. However, there is a need to further strengthen local institutions to ensure improved market linkages and timely returns. Producers' Units need to be promoted at the local level to encourage farmers to adopt a business model which would increase the profitability and sustainability of cotton cultivation. Recent gap analysis carried out by Vrutti in Yavatmal District, Maharashtra revealed that BMP strongly focuses on the cultivation processes of cotton alone and suggests the need for a strong social component in the model. Therefore, a revised model has been designed, known as 'Better Cotton System' (BCS) which will start from the next fiscal year.

## Case Study

The story of Mr. Ratilal Ganeshbhi Patel, a cotton cultivator from Dholi Village of Dhrangadhra Block in Gujarat, is a shining example of how BMP in cotton is a successful initiative. Mr. Patil decided to implement the project activities in 1 acre of land, which included alternate irrigation, thinning, detopping and proper methods for picking and storing the cotton bud. A total of 17.75kgs of raw material (Bio-Fertilizers – Azetobactor and Trico Derma, cow dung, cowpea seeds, and, neem seed kernel) along with 100-150 Marigold samplings were invested by him. Also, Pheromone Traps were installed in the field to monitor adult pest activity, especially the American Bollworm Moth and Pink Bollworm Moth.

As a result, not only was there an improvement in the quality of the yield, but also a considerable improvement in the quantity: the number of bolls per plant increased to 140-150 from a previous of 100-130 bolls per plant. Overall it is estimated that Mr. Patil will save Rs.1700 per acre by adopting BMP in cotton. Similar benefits were seen in the entire project area.

*Grading of BMP Cotton at Dayal Ginning Mill in Kalamb Village of Yavatmal District, Maharashtra*



## ENSURING FOOD SECURITY THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

State	Maharashtra, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh
Location	Yavatmal District (Maharashtra) Kutch District (Gujarat) Rangareddy & Ananthpur Districts (Andhra Pradesh)
Collaborating Agency	United Way Mumbai
Beneficiaries	4560 Women and Adolescents Girls
Duration	April 2008 – March 2011
Key Component	Food and Nutritional Security

AFPRO was engaged in implementing a food security and livelihood initiative called 'Ensuring Food Security through Community Participation' in food insecure districts of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan. The overall objective of the programme was to ensure food security and meet the nutritional requirements of poor and marginalized farming households. The focus of this initiative was to encourage women and adolescent girls from these households to actively engage in homestead gardening by improving their awareness, knowledge and capacities on agricultural practices, health and hygiene. Household level capacity building initiatives on integrated farming and homestead farming were also undertaken.

The programme has considerably reduced the vulnerabilities of these households by improving their nutritional intake through food diversification and increasing the amount of food available for consumption. The households have also been able to improve their income by selling the surplus vegetables in local markets. Women of the targeted households were empowered to adopt organized farming and water saving irrigation technologies for their homestead gardens. Additionally, the women and adolescent girls were sensitized on the need for improved nutrition and hygiene as a means to reduce malnutrition and incidences water-borne diseases. Capacity building of PRIs and government officials, particularly to improve their coordination, was also undertaken. This was done in order to enhance the impact of the project and leverage more resources from ongoing government schemes to improve rural food security and livelihoods. Location wise outcomes of the projects are listed below:

### Maharashtra:

- 1500 households have established homestead gardens;
- 912 farmers were able to adopt mix cropping as a result of which their net income increased by Rs. 3000 to Rs.5000 per acre;

- 140 tonnes of vegetables worth Rs.42 lakhs were produced;
- 8.26 tonnes of surplus vegetables contributed to an additional income of Rs.2.48 lakhs;
- 60 SHGs received a credit of Rs. 50 lakhs from banks for fisheries and poultry;
- 90 percent of the households were able to establish safe disposal of wastewater;
- 80 percent of the pregnant women had institutional deliveries.

### Gujarat:

- 1060 households have established homestead gardens;
- 240 households with regular water supply were able to grow vegetables all year round;
- 22 percent of the women are aware and cook nutritious food (previously only 6 percent were aware and able to cook nutritious food);
- 80 percent of the pregnant women benefited from the Janani Suraksha Yojana (previously only 40 percent were able to benefit from it);
- 27 Mahila Vikas Mandals (MVMs) and 13 Adolescent Girl Groups have been formed and are functional;
- 512 women engaged in saving and credit programmes;
- 27 MVMs have savings that amount to Rs. 5.67 lakhs as of 31st March 2011.



Vermi Compost Unit prepared by a farmer in Bobbiligam Village of Rangareddy District, Andhra Pradesh.



## Andhra Pradesh:

- 1000 households have established homestead gardens;
- Rs. 3000 per month was the average increase in the household incomes;
- 300 farmers were able to introduce Jowar and Red gram as an intercrop to cotton;
- 100 livestock holders were able to introduce Azolla, which on average has resulted in 25 percent increase in milk production for each household;
- 40 percent reduction was seen anaemia cases among the women and adolescents;
- 100 percent pregnant women had institutional deliveries.

### Case Study

R Neelamma and her family of 4, reside in Dasappapalem Village of Ananthapur District in Andhra Pradesh. She owns 2 acres of land, in which she cultivates Groundnut. During off-season she and her husband earn a livelihood from MGNREGA activities in their village, instead of migrating to neighbouring areas for work.

Because of an erratic and insufficient household income, their nutritional requirements were barely met prior to 2008. But now having been trained in homestead cultivation, soil bed preparation, fence raising, sowing and spacing of seeds, and methods of watering, she was able to start a homestead garden in a 20ft x 10ft plot in her own backyard.

As a result, R Neelamma now has access to a variety of vegetables to meet her family's nutritional needs, such as amaranthus, chillies, lady finger, tomato, cluster beans, bottle gourd and bitter gourd. An added benefit is that R Neelamma sells the surplus vegetables in the local market, thereby augmenting the family income by Rs.525 a quarter, a part of which she spends on buying 50 eggs and meat on a monthly basis. R Neelamma was also able to use her training to cultivate 150 kgs of Red Gram in her agricultural land.



## LIVE BETTER WITH THE FLOOD

State	Assam
Location	Dhemaji District
Collaborating Agency	Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
Beneficiaries	2500 Households
Duration	April 2009 – June 2012
Key Component	Rural livelihood security in flood prone areas

'National Agricultural Innovative Project' (NAIP) is a World Bank - Government of India initiative to facilitate an accelerated and sustainable transformation in Indian agriculture. This will support poverty alleviation and income generation through the collaborative development and application of agricultural innovations by public research organizations, farmer groups, private sector and civil society.

AFPRO is associated with NAIP as the consortium lead since 2009, to implement this project in 38 flood affected villages of Dhemaji District, Assam. Under the guidance of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the project addresses livelihood security issues of flood affected households through innovative mechanisms for agricultural development. It aims to operationalize a three phased approach, i.e. Pre-Flood, During-Flood (Disaster Preparedness) and Post-Flood, to agriculture and identify opportunities for improving livelihoods by adopting the Sustainable Livelihood Approach (SLA) Framework.

The interventions in each phase provide varied opportunities for crop cultivation, livestock rearing and non-farm activities. The project seeks to improve the service delivery mechanisms by enhancing skills and knowledge of beneficiaries as well as develop the institutional capacity on technology and marketing. An attempt was made to establish models which are sustainable and competitive with a strong service and input support system, that covers credit, insurance and extension. NAIP has ensured best use of genotypes of crops (rice, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables) and animals (pig, goat, poultry) and their ecological management. Farmers' efforts were integrated to earn them a profit for each and every crop by using quality seeds, engaging in conservation farming, and adopting integrated pest and nutrient management (which ensures soil health). The key results achieved during 2010-11 are:

- 23 agro-technologies on Integrated Farming System (IFS) were introduced to project beneficiaries;

*Kitchen Garden developed by one of the families in Khandani Village of Yavatmal District, Maharashtra*

- 780 farmers have adopted High Yielding Varieties (HYV) of cereals, pulses and oil seeds on 650 hectares of land;
- 409 households were introduced with 925 cross breed pigs;
- 1040 households have homestead cultivation on an estimated 236 hectares;
- 350 hectares of land owned by 430 farmers were covered with multiple crops;
- 388 households have assured income by adopting Integrated Farming System (IFS);
- 55 hectares of land received irrigation facilities and 20 hectares of land was covered by vegetable cultivation due to farm mechanization;
- 25 non-farm enterprises comprising of weaving, tailoring, poultry, rice mills and sericulture based units are functional.

The project activities have resulted in the communities introducing and practicing different farming patterns according to the flood situation: Pre Flood (French beans, cow pea, early autumn paddy); During Flood (deep water paddy, early winter paddy) and Post Flood (late winter paddy, oil seeds, pulses, mustard, lentils, potatoes, peas, carrots, coriander, chillies, irrigated paddy cultivation). Prior to the project, the communities were practising normal paddy and vegetable cultivation only.

## DIVERSION BASED IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

<b>State</b>	Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Tripura, Assam and Orissa
<b>Location</b>	Hazaribagh District (Jharkhand) Ri Bhoi District (Meghalaya) South Tripura District (Tripura) Karbi Anglong District (Assam) Ganjam & Gajapati Districts (Orissa)
<b>Collaborating Agency</b>	Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT)
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	4734 Households
<b>Duration</b>	April 2009 – March 2012
<b>Key Component</b>	Diversion Based Irrigation

Since 2009, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT) has been providing resource support to AFPRO to improve rural livelihoods and ensure food security of poor and marginal farmers through a unique project known as 'Diversion Based Irrigation System' (DBIS) in 145 villages of six districts in Meghalaya, Tripura, Assam, Jharkhand and Orissa. The objective of the project is to provide protective irrigation for Kharif and Rabi crops by promoting appropriate water resources management and improved agricultural practices. The project has 3 phases - Preparatory; Design and Phase Out. The major components are: social mobilization for assured irrigation and improved agriculture; capacity building of farmers and CBOs on SRI, organic farming, crop rotation, mix crop, dryland agriculture,

*Integrated Farming Model (Pig-Fish-Horticulture) practiced by one of the farmers in Seujipathar Village of Dhemaji District, Assam*





formation of Water User Associations (WUAs), strengthening institutional arrangements for better resource conservation and management, and creating linkages with government system. The following are the outcomes of the project:

- 200 hectares of land belonging to 920 households in Jharkhand was brought under assured irrigation through 35 gravity flow irrigation systems;
- 18 WUAs were trained on operation and maintenance of irrigation systems along with crop planning and water sharing techniques;
- SRI has been introduced with lead farmers in Jharkhand;
- 100 hectares of land for Kharif cultivation and 32 hectares for Rabi cultivation in Orissa was brought under assured irrigation;
- 31 villages were covered with 77 Irrigation Systems and a total of 80 hectares of command area was brought under assured irrigation in North-Eastern States.

The project focuses on constructing environment friendly structures that support the ecology of the area. Further, SWC measures were initiated to conserve the resources in villages. In few villages these structures were constructed by leveraging labour from the Government under MGNREGA. CBOs were formed and sensitized to take up ownership and ensure sustainability.

*Earthen Dam Constructed in Ranichuan Village of Hazaribagh District, Jharkhand.*

## Case Study

345 tribal (Khasi) inhabitants of Ummong Village of Umsning Block in Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya were unable to exercise freedom to select, especially in terms of the kind of crops they could cultivate; only because of the restricted irrigation facilities in their village. With agriculture being the main source of livelihood for these villagers, growing only paddy in one season was impacting their livelihood capacities.

But, this is a practice of the past for 18 out of 45 households today. The Diversion Based Irrigation System that has been developed on the gravity flow concept in the village has improved the crop production potential considerably. Under this system, command area development works of Umtrew River have been undertaken, since it is a perennial source of water. The works include an 1850 metre long pipeline, a check wall, a sedimentation tank and a storage tank. Each of these was constructed by the community members themselves under the MGNREGA, thereby contributing 20 percent of the project costs.

As a result, 18 households who own a total of 21 acres of land down-slope, now have assured irrigation for their fields year round. This has lead to three crop cycles, i.e. Kharif, Rabi and Zaid, in a given year. Therefore, from having no other choice than to cultivate paddy, approximately half the population of the village has the freedom to select a variety of crops (such as ginger, beans, tomato, chilly, turmeric, carrot, cabbage, brinjal, potato and radish) to cultivate along with the main crops. This has increased the yearly crop production of the farmers by 29 percent.





## INTEGRATED TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

State	Andhra Pradesh
Location	Mahbubnagar District
Collaborating Agency	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
Beneficiaries	300 Households
Duration	June 2010 – May 2017
Key Component	Tree based farming

AFPRO has collaborated with NABARD to implement an 'Integrated Tribal Development Programme' (ITDP) that aims to introduce the WADI Model to 300 households in 4 districts of Andhra Pradesh. The WADI Model literally means "small orchards" where cultivation of a combination of trees is done along with forestry species on the periphery. It is a holistic approach that promotes adoption of tree based income generation activities (horticulture/medicinal plants) and also emphasizes on improving traditionally cultivated crops such as paddy and maize through the promotion of SWC. The approach enables an increase in food production, accrual of additional income and ensures food security through optimum utilization of land and water resources. The major activities carried out were:

- 400 hectares of land belonging to poor tribal households were covered under the WADI Model;
- Crop diversification through integrated farming by mixed cropping, tree based farming and livestock rearing;
- SWC measures were promoted to enhance the overall status of natural resources;
- Capacity building on Agro-Forestry, SWC and improved agricultural practices;
- SHG formation and capacity building;
- Employment opportunities were generated for youth, women, small and marginal farmers, and landless labourers.

## PARTNERSHIP FOR INNOVATION AND KNOWLEDGE IN AGRICULTURE (PIKA)

State	Uttar Pradesh
Location	Barabanki, Unnao, Sitapur, Hardoi and Fatehpur Districts
Collaborating Agency	USAID and World Vision India
Beneficiaries	18000 Households
Duration	October 2008 - June 2011
Key Component	Soil and Water Conservation

USAID funded 'Partnership for Innovation and Knowledge in Agriculture' (PIKA) project was designed by World Vision India to support small-scale farmers of five districts in Uttar Pradesh to improve their crop and marketing strategies in order to compete in the organised retail market. The implementing partners for this project were World Vision India, ACDI/VOCA, Rice-Wheat Consortium (RWC) and AFPRO - each of whom contributed their expertise towards achieving the targeted results of increased farm production and income.

SWC activities were initiated to increase on-farm water use efficiency, improve water absorption and retention capacities of soil, and reverse ground water depletion. AFPRO has undertaken activities for the communities that include capacity building and implementation of SWC structures (i.e. renovation of 36 Ponds, construction of 2 Check Dams and 6 Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting Systems along with Field Bunding, Land Levelling and Drainage Development). Association with RWC has brought Zero Tillage technique which has complemented the efforts carried out by AFPRO in the area of SWC. As a result a definite increase in the water table has been recorded, as well as an improvement in the quality of water. The agricultural production of farmers has also improved significantly.



*Earthen Dam Constructed in Michaki Village of Fatehpur District, Uttar Pradesh.*

## RAJASTHAN MINOR IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (RAJMIIP)

State	Rajasthan
Location	Bhilwara and Chittorgarh Districts
Collaborating Agency	Water Resource Department, Jaipur
Beneficiaries	22460 Households
Duration	May 2010 – October 2012
Key Component	Participatory Irrigation Management

Minor irrigation facilities are the main source for small and marginal farmers of Rajasthan. However, a majority of the minor irrigation schemes of the state are defunct due to ageing and a lack of maintenance of structures. Considering that Rajasthan is one of the most water scarce states, the issues pertaining to gully and rill erosion, sick vegetation along the water ways, seepage losses, evaporation, deformation of cross sections in canal systems, disappearances of water sources, and groundwater depletion further aggravate the water situation in the state.

In 2006 Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) supported Government of Rajasthan to commence a project titled 'Rajasthan Minor Irrigation Improvement Project' (RAJMIIP) for rehabilitating the existing minor irrigation

infrastructure as well as, improve water management and agricultural practices through local participation.

A consortium of 10 NGOs shared the responsibility to build capacities of farmers on Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM). AFPRO as a member of the consortium was involved in 50 sub-projects in Bhilwara and Chittorgarh Districts of Rajasthan. AFPRO built the capacities of the local water resource departments in the area who in turn built the capacities of WUAs. Also, regular assistance was provided for rehabilitating the irrigation schemes and agriculture extension work. During 2010-11, the following achievements were made under this project:

- 15000 members of WUAs from Bhilwara and Chittorgarh Districts were able to understand the concept, objectives and components of PIM;
- 267 MMCs (Member of Management Committee) were familiar with the PIM concept and Irrigation Management System Act 2000 and their roles and responsibilities within the framework;
- 15 WUAs are able to independently manage water distribution, repair & maintenance works.

PIM helps in the equitable distribution and efficient use of water by communities. Capacity building of WUAs strengthened the CBOs' ability to ensure better management of water resource for irrigation and drinking purposes in a sustainable manner.

*Village Meeting to creat awareness among farmer on PIM in Bhupalsagar Village of Chittorgarh District, Rajasthan.*



# 3. Watershed Management



## OVERVIEW

Watershed management is a landscape-based strategy that aims to promote conservation, sustainable use, and management of natural resources to improve livelihoods. The Integrated Watershed Management (IWM) approach incorporates natural resources management with community livelihoods in a sustainable manner. IWM has been promoted in many parts of India as a suitable strategy for improving productivity and sustainability of agriculture.

Watershed programmes are a strategy for integrated rural development, especially in rain-fed and drought-prone areas. It goes beyond conservation technologies to emphasize the importance of the human dimension and the need to integrate technological tools. Instead of focusing exclusively on biophysical processes that improve resource conditions, IWM includes multiple crops and livestock-based income strategies that support and diversify livelihood opportunities for the poor, and create synergies between targeted technologies, policies, and institutions to improve productivity and market access, and ensure sustainable resource use.

During the year, AFPRO has undertaken a number of watershed management assignments supported by NABARD, World Vision India, State Governments, Corporates and NGOs.

These interventions focused on building the community capacities for watershed management along with a mechanism of socio-technical assistance during implementation of the projects. The interventions for these partnerships included:

- Socio-technical support for feasibility studies, assessments and surveys;
- Stakeholder capacity building with a strong emphasis on User Groups and PRIs;
- Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) measures (including construction of water harvesting structures);
- Participation of stakeholders in the project cycle with a strong emphasis on sustainability.

The vulnerable natural resource base of India is affected by a strong inter-dependence between changing land use patterns and the nature of human activity. Planning to account for such dynamic changes require a strong multidisciplinary spatial database at varied scales and time intervals. Therefore, Geospatial Technology through the application of modern tools of Remote Sensing (RS) and Geographical Information System (GIS) provide planners with a comprehensive platform to integrate information which supports decision making for natural resources management. AFPRO has used GIS based

applications for understanding land use dynamics, ground water fluctuations and quality while implementing watershed projects.

## PARTNERSHIP WITH NABARD

The AFPRO-NABARD collaboration aims to develop micro-watersheds in a comprehensive manner through active participation of the local community, thereby enhancing the production systems (which are sustainable) and creating adequate and sustainable livelihood opportunities in the area.

AFPRO has undertaken a number of watershed projects funded by NABARD, which are generally administered through two separate mechanisms – the Capacity Building Phase (CBP) and the Full Implementation Phase (FIP). Certain prerequisite conditions need to be fulfilled by agencies during the capacity building phase before they can commence with activities for implementing the project. These include identifying the watershed, social mobilization and community participation towards the preparation of project proposals. Once the communities are sensitized at the local level, activities for implementing watershed development are generally initiated.

AFPRO has associated with NABARD this year to implement three separate watershed management projects. Each of them is described here:

### Indo-German Watershed Development Programme (IGWDP) Phase III

Undulating topography, extensive soil erosion and erratic rainfall were identified as major reasons for the gradual decline in crop productivity and vegetative cover in the villages selected for implementing IGWDP in Beed District of Maharashtra. To reduce soil erosion and runoff in these areas AFPRO, as the Project Implementation Agency (PIA), is providing socio-technical support for implementing a micro-watershed programme (1250 hectare). 247 households of Surnawadi, Repewadi and Jaibhaiwadi villages of Dharur Block in Beed District will benefit from this watershed.

AFPRO prepared a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the FIP, based on the activities carried out during the CBP. In the implementation phase 277 hectares of land was developed for Agro-Forestry and 110 hectares for the cultivation of crops. 117 Loose Boulder Structures (LBS) were constructed along the drainage channels to reduce the run-off within the watershed. A Farmer's Club was institutionalized to increase crop productivity and establish better market linkages. AFPRO



was able to facilitate the implementation of the project through Village Watershed Committees (VWCs).

IGWDP initiatives have immensely contributed to improving the ground water situation. Over 20 hectares of land has assured irrigation from 16 open wells. The custard apple plantation under the Agro-Forestry and Agro-Horticulture initiatives have increased the area under cultivation by 40 percent, thus resulting in a considerable increase in household incomes. The project has been able to address the issue of environmental degradation to a greater extent, which in turn improves standard of living. In view of the substantial improvement in the water and sanitation coverage, the PRI has applied for the NGP.

### Indo-German Watershed Development Programme (IGWDP)

IGWDP, a bilateral programme between Government of India and Government of Germany, is currently being implemented in the State of Rajasthan. The current programme activities fall under the CBP for 972 hectares of watershed area of Anjeni Village in Lasaria Block of Udaipur District, Rajasthan. Like all NABARD funded projects, the prerequisite activities of the CBP like organizing village meetings to pass a resolution to undertake watershed work, mobilizing the community to contribute, and organizing exposure visits, needed to be undertaken in this programme as well. Each of these

### Case Study

The small village of Kowad-Banda in Churchu Block of Hazirbagh District, Jharkhand sets an example of how to overcome the problem of erratic monsoons. The village is inhabited by 200 farming households that are highly dependent on rainfall for agricultural production.

In 2010, however, the villagers identified a small and unused pond that has the capacity to irrigate 50 acres of agricultural land. With the help of the villagers and WUAs, the pond was renovated which increased its storage capacity. A distribution channel was also made by using pipes to irrigate the fields. Therefore, 35 farmers who were engaged in NABARD's SRI promotion scheme were able to transplant their paddy saplings from the nursery to the fields despite a delay in monsoons.

It was observed that the productivity of the crop had doubled against the previous year, because of assured irrigation for Kharif crops, which was possible because of the pond that had sufficient water to irrigate the fields. The high crop productivity of 35 farmers in 2010 can be attributed to a small pond that has a cost of Rs. 65,000. Therefore, the villagers of Kowad-Banda, have proved that contingency plans to reduce the vulnerability to monsoons need not be complicated and cost intensive (as many believe) to be effective.

*Layout Planning for Watershed Development in Manbha Village of Washim District, Maharashtra.*



activities seeks active community participation in watershed implementation and management.

### NABARD Supported Holistic Watershed Development Programme (NHWDP)

NHWDP is being implemented in six districts (Akola, Amravati, Yavatmal, Washim, Buldhana and Wardha) of the Vidarbha region in Maharashtra. This project focuses on integrated environmental restoration of watersheds. This in turn will regenerate the natural resources so that sustainable and optimal benefits can be enjoyed by the watershed dwellers. AFPRO was retained as the PIA for Wahim District towards the implementation of this project.

CBP of all three clusters were completed and SWC measures were undertaken for 335 hectares, such as Farm Bunding, Waterways, LBS, Trenching and Planting. The DPRs for all three clusters were prepared and submitted to NABARD for approval for FIP activities to be initiated.

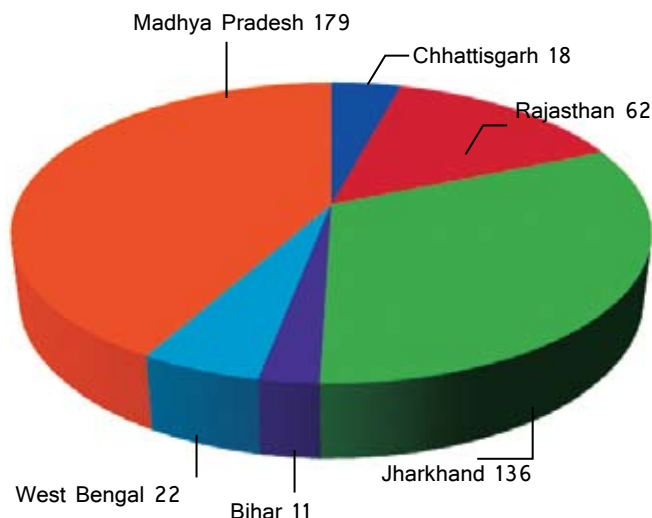
Key highlights of this phase were the community's acceptance and willingness to contribute to watershed development in their respective villages. AFPRO has completed the Net Planning of 101.41 hectares in consultation with the local community.

### PARTNERSHIP WITH WORLD VISION INDIA

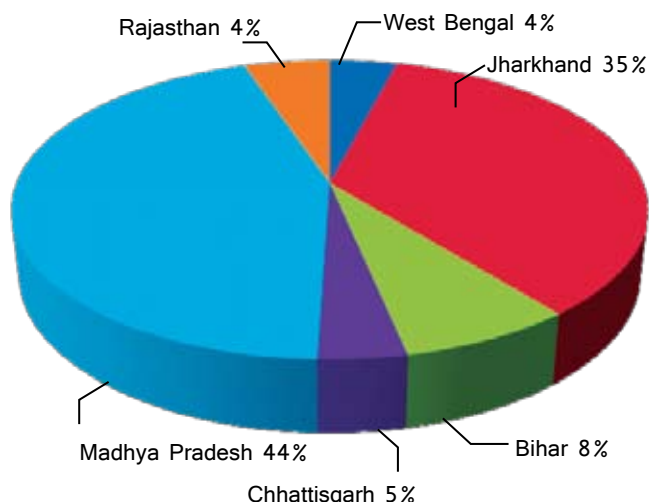
AFPRO and World Vision (WV) India have entered into a long-term strategic partnership in 2008 to collaborate and strengthen natural resource management in several WV India

#### World Vision India supported Project Coverage

##### Villages



#### Beneficiaries



run Area Development Programme (ADPs). The partnership focuses on improving land and water resources management for sustainable livelihoods, thus fulfilling the vision and mission of the two cooperating partners.

AFPRO associated with WV India for 40 projects in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and West Bengal. These projects have been able to serve over 12000 households from 375 villages. The focus of these projects were on groundwater augmentation for drinking and irrigation, integrated watershed management, water saving and agriculture for food security, and livelihood improvement.

Among several strategic initiatives the most significant one was the implementation of the USAID funded and WV India supported PIKA Project. A report of which is available in Chapter 4.

## WATER CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT UNDER SUNEHRA KAL PROJECT

State	Haryana
Location	Mewat District
Collaborating Agency	ITC Limited
Beneficiaries	281 Households
Duration	June 2010 – June 2011
Key Component	Water Conservation and Management

‘Mission Sunehra Kal’ is an initiative by ITC to support Water Conservation and Management practices in India. As a part of this, AFPRO has implemented a Water Conservation and Management Project in three villages of Mewat District. The project addresses the problems of a fast depleting ground water table and water availability in the area. Efforts were made to improve the livelihood conditions of farmers by adopting improved agricultural practices. The project activities include institutional capacity development & capacity building, participation & self-help promotion, sustainable water conservation & management, and agro-based livelihood development. The formation of a Village Development Committee (VDC) to take the responsibility for maintaining water harvesting structures is a unique expression of the participatory process.

The key outcomes of this project were:

- 74 gully plugs were built to reduce runoff and minimize soil erosion;
- 281 households were made aware of the need for SWC measures;
- Construction of check dams, recharge pits and percolation tanks has resulted in groundwater recharge and an increase in the water storage capacity by 36183 cum;
- Declining groundwater levels in 29 tube wells and 3 dug wells were restored;
- Knowledge and understanding of participatory water conservation and management improved the sense of ownership towards asset management and contributed to institutional building efforts.

*Construction of Masoray Check Dam in Kotta Village of Mawet, Haryana*

## PLANNING FOR MEGA WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

State	Maharashtra
Location	Raigad District
Collaborating Agency	Agriculture Department, Raigad
Beneficiaries	6000 Households
Duration	January 2011 – May 2011
Key Component	Integrated Watershed Management

AFPRO has been associated with the Department of Agriculture in Raigad District to prepare a DPR to implement a mega watershed development programme in Poladpur Watershed area. This extends over 11,414 hectares and includes 57 remote villages.

AFPRO undertook a participatory approach by using Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools and technical surveys in consultation with the project stakeholders. The project was designed to incorporate multi-cropping, diversified agro-based activities, sustainable livelihoods, prevention of soil run-off, regeneration of natural vegetation, rain water harvesting and recharge of the ground water table.





## 4. Water and Sanitation

### OVERVIEW

India is making every effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of reducing ‘the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation’ to half by 2015. In this regard, India’s 2009 MDG progress report revealed an increase in the access to improved water sources from 68.2 percent (1992-93) to 84.4 percent (2007-08). In urban areas especially, access has increased to 95 percent. According to India’s MDG Report (2010), “India, one of the most densely populated countries in the world, has the lowest sanitation coverage” i.e. sanitation still remains a major challenge and half of the population does not have access to toilets – in rural areas this is as high as 66 percent. Poor access to water and sanitation facilities affects the sense of well-being of communities, thereby increasing the morbidity and mortality rates, especially among the poor, infants and aged, be they urban or rural.

Government of India has taken several initiatives assisted by NGOs, Corporates and International Agencies to improve water supply and ensure proper sanitation coverage, through community participation at the local level.

AFPRO’s programmes on water and sanitation focus on providing socio-technical services to rural communities and local level organizations to enhance capacities and address water and sanitation related issues. The initiatives during 2010-11 which contributed to the relevant MDG include:

- Participatory monitoring of water resources;
- Urban water and sanitation;
- Local capacity enhancement for surveillance and mitigation for drinking water;
- Promotion of water saving technologies for rural communities;
- Behavioural Change Communication (BCC) towards improved hygiene and sanitation;

These initiatives were implemented in the states of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. It is estimated that these initiatives have directly impacted over 10,000 households with tangible changes in their access to water and sanitation.

The learnings and experiences during the implementation of activities show that the awareness and capacity building of beneficiaries require further attention in order to reduce the dependency on ground water sources and engage them in efficient water use. A wide scope for improvement is still available particularly with regard to the knowledge and behaviour of the rural and urban poor towards hygiene

and sanitation. Inter-institutional coordination with adequate capacity development needs priority attention from the Government and other key players in water and sanitation sector.

### PARTICIPATORY PEOPLES’ MONITORING OF WATER RESOURCES

State	Maharashtra
Location	Washim District
Collaborating Agency	Centre for World Solidarity (CWS), Hyderabad & EED (Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst – EED, Church Development Service)
Beneficiaries	1650 Households
Duration	January 2010 - December 2013
Key Component	Capacity building and advocacy on Water Resources Management

‘Water and Democracy in South Asia’ is a programme taken up by Centre for World Solidarity (CWS), supported by EED. ‘Participatory Peoples’ Monitoring of Water Resources’ is a component of the same, which has been undertaken by AFPRO. In this year, emphasis was placed on activities to advocate effective water resources management by engaging with 1650 households from Poha and Manbha villages of Washim district in Maharashtra.

As a part of programme activities, 18 observation wells were identified in two villages, to generate information that would facilitate farmers to plan efficient water management for drinking, as well as, agricultural purposes. The initiative of participatory water budgeting was also introduced with target communities and has resulted in better crop production. Based on the experiences, a farmer’s friendly groundwater monitoring tool kit was prepared for wider dissemination.

The outcomes of this initiative have been included in AFPRO’s advocacy themes. Dialogues were also initiated with NABARD to incorporate a participatory water monitoring component into their ongoing and upcoming Natural Resources Management programmes.

## VERIFICATION OF PRI APPLICATIONS FOR NIRMAL GRAM PURASKAR (NGP)

State	Maharashtra
Location	Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Beed and Bhandara Districts
Collaborating Agency	Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India
Beneficiaries	Communities from different social groups of 513 GPs
Duration	July 2010 - September 2010
Key Component	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

‘Total Sanitation Campaign’ (TSC) by Government of India is a comprehensive programme to promote sanitation and hygiene in rural areas of the country. Demand driven and intensive use of development communication activities are the key approaches of the TSC to increase sanitation coverage. TSC is implemented in a decentralized mode with PRIs being identified as the smallest unit to focus on and stimulate a permanent change in the sanitation behaviour of rural communities.

As a cumulative step of the Campaign, in 2003, the Government institutionalized ‘Nirmal Gram Puraskar’ (NGP). This award seeks to recognize the efforts and contributions made by PRIs and institutions towards ensuring full sanitation coverage. NGP has proved to be an instrument to encourage and influence sanitation and hygiene behaviour among people.

Since 2006, the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has engaged AFPRO to verify PRI applications for NGP. During the current year, AFPRO undertook verification exercises for 513 PRIs in 4 districts of Maharashtra. AFPRO has learnt that a significant number of villages fall short of the eligibility criteria during the verification process. This could be because the change is temporary due to an inability to maintain the standards.

## CAPACITY BUILDING AND MITIGATION MEASURES OF DRINKING WATER SOURCES

State	Chhattisgarh
Location	Dantewada District
Collaborating Agency	UNICEF Raipur
Beneficiaries	4 IDP Camps and 30 Villages
Duration	January 2010 - December 2010
Key Component	Capacity for surveillance and mitigation

In continuation of the previous project, ‘Multi-District Assessment on Water Safety’ (M-DAWS), AFPRO and UNICEF have sustained their work on water safety planning and water quality monitoring and surveillance in Rajnandgaon and Dantewada District respectively, by sensitizing communities on infrastructure maintenance and water quality assessment.

In this year, AFPRO facilitated awareness and capacity building activities on water and sanitation in 30 villages and 4 Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps in Dantewada. Also, 77 User Groups were formed to operate and maintain the water and sanitation systems. Such initiatives at the local level have improved the understanding and capacities of communities on the importance of improved water and sanitation access as well as the need for maintaining water and sanitation infrastructure for sustainability.



Community based Handpump System functional in Pakhnaguda Villages of Dantewada District, Chhattisgarh.

## COMMUNICATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING INTERVENTIONS TO PROMOTE KEY HYGIENE AND SANITATION BEHAVIOUR

State	Chhattisgarh
Location	Bijapur District
Collaborating Agency	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
Beneficiaries	60 Households
Duration	October 2010 - November 2010
Key Component	Behaviour Change Communication

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is responding to public health concerns of the people living in difficult circumstances. Towards this end, ICRC has collaborated AFPRO to build capacities and design Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material which was used to mobilize communities to improve health and hygiene practices. Under this assignment, capacities of ICRC field staff and community hygiene promoters were built on the methods to educate the local people on water, sanitation and hygiene aspects.

6 hygiene promoters were trained on communication modules to educate communities on health hazards caused due to improper water, sanitation and hygiene practices. Additionally, 15 caretakers were trained on hand pump (India Mark-II) repair and maintenance. Besides that the volunteers were trained on installation of Terafil water filters, a low cost device to filter impure water for drinking purposes, especially when water is rich in sediments, suspended particles, iron and certain micro-organisms.



## URBAN PRO POOR STUDY ON DRINKING WATER & SANITATION

State	Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh
Location	Ahmednagar and Aurangabad District (Maharashtra) Raipur and Bhilai District (Chhattisgarh)
Collaborating Agency	India WASH Forum (IWF)
Beneficiaries	3639 Households
Duration	October 2010 - December 2010
Key Component	Urban Water and Sanitation

India's urban population is growing at a faster rate than its overall population leading to a large number of squatter settlements and slums in the urban areas. Such settlements are devoid of basic amenities due to their illegal status, posing serious health hazards that result in higher rates of morbidity and mortality among the slum dwellers. Safe water and proper sanitation facilities are the biggest challenge of illegal urban settlements.

India WASH Forum (IWF) in collaboration with WaterAid has commissioned a study in which AFPRO was one of the agencies who undertook the assignment in 4 urban centres of Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Raipur and Bhilai, with an objective to ascertain access to water and sanitation facilities in urban settlements, with specific reference to slums and public places.

The findings of the study were that open defecation is a common practice among the slum dwellers, and municipal services to slums and public places are insignificant. Wherever private service providers are available better water and sanitation practices have been witnessed. However, inter-institutional coordination and capacity gaps were reflected in all the study areas. Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and the managerial capabilities of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) need to be further strengthened for improving the sanitation and hygiene status in urban slums.

*A well-maintained PPP model of Public Toilet in Central Bus Stand in Aurangabad, Maharashtra.*



## 5. Human and Institutional Development

Human and Institutional Development (HID) has been identified as AFPRO's focus with a view to sustain the organization's capacities and competencies, knowledge, growth and satisfaction. HID, in AFPRO's present context has three domains - Institutional, Organizational and Human Resources. The Organizational domain refers to efforts towards organizational strengthening for its effectiveness and sustainability, whereas the Institutional facet refers to efforts that lead to the creation of a shared value system. AFPRO being a knowledge based organization, with its human resources being the primary asset, Human Resource Development is crucial for HID.

### REVISITING AFPRO'S PLANNING PROCESS WORKSHOP

AFPRO has undergone two major planning exercises in the past. The first one in 1997-98 was critical in terms of setting the future direction of the organization. Its success was in AFPRO being able to re-establish its strategic roles and functions in the development sector. Later, however, it was realized that the recommendations and outcomes of this exercise were not institutionalized properly. As a result, in the report of the National Evaluation of AFPRO, which was conducted in 2001, areas for improvement were highlighted. The second critical planning exercise was the Strategically Oriented Planning Process (SOPP) which was carried out during 2002-03. This exercise strongly recommended measures for organizational self-reliance in view of phasing out of overseas financial assistance. Thereby, assisting AFPRO to rethink its objectives and move forward accordingly. During the last decade, AFPRO has been emerging as a capable, self-reliant NGO. However, there is still a need to review its Self-Reliance strategy by factoring in the medium to long term programme perspectives. In order to further strengthen self-reliance, AFPRO has carried out a workshop on "Revisiting AFPRO's Planning Process" from 15-17 December 2010, which was facilitated by Jan Vikas, Gujarat.

Prior to this event, another workshop was conducted at the AFPRO Field Unit in Ahmednagar, in November 2010, in order to arrive at a model that could be replicated throughout the organization. As a result, an innovative approach based on a cost-centric business model, called the "Business Plan" was devised. The proceedings of this workshop were later placed before the Governing Body for approval. Thus, from the fiscal year 2011-12, AFPRO will initiate activities to attain complete self-reliance based on the approved working model.

### PRE SACOSAN-IV MEETING

AFPRO is an active member of the South Asian Conference

on Sanitation (SACOSAN) and has participated in SACOSAN events on a regular basis, including the Fourth South Asian Conference on Sanitation (SACOSAN-IV). This was organised from 4th-7th April, 2011 in Colombo, Sri Lanka with the objective to accelerate the progress of sanitation and hygiene in South Asia, as well as, to improve the quality of life of people. The SACOSAN process intends to develop a regional agenda on sanitation, in order to generate a political will to reduce the gaps in access to improved sanitation. SACOSAN is largely a Government led initiative that brings government officials, donors, NGOs and the media together on a common platform to shape a country's sanitation policy through a signed declaration.

Realizing the importance of this Civil Society Organization (CSO) led process, Freshwater Action Network South Asia (FANSA), WaterAid, and Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) organized a two day Pre-SACOSAN-IV meeting on 1st-2nd April, 2011 for CSOs in Colombo, Sri Lanka. This meeting was attended by a mixed group of community leaders, NGOs and media personnel from South-Asian countries. Country wise reviews were undertaken to outline the progress of sanitation promotion made by the CSOs, governments and others, post SACOSAN-III. Thematic discussions were held on exclusion and inequalities, school sanitation, monitoring mechanism, urban sanitation, sustainability, health and the role of CSOs in the SACOSAN process. A consolidated statement made by the CSOs was developed for SACOSAN-IV, with specific recommendations for actions that need to be undertaken by South Asian Nations.

### AFPRO'S CAPACITY BUILDING INTERVENTIONS

AFPRO's capacity building interventions are closely connected to its projects and form a core strategy of all project initiatives. As a result, drawing from the larger organizational objective, 'enhancing rural livelihoods through natural resources management' is the key theme of AFPRO's capacity building programmes and events; which are open to all stakeholders, including project beneficiaries. Over the years, AFPRO has undertaken more than 150 capacity building events in which 5331 small and marginal farmers, women and adolescents girls have received direct training. During the current fiscal year, a series of trainings on SWC were undertaken for NABARD in Udaipur. Also, training was imparted on how to construct the Deenbandhu Biogas Plants for Energy Strategies Limited in Nairobi, Kenya. The following page represents AFPRO's approach to capacity building, including a thematic representation of the same.

Training On On-Site Soil & Water Conservation Measures IGWDP is being executed in five tribal dominated districts of

southern Rajasthan. The aim of the programme is to improve the livelihood of the rural poor and rehabilitate the highly degraded natural resource base in the south-eastern parts of the state. The programme activities are being implemented by Village Watershed Committees (VWCs), which were formed for each area, in association with 15 NGOs in about 31 watersheds. The Programme Management Unit of NABARD in Udaipur has entrusted AFPRO with an assignment to conduct trainings on “On-site Soil & Water Conservation Measures” for VWCs and community members under IGWDP. The objectives of the trainings are to improve the basic skills of VWCs and community members to plan, implement & maintain Soil & Water Conservation Measures and create awareness, so that they are empowered to undertake post project repair & maintenance works. AFPRO conducted a training programme for each of the 17 watersheds addressed under the IGWDP. A total of 543 Schedule Caste & Schedule Tribe participants, including 175 women, were benefited from these trainings.

#### Training On Deenbandhu Biogas Plant Construction

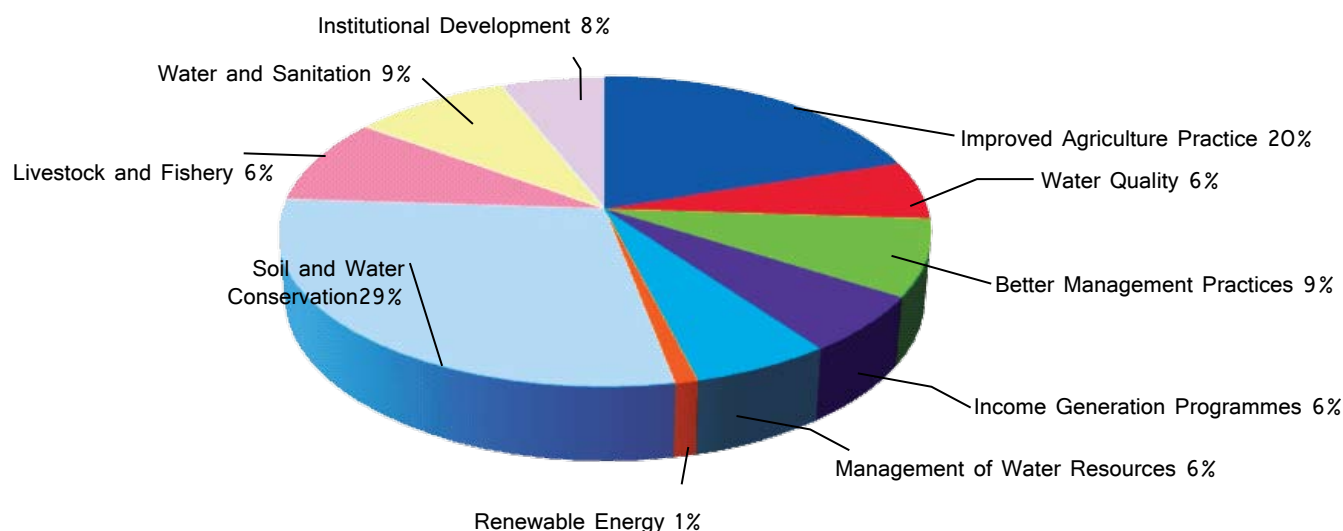
Kenya has been trying to adopt the biogas technology since the 1990's but due to high input costs all of its past attempts have been unsuccessful. With climate change and natural resource depletion being current global challenges Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) are the need of the hour, in which Biogas is an embedded component. Atmosfair gGmbH, a CER buyer and CDM consultant, realized the great potential of this technology especially with the plentiful

availability of raw material and thus collaborated with Sustainable Energy Strategies Limited (SES) to promote biogas technology in selected areas of Kenya.

AFPRO's patented 'Deenbandhu Model Biogas Plant' is one of the most successful models of biogas technology in India. The plant supplements the energy requirements at household levels, while at the same time contributing towards improving soil fertility through the application of biogas slurry in agricultural fields. As already mentioned, biogas technology has been found to be an appropriate option for mitigating climate change, as it reduces the emission of gases into the atmosphere. An advantage of this model is that it is inexpensive, thereby being ideally suited to the rural setting.

Having identified the 'Deenbandhu Model Biogas Plant' as a viable option, Atmosfair and SES requested AFPRO to provide its technical support to train rural communities in Kenya to replicate the model. A 21-day training event, held between 6th and 27th July, 2010, was organized in Thogoto Village of Kenya, for local masons who had prior experience in civil construction works. The objective of the training was to provide adequate knowledge and the required skills for the installation, utilization, operation and maintenance of biogas plants. The success of this training was seen when each of the 12 trained masons were able to construct biogas plants on their own, as well as, provide support to one another in the occurrence of minor problems.

#### THEMATIC REPRESENTATION OF AFPRO'S CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES



## 6. Building Linkages

While working with poor and marginalized rural communities, AFPRO's role has been to find appropriate ways and means to fight against poverty. The journey towards sustained poverty reduction requires the creation of livelihood and income generating opportunities by empowering the poor and marginalized, and also requires stakeholders to invest within the mandate of the Government.

There will be no sustained poverty reduction without investing in capacity building initiatives for stakeholders with an emphasis on stakeholder involvement at the grassroots level. AFPRO along with other stakeholders have the potential to immensely contribute to poverty reduction through appropriate, innovative and partnership based models. Some of the efforts include:

**BETTER COTTON INITIATIVE (BCI):** AFPRO is actively working to promote Better Management Practices (BMP) in Cotton since 2008. Based on its experience in the IKEA funded project, AFPRO has been invited to be a part of BCI, a global initiative on BMP in Cotton. In the coming fiscal year, AFPRO will engage in Maharashtra to implement a project. The mandate of the project is better for the people, associated with cotton production, better for the environment and better for the market.

*Tree Plantation by one of the beneficiaries under Integrated Tribal Development Programme in Village Dubbathanda of Mahabubnagar District, Andhra Pradesh*



**SHARING GROUNDWATER PROFESSIONALS WITH CENTRAL GROUND WATER BOARD (CGWB):** AFPRO has been able to submit profiles of 19 groundwater professionals to CGWB Regional Offices located throughout India. The professionals who are registered with CGWB will contribute towards improved groundwater management in their respective regions.

**GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY (GT) APPLICATION IN NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT:** Considering the importance of GT application in Natural Resources Management, AFPRO has been able to set up the 'GIS Cell' with the objectives to enhance awareness on GT among stakeholders engaged in Natural Resources Management activities; increase GT application for the Natural Resources Management programmes/projects; provide GT services to organizations and entities engaged in Natural Resources Management and design GT database(s) for knowledge management.

**WES-Net INDIA:** AFPRO is an institutional member on the board of WES-Net India ; and is able to bring the lessons learned and knowledge gained during the implementation of various interventions to this platform thus advocating for appropriate decision making. WES-Net India is an independent entity established in 2004 with the mandate to provide single point access to water and sanitation sector knowledge on best practices & approaches, and to enable coordination, facilitation and networking among partners.

**C O N V E R G E N C E  
OF AGRICULTURAL  
INTERVENTION IN  
MAHARASHTRA (C-AIM):**  
C-AIM is an initiative by Maharashtra State Agriculture & Marketing Board (MSAMB) which has financial assistance from International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT). The Programme is designed to address in-situ water conservation, sustainable agricultural development based on organic farming practices, pro-poor market linkages targeted in response to market signals and private sector preference and cattle breed improvement. AFPRO has been retained as the resource agency to facilitate the project in Yavatmal district, Maharashtra.



## 7. Financial Statements

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2011

Particulars	31st March 2011 (Rs.)
<b>SOURCES OF FUNDS</b>	
Funds and Reserve	74,996,316.69
Programme Balances	8,705,243.41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>83,701,560.10</b>
<b>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</b>	
<b>A) Fixed Assets</b>	
i) Gross Block	66,690,927.95
ii) Less: Depreciation	51,206,246.56
iii) Net Block	15,484,681.39
iv) Capital Work in Progress	-
	15,484,681.39
<b>B) Investments</b>	<b>16,552,358.00</b>
<b>C) Current Assets</b>	
i) Interest Accrued on Deposits	683,604.74
ii) Recoverables & Prepaid Expenses	5,646,610.82
iii) Cash & Bank Balances	52,825,918.79
	59,156,134.35
<b>D) Less: Current Liabilities &amp; Provisions</b>	<b>7,491,613.64</b>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>51,664,520.71</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>83,701,560.10</b>

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

Cyriac Mathew  
Manager - Adm & Finance

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

Fr. Varghese Mattamana  
Treasurer

(Martin P. Pinto F.C.A.)  
(Membership No. 085006)  
for Pinto M. P. & Associates  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Regn.No.006002N

Place : New Delhi  
Date : 24-08-2011

# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2011

Particulars	31st March 2011 (Rs.)
<b>INCOME</b>	
Programme Contributions	7,666,458.50
Miscellaneous Receipts	493,265.99
Sale / Disposal of Assets / Old Items	648,431.00
Interest - Savings & Deposits	4,517,986.87
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,326,142.36</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
<b>Core Integrated Development Programme</b>	
Human and Institutional Development	891,367.50
Socio - Technical Personnel Cost	26,102,662.87
Outreach Support	3,159,570.70
Information Services	424,966.40
<b>Administrative Cost</b>	
Admn. - Personnel Cost ( F & A )	4,237,043.94
Outreach Support	233,088.00
Office Expenses	4,147,326.06
Hired Services	1,853,945.40
<b>Capital Expenses</b>	<b>1,271,803.15</b>
<b>ED's Discretionary Fund</b>	<b>95,000.00</b>
	<b>42,416,774.02</b>
Excess of Expenditure over Income Transferred to :	
Programme Fund	(24,271,191.68)
AFPRO Millinm. Fund	(3,525,574.99)
AFPRO Ruby Jubilee Fund	(1,293,864.99)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,326,142.36</b>

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

Cyriac Mathew  
Manager - Adm & Finance

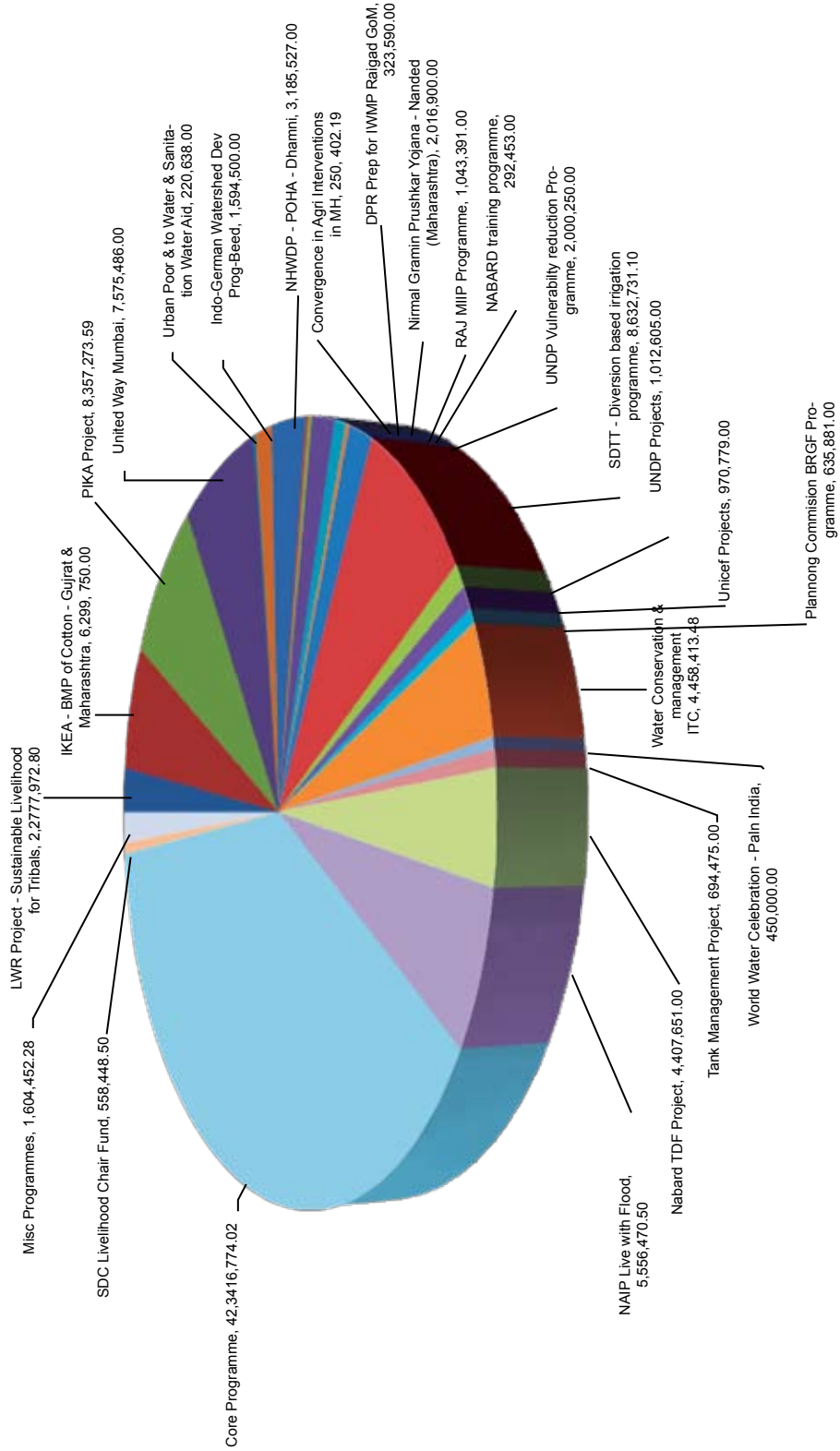
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for Pinto M. P. & Associates  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Regn.No.006002N

Place : New Delhi  
Date : 24-08-2011

# EXPENDITURE ON AFPRO PROJECTS





## 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 programme is recognized as income to the extent of the expenditure incurred on this programme. Contributions, grants, donations and receipts received without any specific direction are recognized as income.

b) Funds received for a particular programme / project (other than the core programme) are recognized as Programme 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 Programme 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 Programme 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 programme 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 programme 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 reflect the amount invested.

#### (vi) Retirement Benefits:

Contribution to Provident Fund is charged to the relevant programme as attributable to the concerned staff.

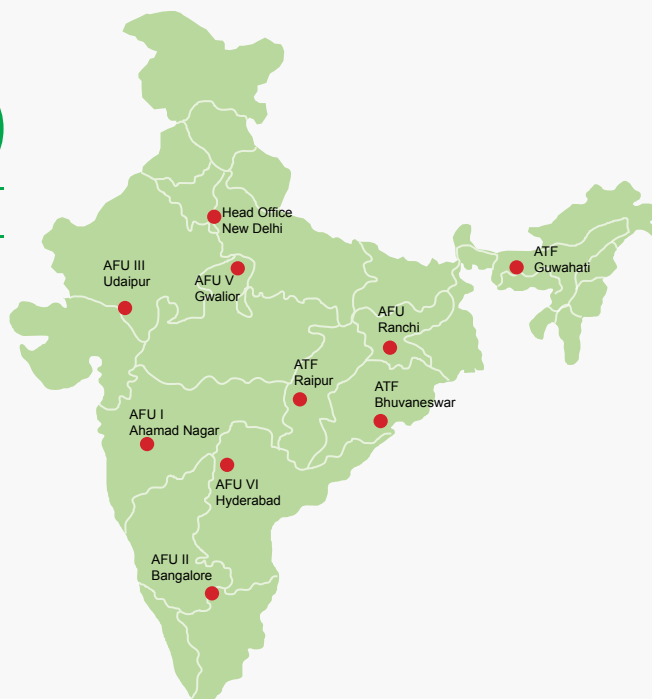
Encashment of leave at the time of retirement is permissible and in special cases at the discretion of the management during the tenure of employment. A Group Leave Encashment Scheme insurance policy to cover the liability has been taken with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). The amount paid 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.



<p><b>Executive Director</b> Mr. D.K. Manavalan I.A.S. (Retd.)</p> <p><b>Depury Director</b> Mr. Mukul Dixit</p> <p><b>Programme Coordinator</b> Mr. S.C. Jain</p> <p><b>Manager - Administration &amp; Finance</b> Mr. Cyriac Mathew</p> <p><b>Unit Managers</b> Mr. S. G. Salunke, AFU-I Mr. M.S. Raviprakesh, AFU-II Mr. P. K. Dutta, AFU-III Mr. Ajit Kumar, AFU-IV Mr. V. D. Dubey, AFU-V Mr. M. P. Goud, AFU-VI Mr. Pankaj Bezbaruah, ATF-G Dr. S. Srivastava, ATF-R Mr. M.S. Tiwari, ATF-B</p>	<p><b>AFPRO Head Office</b> 25/1-A, Institutional Area, Pankha Road D-Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058 Phone: 011-28525412, 28525452, Fax: 011-28520343 Email: afprodel@afpro.org, ed@afpro.org, pd@afpro.org</p> <p><b>AFPRO Field Unit – I</b> Rose Cottage, Station Road Ahmednagar – 414001, Maharashtra Phone: 0241-2451465 Fax: 0241-2451532 Email: afu01@afpro.org</p> <p><b>AFPRO Field Unit – II</b> 56, Hutchins Road, 6th Cross, St. Thomas Town Bangalore – 560 084, Karnataka Phone: 080-25461711, Fax: 080-25461712 Email: afu02@afpro.org</p> <p><b>AFPRO Field Unit – III</b> 1185, Opp. UIT Community Centre, Sector -11, Hiranmagri, Udaipur – 313 002, Rajasthan Phone: 0294-2583506, 2486008, Fax: 0294-2489109 Email: afu03@afpro.org</p> <p><b>AFPRO Field Unit – IV</b> 1-C, 262, Ashok Nagar, Ranchi - 834 002, Jharkhand Phone: 0651-2241947 Fax: 0651- 2243178 Email: afu04@afpro.org</p>	<p><b>AFPRO Field Unit – V</b> 314, Jiwaji Nagar, Thatipur Gwalior – 474 011, Madhya Pradesh Phone: 0751-2340646, 2340692, Fax: 0751-2341151 (PP) Email: afu05@afpro.org</p> <p><b>AFPRO Field Unit – VI</b> 1-3-29/5, Nandanavan Colony Street No. 4, Habsiguda Hyderabad-500 007 Andhra Pradesh Phone: 040-27150413, Fax: 040-27176021 Email: afu06@afpro.org</p> <p><b>AFPRO Task Force Guwahati</b> Pub Sarania, Bye Lane No. 4 (West), House No. 8 Guwahati – 781 003, Assam Phone: 0361-2527560, 2463373, Fax: 0361-2459003 Email: atfg@afpro.org</p> <p><b>AFPRO Task Force Raipur</b> C-1/73, Sector-7, In front of Govind Sarang Market, New Rajendra Nagar Raipur – 492 001 Chhattisgarh Phone: 0771-4070558, 4011439 Email: atr@afpro.org</p> <p><b>AFPRO Task Force Bhubaneswar</b> Plot No. 215, Okilbaag, Netaji Subhash Marg, Cuttack Road, Laxmisagar, Bhubaneswar, 751006 Orissa Phone: 0674-6943937, 6571144 Fax: 0674-2571901 Email: atfb@afpro.org</p>
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# AFPRO

Action For Food Production

## **Action for Food Production (AFPRO)**

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