ANNUAL REPORT

2015 - 2016

AFPRO

Action For Food Production

Contents

Aim of the Society

The Aim of the Society is development of weaker sections of 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.

Vision

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

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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Abbreviations

ADP	Area Development Programme
BALCO	Bharat Aluminum Corporation Ltd
BCI	Better Cotton Initiative
BCS	Better Cotton System
BILT	Ballarpur Industries Limited
CBA	Community-Based Adaptation
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CFT	Cluster Facilitation Teams
CGWB	Central Groundwater Board
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DWSP	Drinking Water Security Plans
GP	Gram Panchyat
GWP	Groundwater Prospecting Maps
HHs	Households
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
IEC	Information Education and Communication
INM	Integrated Nutrient Management
IP	Implementing Partner
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IPPE	Integrated Participatory Planning Exercise
IWMP	Integrated Watershed Management Programme

KVK	Krishi Vighyan Kendra
LWR	Lutheran World Relief
MELD	Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning & Documentation
MIS	Management Information System
MNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
MDWS	Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
MPC	Minimum Production Criteria
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NRLM	National Rural Livelihood Mission
RO	Reverse Osmosis
SC	Scheduled Caste
SHG	Self Help Groups
SO	Support Organization
SRI	Systems of Rice Intensification
ST	Scheduled Tribe
SWC	Soil and Water Conservation
VWDA	Vasundhara Watershed Development Agency
VWSC	Village Water and Sanitation Committees
VWSP	Village Water Security Plans
WUG	Water User Groups
WVI	World Vision India

Household Toilet Kadanur, Bangalore Rural

Resource Support

Government

Planning Department
Govt. of India
NABARD
State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD)
Vasundhara Watershed Development Agency (VWDA)
Pune, Govt of Maharashtra

Corporates

Ballarpur Industries Limited (BILT)
Bharat Aluminum Corporation Ltd (BALCO)
Coca Cola Foundation
Edelgive Foundation
HDFC Bank Ltd
IDH The Sustainable Trade Initiative
IKEA Supply AG
Mahyco-Monsanto Biotech (India) Pvt Ltd
Monsanto India Ltd.
Monsanto Holdings Private Limited
Mondelez India Foods Private Limited
Rio Tinto Exploration India Pvt. Ltd
Voltas India Ltd

Multilateral / Bilateral Agencies

UNICEF

Other Agencies (INGOs, Humanitarian Organization etc)

Lutheran World Relief (LWR)
Water Aid
World Vision India

Reflections from the Executive Director

Drought management in India is centered on preventive, preparedness and mitigation based approaches. A recent shift from the relief centric approach, the development of groundwater offers a safe alternative to water requirements during critical periods. However, repeated use has left this resource vulnerable to over exploitation and reduced its effectiveness as a drought mitigation approach. Here accelerated recharge of groundwater through the construction of recharge shafts is ensuring the availability of groundwater during critical periods. Strengthening traditional methods of rainwater harvesting by introducing modern technology is also actively being relied on as a method to cope better with droughts.

The unplanned development of groundwater over the past four decades is bearing fruit with declining trends in groundwater levels being recorded across vast tracts of the country. While, the watershed approach continues to be one of the flagship programmes supporting the development of water resources, the Master Plan for artificial recharge to groundwater, prepared by the Central Groundwater Board, should be referred to for broad guidelines on priority areas, schemes for different agroclimatic areas, and the use of transported water for recharge. The relevance of these plans increase as they have been prepared based on hydrogeological parameters and hydrological databases for each state. Special attention is needed in areas where surplus runoff is not available yet the need for artificial recharge is high.

Groundwater in India is predominantly used for irrigation. However, the small and marginal farmer is unaware of the impact that repeated drafts of groundwater are having on general groundwater levels. These declining groundwater levels are associated with a groundwater use pattern characterized by demand far exceeding supply. Water budgets offer farmers the opportunity to plan the use of their water resources based on an understanding of actual water available. Encouraging informed decision making, farmers are being mobilized to regulate withdrawals by either modifying cropping patterns in favour of low water intensive crops or introducing efficient water irrigation practices. Water sharing, natural outcomes of such practices, is contributing to the development of a more sustainable groundwater regime.

The storage of surface water for irrigation has made it possible to irrigate rainfed areas. However, evaporation from surface water bodies is unavoidable and reduces the efficiency of the storage mediums created. While, the scientific community has documented existing technologies claiming to reduce evaporation losses, fundamental engineering principles governing the design of water conservation measures need to be adjusted by taking into consideration such losses. Equipped with information on evaporation, reduction in surface areas of water conservation measures offer cost effective solutions.

The National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) represents an effort to manage risks associated with agriculture. While insurance covers arguably reduce losses incurred by farmers, there are numerous factors which continue to make agriculture a risky occupation. Unaddressed – erratic nature of climatic variables of temperature and rainfall, exposure to natural disasters like hailstorms, cyclones, tornadoes and floods, inadequate access to technical know how to manage pest infestations etc, lack of a secured irrigation – they are responsible for huge losses incurred by crop insurers. Risk management strategies offer relief by addressing some of the underlying factors, building adaptive capacities and reducing risks in the process.

We believe in participation with stakeholders in implementing programs is the best solution to create an ambience for risk managed credit flow. We contribute as grassroots level partners in genuine credit worthy certification of farmers to bankers. There is a need for three stakeholders – government, NGO and farmers – to work together and hope that inflation goes down and there is growth through agriculture for a healthy and vibrant India.

The Groundwater Prospecting Maps (GWP) were developed under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Project by the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) in Hyderabad with the support from the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS) and the Central Groundwater Board

(CGWB). Prepared based on a detailed understanding of geological formations and their hydro-geological properties these maps provide end users and decision makers with information on the groundwater prospects of a region. Although our contribution to mainstreaming the application of these maps into the management of natural resources may be small, our Regional Offices in Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Telengana/Andhra Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh etc need to modify Package of Practices (PoP) and agriculture based decisions; and locations of soil and water conservation measures and their technical designs according to principles of hydrogeology.

Government programmes in the past decades have supported infrastructural development in the form of minor and medium irrigation projects (check dams, ponds, tanks etc), soil and water conservation measures and sanitation. Wear and tear in the structures and siltation in the water bodies results in infrastructure functioning at sub optimal levels. While, village institutions are entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining these structures, they lack adequate technical knowledge, skills and financial resources. Non government organizations have the capacities to support these institutions through structured training programmes focused on operation and maintenance of their structures.

Developing countries are particularly vulnerable to climate change, due to their often higher exposure to weather and climatic extremes and climate variability. Furthermore, their economies are often highly dependent on climate – sensitive resources, whereas their adaptive capacities are relatively low. Adaptation should build on the best available information about impacts, vulnerabilities and adaptation options. Where clear cut information is not available the precautionary principle should apply and win-win options should be the focus.

Our teams in the field have been dedicating their time to the upliftment of the poor and marginalized through systematic capacity building programmes and field based demonstrations. Supporting us in our journey have been the Government of India, State Governments, International and Multi National Agencies and corporate both National and Multinational. However, continued efforts are required to bridge the gaps existing in rural areas. A special thanks to our CSO partner organizations with whom we have worked at the field level and who have played critical roles along with us in taking our programmes to ground. A special word of gratitude and appreciation to our Governing Body members for guiding us to provide direction to our teams at the field in effective execution of programmes.

D.K. Manavalan
Executive Director

SHG meeting, Anjeni village, Lasaria block, Udaipur district

Better Cotton Fast Track Programme (BCFT)

Location	Yavatmal (Maharashtra) Dhrangadhra, Wankaner & Dhoraji (Gujarat)
Funding Agency	IDH The Sustainable Trade Initiative IKEA Supply AG
Duration	April 2015 to March 2016
Beneficiaries (Total No of HH, as per Social Groups etc.)	Gujarat: 28180 Maharashtra 18000

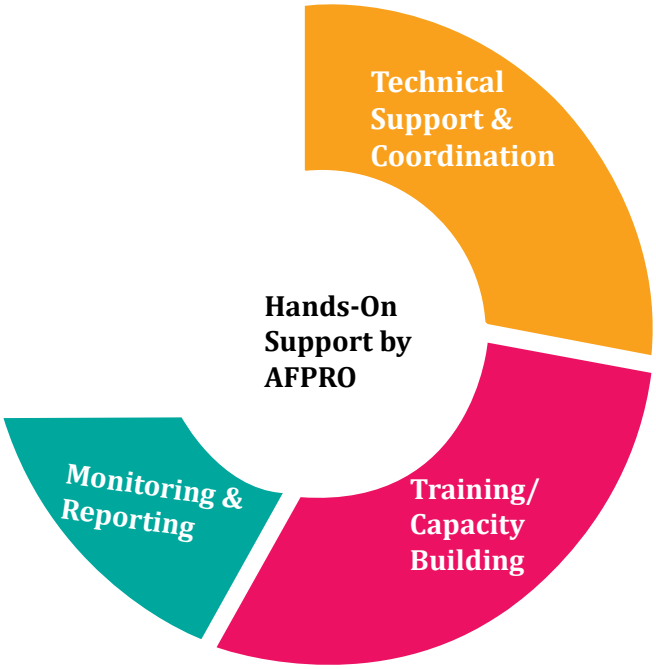
Cotton takes about six months from sowing to harvesting. Once picked, the cotton is bagged and transported to the local gin where the lint is separated from the seeds. Cotton is renewable and biodegradable, making it an excellent choice as an environmentally-friendly fiber but there are challenges to enhance the productivity which varies from environmental to social. Conventional farming techniques involve exhaustive use of water, chemical pesticides and fertilizers. At the same time, many cotton farmers struggle to make a profit, and on the other hand there are problems such as child labour, and health risks associated with the use of chemicals. With the aim to make cotton farming more sustainable and offering livelihood security to thousands of marginal and small farmers AFPRO has continued to extend its hand holding support to the cotton cultivators of Maharashtra and Gujarat through IKEA and IDH supported 'Better Cotton Fast Tract Program.

Better Cotton Standard System

Better Cotton Production Principles
Better Cotton Farmers Must:

❖6 Principles ❖ 44 Criterias ❖8 Indicators

- Minimise harmful crop protection practices
- Use water efficiently
- Care for health of the soil
- Conserve natural habitat
- Preserve quality of fibers
- Promote decent work



Overall Goal: Transforming Cotton Production Worldwide by Developing Better Cotton as a Sustainable mainstream Commodity.

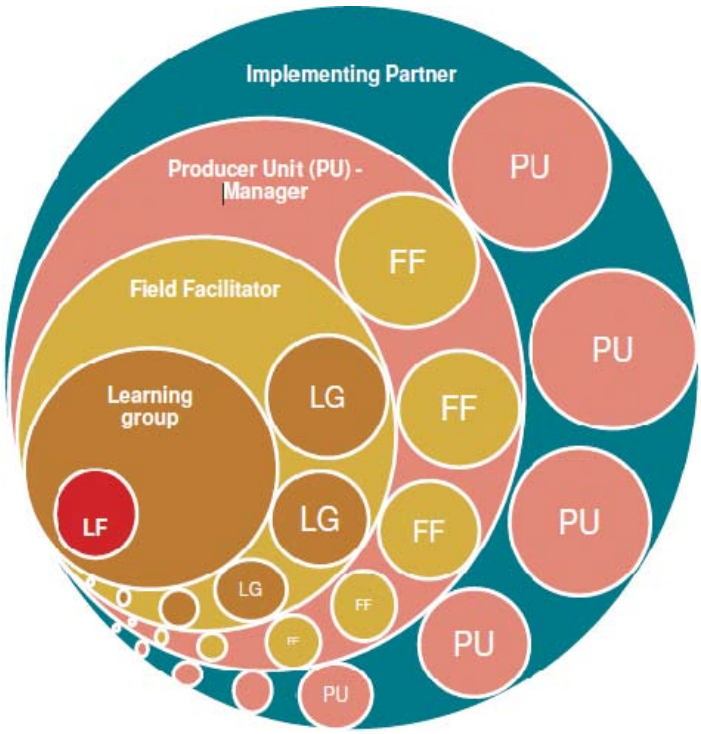
Objectives:

- To impart knowledge and skill among farmers about Better Cotton System (BCS).
- To motivate farmers to adopt environmental friendly cotton cultivation practices.
- Reduce the cost of production.
- To facilitate global knowledge exchange on more sustainable cotton.

Project Design

Farmer Registration
Training of Trainers (TOT' s Trainings) (organized with active involvement of staff)
Modular Trainings of Learning Groups (On MPCs; Nutrient management, IPM, crop protection and soil/water moisture management, Fiber quality, supply management, marketing and decent work)
IEC material development (MPCs, Farmers Field Book, Leaflets, Farm assessments Formats, module on BCSS, display chart, wall paintings, decent work chart and crop calendars)
Setting up of Demonstration plot (Total : 1438 Demos on IPM : sticky trap, bio pesticides, INM : micro nutrient (Sulphur), and Adoption of HDPS, Fertilizers, Safety kits)
Farm assessment (Participatory peer reviews, 2nd party credibility check, 3rd party Verification Visit & Self-assessment process)

Key Stakeholders



More Sustainable Farming techniques: Under the project, farmers have adopted more sustainable farming techniques. Here are some examples

Less chemical pesticides (Reduced toxicity and health hazard)

- Increasing number of border crop which protects the main crop from pest attack.
- Yellow sticky traps and Pheromone traps help farmers monitor the type and number of insects, and prevent unnecessary spraying.
- Use of bio-pesticides like neem oil, neem seed kernel extract and Beaveria.
- Creating awareness of maintaining natural habitat.

Less chemical fertilizer (Recommended dose as per soil nutrient analysis)

- Organic compost and manure (Cow Pat pit and bio dynamic composting) to improve soil quality,
- Use of slow release Bio Organic NPK, Inter crop with legumes and Macro & Micro Nutrient for effective soil management.
- Implementing High density planting system (HDPS) with Suraj Variety having high Fertilizer use efficiency.
- 2100 Soil samples were tested and reports were distributed to farmers with guidance on recommendations by RCF (Rashtriya Chemical Fertilizer), KVKs and universities etc; established mini soil testing lab (PUSA STFR meters)at Dhrangdhra and Wankaner; Staff capacitated on soil testing and fertilizer recommendations.

Less water (Better management of water)

- Opting Soil conservation practices (SWC) - farm pond, bunding; Drip irrigation methods; mulching for timely availability of water in rainfed area.

Visit of IDH – the Sustainable Trade Initiative at Dhrangadhra block, Gujarat

Field visit and trainings on Pest Management, Yavatmal district, Maharashtra

Health and Safety

- Plant protection equipment such as aprons, gloves , mask which make spraying and harvesting easier and safer.

Other Initiatives:

Convergence with Govt. of Maharashtra

Implementation of Public Partnership for Integrated Agriculture Development (PPP-IAD) Project for improving lives of Cotton growing farmers of Vidharbha in District Yavatmal. Activities conducted are 1) Formation and Strengthening of Women farmer field school in 134 villages. 2) Front line Demonstration on Integrated Crop management (ICM) as National Food Security Mission (NFSM) Guidelines, 80 research plots were established 3) Entrepreneurship development with 7 Women group for promoting clean cotton picking.

Collaboration with NBSS & LUP for soil testing at Block level

Following the GoI guidelines, AFPRO, with the financial support from IDH and technical support from ICAR-National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS & LUP), initiated a pilot programme in Kelapur taluka of Yavatmal district in Maharashtra aimed at assessing taluka level soil fertility status and thereby helping farmers use need based fertilizer, reducing cost of cultivation and enhancing sustainable soil and crop management. Out of the 140 villages under this project, fifty (50) villages were covered under IDH's BCFT project. Soil samples were collected with appropriate methods from the grid points provided by NBSS & LUP. Soil samples were analysed at the laboratory of NBSS & LUP. The process of analysis, soil health card preparation and final block fertility map preparation is under process.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Text and voice messages service provided to 5000 Cotton farmers at Gujarat in collaboration with Reliance Foundation, KVK and RML on weather alerts, crop advisories, market price, news and subsidies. Also our staff is connected through social networking media like Yammer and exchange the learnings from other stakeholders of BCI program.

Use of Plant Protection equipment during spraying, Dhoraji block, Gujarat

Women Farmers Training on Decent work at Wankaner

Training on soil sample collection from grid points, Yavatmal district, Maharashtra

Inspection of Farmer Field Book (at farm level) by Field Facilitator

Enhancing Small Holder Farmers Resilience

Situated in the southern bank of the river Ganges, Sabour block experiences recurrent inundation of low lying farmlands during each monsoon. Coupled with the recurrent flood, unavailability of water during winter poses a severe challenge to the farmers in that area. With the main resolution of increasing agricultural production and improvement of economic status in the area, AFPRO's Regional Office at Ranchi has been implementing this project with various interventions and activities.

Location	Sabour block, Bhagalpur district, Bihar
Funding Agency	LWR-Lutheran World Relief
Duration	January 2014 to September 2017
Beneficiaries	2500 HHs (5000 farmers)

Actions and Outputs

Against abiotic stress - Promotion of prolonged submergence tolerant and drought tolerant rice varieties for lowland and upland areas respectively

Firming sustainability - Group formation of farmers, including women farmers, and their capacity building through series of training, on-field demonstration and exposure events. 166 women farmers' group have been formed

For hand holding supports and for technology dissemination to farmers - Establishing demonstration plots on (95 demo plots were set up) ● stress tolerant crop varieties ● crop management ● water management ● pest management ● Input distribution and capacitating ● seed (each season) ● fertilizer (each season) ● sprayer (72 sprayers have been distributed)

For linkage development

● local KVK ● Agriculture department ● Insurance agency

Ensuring Irrigation water

Borewell installation to address the issue of water, principally for winter crop cultivation.

- Groundwater Investigation to identify favorable sites for drilling.

Method: Schlumberger Configuration is the method of Vertical Electrical Sounding (VES). From such sounds, the different litho-layer beneath the ground were probed to understand the thickness and apparent resistivity of each litho-layer and its water holding capacity determined.

- Water user group formation, 12-15 farmers in a group, including women.

Enriching soil health

● Soil health card distribution ● Preparation of NADEP compost pits Benefits: ● Easy methods of composting ● easy applicability in fields ● minimizes chemical fertilizer use ● reduces cost of cultivation

Project Impact – Before and After

The recurrent flood due to the close proximity of the project area to river Ganges results in heavy crop losses during monsoon. Prior to the inception of this project, majority of the farmers were reluctant to cultivate crops during monsoon. Besides, unavailability of irrigation water during winter season restricted them from going for winter crops. This ultimately resulted in insufficient food production in that area, compelling the farmers to migrate to nearby towns and distant cities.

Interventions through this project attributed to relatively secured food grain production during both kharif and rabi seasons. Submergence and drought tolerant varieties of rice, and heat and drought tolerant varieties of wheat were successfully demonstrated in the villages. The trainings and exposure visit contributed to making these varieties trustworthy among the farmers. Although initially these varieties were adapted by the beneficiary farmers, eventually they have been getting popularity among the whole farming community. Apart from varietal aspect, borewell installation has brought a new facet to the farmers facilitating winter crop cultivation, and obtaining additional food production. The seasonal submergence is naturally taking care of groundwater recharge, making the water table favorable for efficient withdrawal of water by borewells. Water User Groups were formed and trained for the effective operation and maintenance of the borewells, which include not only the physical maintenance but also take care of water sharing and other aspects. For the planning of the borewells, several meetings were conducted with the community. Considering the feasibility and community demand, these borewells are planned to be operated by submersible pump sets. NADEP compost pit preparation, which is a new practice for the project farmers, has proved to be one of the most popular activities and farmers have become well-versed with this practice.

Challenges

- Remoteness of project area and poor accessibility
- Recurrent flood
- Initial reluctance of the women farmers to interact with the project staff
- Getting authentic electricity connection for operating pumps for irrigation

Transplanting in Pargarhi village, Sabour block, Bhagalpur

Jalgram Pariyojna

With available land resources constant, the economic viability of agriculture increasingly being questioned, populations projected to increase and demands for diversion of agricultural land to non agricultural use intensifying, continued food security at the level of the family and the nation is at risk. Rainfed areas under single crops continue to offer enormous opportunity to cater to this demand, especially in states like Chhattisgarh where a large percentage of the rural community still depends on agriculture and allied activities for a livelihood; and one of the main factors restricting production is an inadequate access to irrigation.

We supported Bharat Aluminum Company Limited (BALCO) in improving agriculture based livelihoods by constructing a check dam and a dug well for irrigation. Despite subsistence agriculture traditionally practiced, the project recorded a marked improvement in farmers mobilized and trained on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI). While, the project partially supported the provision of hybrid seeds and fertilizers, additional support was facilitated through convergence with the local agricultural department. Mobilization of farmers for diversification of livelihoods was facilitated with the local Fisheries Department training farmers on fish rearing in farm ponds.

Location	4 villages, Korba Block of Korba district, Chhattisgarh.
Funding Agency	BALCO & NABARD
Duration	June 2012 to June 2016
Beneficiaries	600 Families

Our experiences of working in the rainfed areas of Chhattisgarh are an indication that the requirement of social and technical support by the small and marginal farmer for food and water security has not changed much. Historically neglected, the development of water resources in these areas offers a great opportunity to improve livelihoods through agriculture and allied activities. The demonstration of simple irrigation infrastructure have revolutionized rural livelihoods by encouraging the development of integrated livelihood models based on Systems of Rice Intensification (SRI), vegetable cultivation, fish rearing and micro enterprise development. These have been accompanied by multiple benefits of improved productivity, increased cropping intensity, diversification of livelihoods, income enhancement and family level nutrition and an overall upgradation of the environment.

Inauguration of check dam on Belagadi Nala, Korba district, Chhattisgarh

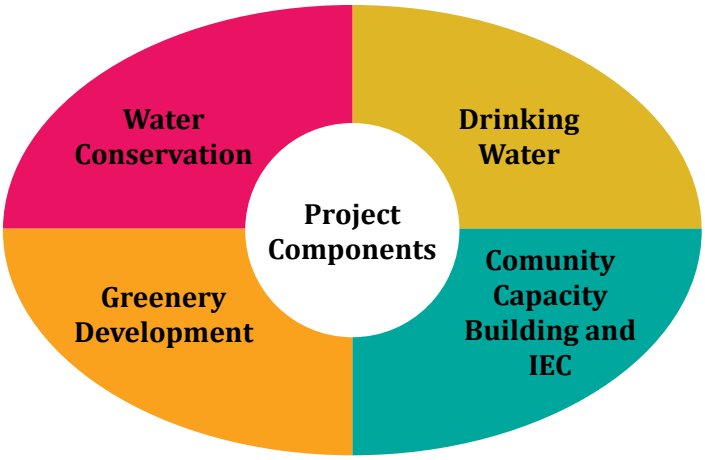
Improving Lives of people through Participatory Management of Environmental Resources (Water & Greening)

In states like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Himachal, supply of clean drinking water in rural areas has always been one of the highest priorities. Despite the impressive coverage of rural habitations, there is also rental population from different states due to industrialization. Most of the rural water supply schemes are based on groundwater but excessive withdrawal of ground water, gross neglect of rain-water harvesting, watershed management; water conservation measures etc. are having and adverse impact on the sustainability of water sources. Environmental Management through active participation of the local community is an important step towards management of available natural resources. In general tree plantation at common and private land becomes crucial for protecting environmental damages and enriching soil condition. The project is an effort towards the sustainable development of villages through integrated approaches of environmental management by undertaking pilot activities of water conservation and greenery development/tree plantation.

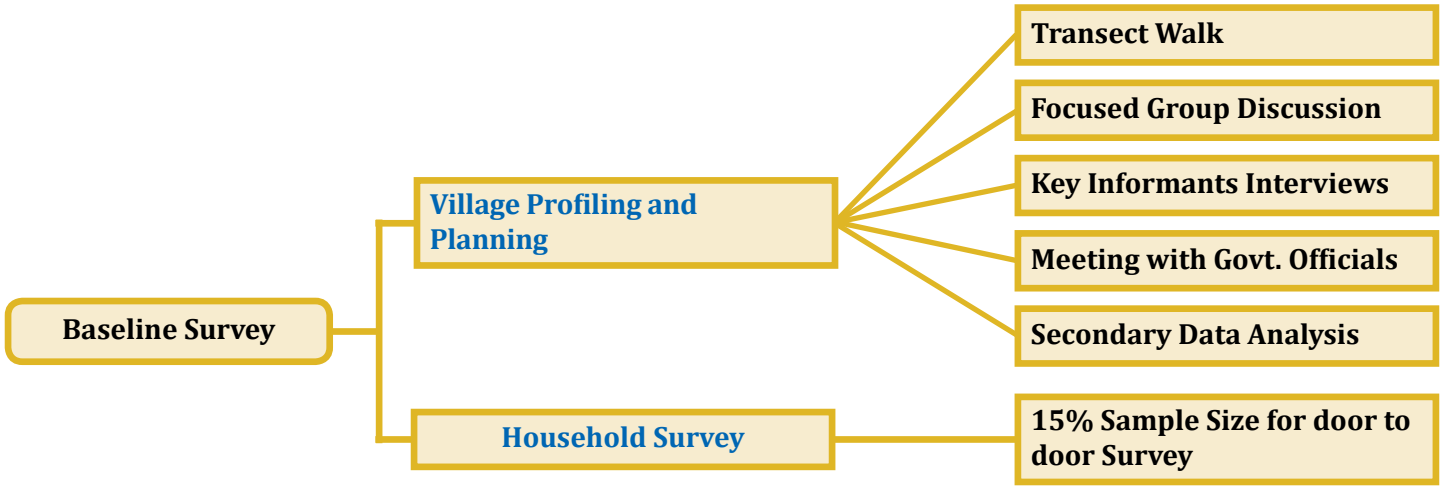
Location	lnduri (Maharashtra) Malanpura (Madhya Pradesh) Baddi (Himachal Pradesh
Funding Agency	Mondelez India Foods Private Limited
Duration	June 2015 to June 2017
Beneficiaries	5922 HHs, Induri 1602 HHs, Malanpura 365 HHs, Baddi

Specific Objectives

- Increasing rural household access to safer & sustainable drinking water sources through creation of new surface & ground water sources.
- Creating models for rain water harvesting and artificial recharge in the villages.
- Environmental protection through plantation of trees and greenery development.
- Education and counselling with the community for addressing local issues.



Methodology Adopted



Activities Implemented During Reporting Period

- Conducted Baseline survey of the project villages
- Installation of 1000lph RO System in Kanhewadi Village of Induri and 2000lph RO plant at Gurikha village of Malanpur
- Installation of GI Pipeline of 1410 meter for drinking water in Jambwade village
- Repair of 18 hand pumps in 4 villages of Malanpura
- Development of park at Haripur Sandholi village at Baddi
- Consultation with line Departments like Forest Department and Horticulture Department of Baddi for plantation activities to be carried out in forest area of Kalyanpur and sitalpur village
- Selection of households for distribution of homestead fruit trees plantation.

Glimpses of the Project

Hand Pump Repairing in Gurikha, Malanpura

Baseline Survey, Data Collection, Baddi

Development of Park at Haripur Sandholi Village

Installation of 1000lph RO System, Kanhewadi Village

Installation of Drinking Water Supply Pipeline, Jambwade Village

Inauguration of RO System in Kanhewadi Village

Promotion of Rural Livelihoods through farm sector interventions by water conservation measures/structures

The development of water resources and the creation of irrigation potentials in rainfed areas is often a stand alone activity, implemented in isolation. Village institutions are rarely consulted in implementation processes and are ill equipped to maintain these structures and ensure that they function at created potentials (wear and tear of structures, problems of siltation etc). Further, the economic bases of farmers are weak due to the absence of any integrated approaches aimed at productivity enhancement and are therefore unable to support routine operation and maintenance, resulting in structures either functioning at sub optimal levels or lying in states of abandonment.

We have supported Edelgive Foundation in developing farm based livelihoods through restoration of water conservation measures in 4 villages located in Gurur Block of Balod district, Chhattisgarh. Project initiation in villages comprised of problem identification, rapid reconnaissance surveys, detailed topographical surveys, and needs assessments in close consultation with the local community, expected impact analysis and implementation of priority measures for development of water resources. Addressing the fundamental need to engage communities in routine tasks of operating and maintaining irrigation structures, farmers were mobilized to desilt the canals of a local check dam, with orientations on existing mechanisms and actual convergence with MGNREGA facilitated. Additionally, a check dam was renovated with support from the project.

Location	4 villages, Gurur Block of Balod district, Chhattisgarh
Funding Agency	Edelgive Foundation
Duration	January 2016 to December 2019
Beneficiaries	588 families

Social mobilization backed by systematic capacity building programmes is the key to the successful implementation of any development intervention. However, involving local communities is time consuming and rigged with numerous challenges. Cluster Facilitation Teams (CFTs) have been identified to support the institutional structure created for the planning, implementation and monitoring of employment generation schemes - MGNREGA. Their primary role is to address the gap in capacities of the existing institutional structure, especially at the village and block level through systematic and structured training programmes. While, orientation of local communities on participatory planning processes have resulted in convergence with MGNREGA, training of technical officers at the block level on operation and maintenance of structures is required for better delivery.

Project outputs during the reporting period
• 1400 cum of additional storage created through desilting of check dam • 600 acres brought under kharif and rabi irrigation through desilting of canals

Desilting inside existing Govt. stop dam at Tengna Barpara Village

Water Management Project

A recommended approach in drought mitigation is the creation and strengthening of surface water based storages. While, drainage systems represent natural storages, additional storage is created through the development of dams and bunds. However, erosion in their catchments has resulted in reductions in carrying capacities and consequent reductions in the total quantity of surface water available for drinking, domestic, irrigation and other purposes. Supporting BILT Bhigwan cement nala bunds in 2 villages were desilted. While, the storage restored will provide critical irrigation for agriculture and supplement groundwater recharge; the excavated soil has also been used to strengthen agricultural systems in surrounding fields.

Fundamental principles governing the management of land and water resources were demonstrated in a small village called Devpimpalgaon in Maharashtra in the 1970's. It evolved into what is now known as the watershed approach. While, Jalyukt Shivar Yojna is a bid of the Government of Maharashtra to make Maharashtra a drought free state, the issues and challenges faced in these 5 villages are a reminder of the continuing significance of approaches and lessons from Devpimpalgaon. There sustainable livelihood models were demonstrated based on the management of land and water resources. However, there is ample scope in the project villages to explore the issue of management of water resources. Here demonstration of efficient irrigation practices and alternate cropping patterns is required to ensure maximization of outputs from the water stored.

Location	5 Villages near to Bhigwan, Indapur taluka Pune District, Maharashtra
Funding Agency	BILT
Duration	February 2014 to March 2016
Beneficiaries	2750 Farmers

Project outputs during the reporting period
• 99,37, 000 litres of water stored with deepening of nala bunds • 41 ha of land will be brought under irrigation

Cluster Facilitation Team (CFT) Approach

Convergence among different programmes have been the focus of the Government of India. Cluster Facilitation Team (CFT) approach has been one of the successful examples of convergence among two flagship programmes of Government of India — Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) - both addressing rural unemployment and poverty from different facets. The provision of livelihood security to the rural poor through the creation of quality and durable community and individual assets that provide sustainable incomes is one of the central objectives of the MGNREGA. National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) works towards creating robust institutional platforms of the rural poor, especially women, in the form of Self Help Groups (SHG) and their federations, to improve their access to financial services, and thereby build their sustainable livelihoods. This requires participation of communities in planning, implementation and monitoring of the works. Increasing the participation of communities is one of the objectives of the programme.

AFPRO is engaged as one of the Resource Organisation (RO - selected by State Govt based on several criteria) to identify, train, place and operate the Cluster Facilitation Teams in Karanja Block of Wasim District in Maharashtra from the initiation of the project in 2014.

Achievements of AFPRO under the five key objectives during the reporting period are presented below:

1. Demand Generation and Registration: AFPRO provided hand holding support to Rozgar Sevaks and ensured thorough survey and facilitated the verification process along with GS/GRS and GP members. As an output of the diligent work of AFPRO, 105 demands were generated and registered under Kaam Manngo Abhiyan. 561 number of job card holders (all SC /ST households) were registered.

Location	91 Gram Panchayats of Karanja Block, Washim District of Maharashtra.
Funding Agency	Planning Dept., Govt. of India.
Duration	June 2014 to May 2017
Beneficiaries	Social Groups of 91 Gram Panchayats

2. Integrated Participatory Planning Exercise (IPPE): IPPE plans prepared for 91 Gram Panchayats. Realistic and need based plans were developed for all the targeted GPs in a year (10 GPs in each cluster – total 30 GPs). 742 wells creation and 61 tree plantation work is under progress under IPPE Plan.

3. Capacity Building: AFPRO conducted four training programmes on Integrated Participatory Planning Exercise, for Gramsevak, Agriculture Assisstant, Rojgar Sevak, village representatives and members of SHG from Karanja block. Project orientation meetings have been conducted in 30 villages of Karanja block. One day training for technical officers working at block level was conducted. AFPRO facilitated formation of 105 numbers of labour groups and awareness meetings conducted for each group.

4. Preparation of Estimates: AFPRO provided technical guidance for estimate preparation through 5 training events for technical officers (MGNREGA staff) at block level and facilitated joint preparation of model estimates for works according to the priority decided in the Gram Sabhas.

5. Timely Payment of Wages: AFPRO is entrusted with weekly monitoring of muster preparation, timely recording and follow up with MIS team for timely payment of wages.

MGNREGS Activity Monitoring, Karanja block, Washim district, Maharashtra

Plantation under MGNREGS, Karanja block, Washim district, Maharashtra

Promoting Intensive Cumin Cultivation Among Farmers in Cotton Growing Areas of Dhrangdhara block of Gujarat

Cumin is one of the most important seed spices having high risk and foreign market potential. Gujarat alone contributes to 74 per cent of the total cumin production in the country. Like any other agricultural product, spices also gets affected by both biotic and abiotic factors like adverse climate, pathogens, toxins, agrochemicals, heavy metals, and accidental contaminants. The safety of seed spices depends on maintaining good agricultural and hygienic practices along the food chain during primary production, post-harvest, packing, processing, retail and at the point of consumption. AFPRO, with IDH as funding partner, has been implementing a project for the cotton farmers of Surendranagar district to impart knowledge and skills among the farmers about sustainable cumin production practices under the guidelines of SSI (Sustainable Spice Initiative). The primary objective of this programme was to enhance profits of the cotton farmers by adopting cumin as second crop.

Major interventions

- Formation and strengthening of Farmers Associations at the cluster level
- Capacity building of project staff and farmers
- Providing technical support to the farmers
- Establishing linkages with the KVKs, and other research institutes
- Development of training modules, material and documentation
- Conducting periodical monitoring and reporting
- Linking beneficiary farmers with exporters

Activities and outputs

- Soil testing of each village and accordingly providing recommendations
- Cumin seed sample testing of a few random samples

Location	Surendernagar District, Gujarat
Funding Agency	IDH
Duration	Oct. 2015 to March 2016
Beneficiaries	5000 Farmers

- Organizing training programmes for gender-irrespective farmers and laborers in each village on sustainable cumin cultivation, including IPM, INM; and health and safety measures
- Development of 60 demonstration plots on various production technologies

Challenges

- Short duration (3-4 moths) nature of cumin crop
- Extreme risk associated with disease infestation, mainly blight and wilt
- No proven measures for curing blight as of now
- General tendency of the farmers to use pesticides (insecticides and fungicides) to save crop rom complete damage
- Unsatisfactory price offer from exporters

Major achievements and future goal

- Farmers in the project area were exposed to proper technical information on cumin crop for the first time
- Farmers got additional income by selling cumin at domestic market
- It is expected that during the subsequent years, farmers will adopt SSI principles to the maximum extent so as to meet the export standards and avail better price for the produce. To achieve this goal, more intensive training and close field monitoring has been planned for the next season. Technical advice has been expected from National Research Center on Seed Spices, NRCSS, Ajmer.

Training on sustainable cumin cultivation, Virendragadh village, Gujarat

Training on sustainable cumin cultivation, Vavdi village, Gujarat

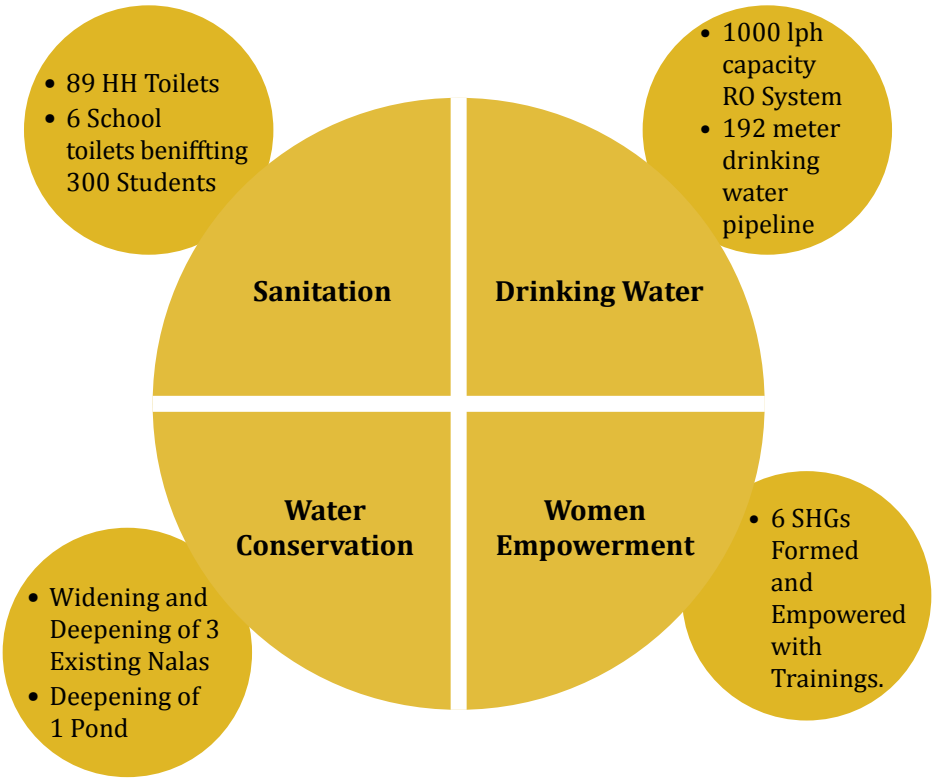
Improving lives of People in distress through integrated approach of livelihood enhancement and water & sanitation services

The project aims to improve the lives of people in distress through integrated approach of livelihood enhancement and water and sanitation services with the following objectives:

- To increase the access of the rural communities to improved and sustainable drinking water and sanitation services
- To ensure economic development of rural women through strengthening of SHGs and promoting small and medium entrepreneurships.
- To promote sustainable agriculture through adoption of better management practices in water, IPM, INM and develop market linkages
- To create better educational set up by improving infrastructural facilities in the schools for learning and sanitation
- To build the capacities of local institutions/CBOs (water user groups, Water & sanitation committee, SHGs, Farmer's producer groups etc) for better living conditions, opportunities for development and sustaining interventions.

Location	Six districts of Maharashtra
Funding Agency	Mahyco-Monsanto Biotech (India) Private Limited
Duration	April 2015- June 2018
Beneficiaries	25 villages

Achievements



Community is being empowered with training in diversified aspects, as capacity building is an integral part of all the components.

Integrated Tribal Development Project with focus on Water, Sanaitation & livelihood at UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli (Silvasa)

Activities under Drinking Water & Sanitation include rejuvenation & rehabilitation of existing drinking water facilities and creating new facilities for drinking water purpose. It is proposed to work with village panchayats (Village Council) through NREGA (National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) for in situ Water Conservation. Women Empowerment includes activities to capacitate women on various aspects and linking them with resource agencies to initiate sustainable small scale entrepreneurships to support their livelihoods.

Activities carried out during Reporting Period

Drinking water and Sanitation:

- Drinking water pipeline renovation and reinstallation in Amrunpada of Vasona village has benefitted 90 HHs and two primary schools.
- Creation of Borewell and Installation of hand pumps in four padas (hamlets)
- Construction of 64 household toilets

Family based enterprise development through women SHGs

- Navrachana Mahila Readymade Garments and Training center is established.
- Paper plate making enterprise named Jyoti Mahila Mandal is established.

Location	Five villages in Dadra and Nagar Haveli (Silvassa)
Funding Agency	Monsanto India Ltd.
Duration	April 2015 to March 2017
Beneficiaries	Approximately 5000 Populations (1000 Households) in 5 villages

- Kitchen garden sampling and horticultural plants are distributed to 32 women beneficiaries.
- 17 women of Motipati Fanaspada village (Rampir Mahila Mandal) were empowered to start vegetable cultivation.
- Members of Mahila Milk cooperative society are mobilized, motivated and registered in Vasundhara government dairy.
- Necessary and adequate training were provided to all members of different women SHGs.

One of the salient achievements of this project is leveraging of Government funds from different schemes to further enhance support to the women entrepreneurs

Brinjal cultivation, Vasona Amrunpada village, Silvasa

Groundwater level monitoring, Vasona Amrunpada village, Silvasa

Provision of Household toilet, Vasona Amrunpada village, Silvasa

Improving quality of lives of people with distress through adoption of integrated approach for Water, Sanitation and Women Empowerment in 25 villages of five Districts in Maharashtra.

On successful completion of ensuring safe drinking water and sanitation facilities to 950 school children and 8653 villagers in five districts, AFPRO was entrusted to provide similar benefits to another 400 school children in the same villages by Monsanto India Limited.

Achievements under the reporting period:

AFPRO ensured sustainable drinking water supply to 979 villagers by constructing dug well and installing drinking water supply pipelines in two villages and constructing a 5000 ltr capacity water storage tank, benefitting communities of two other villages. Construction of check dam and desiltation of existing tanks ensured harvesting of more water and thus availability of sufficient water for the needs of the village community.

AFPRO provided safe sanitation to 88 households and 400 school children of 4 schools by constructing individual and school toilets besides providing training on sanitation and hygiene in the 25 target villages.

Location	25 Villages, 5 Districts, Maharashtra
Funding Agency	Monsanto India Ltd.
Duration	April 2015 to Sept 2015
Beneficiaries	400 School Children and 8653 Villagers

AFPRO empowered the women groups by supporting enterprises like flour mill, goat rearing and tailoring through providing machines, training and facilitating establishing linkages with the financial institutions. Besides, 60 individual women were supported for establishing Back Yard Poultry.

Household Toilet, Kannhekar Village, Dahatonda Dist, Akola

Household Toilet, Pachade Village, Dahatonda Dist, Akola

Stepping towards "Swatch" and "Unnat" Bharat: An Integrated Rural Development Approach through improved Water & Sanitation and agricultural practices in Andhra Pradesh, Telengana and Karnataka of Southern India

Project Background:

Monsanto in partnership with AFPRO is implementing the project for improving quality of lives of 52,000 community members across 35 villages in 12 districts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and Karnataka, through adoption of integrated approach for Water, Sanitation and Women Empowerment, with the key objectives

a) To ensure access to adequate Safe Drinking water by creating an enabling environment for reduction in health hazards associated with consumption of 'Unsafe' water through improvement in water and sanitation infrastructure by strengthening existing safe drinking water supply systems/creation of new drinking water facilities in 35 villages including schools

b) To ensure improvement in the overall health status of the community through construction of household and schools toilets (650 toilets at household level & 10 schools) & community events for sensitization on health, hygiene and sanitation at the household and community level

c) To increase in rural household incomes by 30% through entrepreneurship development programmes for 20 women SHG's (covering 300 women)

1. Water:

- Promoting RO Plant for safe drinking water facility: Five 2000 lph, RO plants are established (4 in Andhra & Telangana and 1 in Karnataka) for community and four 50 lph, RO plants have been established in schools.
- Drinking Water-infrastructure development: Supply side management of water like (water tanks, recharge structures and distribution line network) are developed.
- The community have been empowered through formation of village water & sanitation committee and establishing system of Water Quality monitoring and surveillance.

Location	• 19 Villages in 6 Districts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana • 16 villages in 6 Districts of Karnataka
Funding Agency	Monsanto Holdings Private Limited
Duration	April 2015 to June 2018
Beneficiaries	10000 Households

2. Sanitation:

127 Households and 12 schools have been provided with toilet facilities. These have been complemented with awareness camps on sanitation and hygiene at community level and schools.

3. Women Empowerment

One of the most challenging endeavours has been developing entrepreneurships among women groups. Concerted efforts resulted in development of One paper bag making and One Napkin making enterprise. AFPRO also provided marketing support to the groups.

Renovated School Toilet Thippaganahalli, Chikkaballapur

Installation of RO Plant Thoudur thanda, Davanagere

Provision of Safe drinking water, Health & Sanitation in the UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli (Silvassa)

Project Objectives:

Drinking water was one of the major components of the project wherein six RO plant installations and other drinking water infrastructure were planned, based on the baseline survey and interaction with the community. However, recently the Government of India has sanctioned major project on drinking water for the Dadra Gram Panchayat. In this backdrop, the aspects of (1) Water for Irrigation, (2) Agriculture, (3) Sanitation, Health and hygiene and (4) Livelihood are being targeted.

Activities carried out during reporting Period

Stakeholder Interaction:

- **Village Meetings:** In each indentified faliya, meetings and group discussions were conducted with the men and women groups to understand and appreciate their problems and deliberate upon designing the project interventions and approach.
- **Meetings with Gram Panchayat:** The views of the villagers were being endorsed by the Gram Panchayat members through four rounds of meetings with them.
- **Meeting with District Officials:** The endorsed interventions were conveyed to the District Collector, Mr Rajawat, which was much appreciated.

Location	9 Faliyas from Dadra Gram Panchayat
Funding Agency	Voltas India Ltd
Duration	Jan 2016 to December 2017
Beneficiaries	3 villages in UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli (Silvassa)

Physical Interventions:

- **Water quality testing:** Water samples from two hamlets were collected and tested for chemical and bacteriological contamination. The reports revealed that TDS content of the water is high and also the content of essential minerals like calcium is low.
- **Identification of RO sites and Water user group formation:** The sites for the installation of an RO system are identified in two villages. Process of water users group formation has been initiated in two villages.
- **Construction of HH Toilet:** 35 toilets have been completed in two faliya.
- **Development of IEC material:** IEC material on health, Hygiene and Sanitation on various thematic posters having pictorial presentations and key messages has been prepared in English and Marathi and being translated in Gujarati.

Meeting with local community, Silvasa

Progress Review, Silvasa

Development of Kasar Amboli and Motewadi Villages through Integrated Rural Development Approach

Availability and Sustainability of safe drinking water has always been a challenge in the state of Maharashtra. Receiving medium rainfall and having 80-90% of the total land area under seasonal irrigation for growing crops in Kasar Amboli and Motewadi villages in Pune district of Maharashtra; there was a crucial need for having judicious use of water for domestic and agriculture purpose. Sustainability of drinking water was a major concern in these villages. Apart from water, there was lack of proper sanitation facilities; especially in the village school. Partnering with HDFC Bank, AFPRO's Regional Office at Ahmednagar implemented an integrated village development programme in these two villages with the primary goal of facilitating safe & sustainable drinking water sources and sanitation facilities to the project beneficiaries through community capacity building on effective water management for farm and family.

Location	Kasar Amboli and Motewadi Villages of Pune district
Funding Agency	HDFC Bank Ltd
Duration	October 2015 to June 2016
Beneficiaries	100 school children and Around 1000 HHs

Activities and outputs

- Need assessment
- Awareness creation and community capacity building
- Ground Water Investigation in collaboration with Groundwater Survey and Development Agency (GSDA) ensuring source sustainability for water
- Water quality testing and facilitating safe drinking water to school kids through installation of 1 RO System in School
- Renovation of existing water infrastructure (1 hand pump)
- Installation of 1 Bore well along with Submersible pump
- Construction of 1 storage tank and creation of water distribution network
- Creation of 45 individual household toilets
- Installation 50 LED street lights for ensuring safety of the villages during nights

Key Challenges faced: Lack of consistency in the demand raised by the community

School Sanitation in Maharashtra

Infrastructural availability, sustainability and habits are the three most important components of any programmes on WASH. Besides creating infrastructure, the success and sustainability of any sanitation programme depends primarily on changing people's mindsets and ensuring water.

Mindsets can be altered through strategic awareness and training programmes and exposure events. Schools are the best places for building good sanitation behaviors and habits for better health and hygiene. With the aim to build awareness and providing sanitation facilities to the students of 51 schools of 11 districts in Maharashtra.

Location	11 Districts in Maharashtra
Funding Agency	HDFC Bank Ltd
Duration	October 2015 to January 2016
Beneficiaries	Children of 51 School

Major activities and outputs

- Need Assessment Survey
- Construction of New Sanitation units in 25 Schools
- Renovation of Already Existing Sanitation units in 11 Schools
- Creation of Drinking Water Facility in 21 Schools
- Renovation of Already Existing Sanitation units in 7 Schools

Key challenges

- Identification and Selection of the Service Provider
- Cooperation from School Management was less than Expected

Extending towards Sustainability

After the closure of this project, a new programme has been brought into effect (from September 2016) on those 51 schools, aiming at changing people's behavior towards WASH. Students, school authority and parents being the stakeholders, the major interventions planned are providing intensive trainings, forming WASH committes and clubs for systematic operation and maintenance, organizing health camp etc.

Model School Sanitation units, 11 Districts, Maharashtra

Integrated Community Development Programme

With states progressing on economic indicators of development, progress on social and environmental issues still lags behind. While, development goals are comprehensive, and outline the need to eradicate hunger and poverty, achieve universal primary education, ensure environmental sustainability etc; well defined targets such as access to household level sanitation, safe and adequate drinking water and enhancement of livelihoods still require our focused attention.

Supporting HDFC, we initiated a project on Integrated Community Development through the construction of individual household toilets, renovation of hand pumps, construction of rooftop rainwater harvesting structures, repair of stand posts, construction of nadeep pits, and infrastructure development in schools like provision of fans, almirahs etc. Participatory processes demonstrated in the project villages included consultations with the PRIs, community and individuals; and have ensured that all assets created under the project are being used by the beneficiaries. This includes toilets constructed. While, restoration of functionality of hand pumps has improved access to drinking water, reduction in open defecation and an improvement in the quality of learning in schools are additional benefits documented.

Location	5 Villages, Mahasamund Block of Mahasamund district, Chhattisgarh
Funding Agency	HDFC Bank Ltd
Duration	November 2015 to December 2016
Beneficiaries	1853 families

Civil works are investments with recurring costs in the form of routine operation and maintenance. These costs are rarely supported by the project and institutions at the village level need to be trained to operate and maintain their own structures and mobilize funds for the same. While, social processes of development especially consultations with the local community in all matters of decision making right from planning to execution of development interventions are steps towards inculcating a greater sense of ownership towards all assets created under the project, project designs need to include focused capacity building components to ensure all infrastructure created under the project is maintained.

Roof top rain water harvesting, middle school, lohardih village

Hand Pump assembly repairing, Jalki village

Individual Household toilet, Amajhola village

Integrated Village Development Plan

The CSR head of HDFC Bank aims to develop a business model that not only creates economic value but also contributes to a healthy ecosystem and strong communities which contributes to the greater good of the rural community.

With the principal goal to hoist the overall status of Upper Balian village, a village located on remote uphill of Meghalaya, AFPRO has been carrying out this programme with the following main objectives:

1. To provide safe & adequate drinking water facility to the community
2. To promote rural livelihood through farm and non-farm livelihood intervention/activities
3. To improve sanitation & hygiene facilities/practices and building capacity among the community on WASH
4. To upgrade school infrastructural facilities for the benefit of school children.
5. To promote and enhance environment friendly energy sources such as solar.

Location	Upper Balian village, Umling Block, Ri-Bhoi district, Meghalaya
Funding Agency	HDFC Bank Limited
Duration	January 2016 to December 2016
Beneficiaries	Village Community as a Whole

Planned Interventions

Creation/Renovation of gravity based water distribution system	Horticulture (Fruit Trees) for Additional Income Generation	Animal Husbandry (Poultry, Piggery, Goat) for Additional Income Generation	Mushroom Cultivation for Additional Income Generation
Creation of Individual Household Toilets	Promotion of solar lights	Facilitating Safe Drinking Water to School Children	Facilitating better tools for education to school

Capacity Building on all Aspects

Outputs so far

1. Awareness creation on SHG formation and its benefits
2. Training on poultry, pig rearing, pest & disease management
3. Renovation of water supply pipes and storage tank

Discussion with villagers, Upper Balian village, Ri Bhoi district, Meghalaya

Community based Drinking Water Security Planning in Selected GPs of Balod, Mahasamund and Dantewada districts of Chhattisgarh

Location	101 GPs located in 3 districts (Balod, Dantewada and Mahasamund) of Chhattisgarh
Funding Agency	UNICEF
Duration	December 2015 to November 2016
Beneficiaries	101 GPs

With utilizable water resources more or less constant, populations projected to increase and stiff competition amongst multiple sectors for its use, regions face a widening of the gap between the supply and demand for water. Representing a scientific approach to planning the management of water resources, water security, is an effort to reduce this gap through the introduction of sustainable demand management practices in combination with steady increases in supply.

Supporting UNICEF, we initiated the process of preparing water security plans for 101 GPs located in 3 districts of Chhattisgarh – Balod, Dantewada and Mahasamund. The Groundwater Estimation Committee (GEC) 1997 Guidelines has been used with rainfall infiltration method relied on. The collection and compilation of detailed information on demand of water for different purposes – drinking, domestic, livestock and agriculture vis-à-vis supply has been initiated; multiple stakeholders such as UNICEF, PHED, line departments consulted; sarpanches of the different GPs initially oriented on the water security planning approach and a model Water Security Plan developed for one GP (Sorar) of Balod district. These plans have been developed for two time periods – current scenario and projections for the next 10 years.

Water Security represents a holistic approach to planning the management of water resources. The estimation of demand and supply of water serves as a means to motivate users of groundwater to adopt different groundwater regulation practices including restricted drilling of irrigation bore wells, development of surface water and regulated use of groundwater for irrigation. However, adequate availability of scientific data, awareness among the local communities and convergence with line departments on implementation of the water security plans are obstacles which need to be overcome for its effective implementation. While, GP level programmes are proposed to address gaps at the community level, orientation programmes for officers at the block level have been planned to strengthen mechanisms for convergence with the line departments.

Preparation of 60 Drinking Water Security Plan (DWSP)

Location	60 villages of 6 districts (Sagar, Damoh, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Panna and Dindori) of Bundelkhand, Madhya Pradesh
Funding Agency	Water Aid
Duration	May 2015 to July 2015
Beneficiaries	60,000

With utilizable water resources more or less constant, populations projected to increase and stiff competition amongst multiple sectors for its use, regions face a widening of the gap between the supply and demand for water. Representing a scientific approach to planning the management of water resources, water security, is an effort to reduce this gap through the introduction of sustainable demand management practices in combination with steady increases in supply.

Supporting Water Aid, we initiated the process of preparing water security plans for 60 villages of 6 districts (Sagar, Damoh, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Panna and Dindori) of Bundelkhand, Madhya Pradesh. The collection and compilation of detailed information on demand of water for different purposes – drinking, domestic, livestock and agriculture vis-à-vis supply was undertaken; multiple stakeholders consulted (sarpanches, PHED); water budgets computed; and Water Security Plans developed for all the villages. These plans have been developed for two time periods – current scenario and projections for the next 10 years. Key recommendations include the need to develop groundwater resources, deepen existing groundwater sources, repair hand pumps and restore their level of functionality, systematically implement the Nal Jal Yojna (piped water supply), and develop recharge measures in the district aimed at improvement in groundwater levels. A series of meetings and consultations were organized to share the DWSP recommendations with community, PRI and government officials. Also focused advocacy drives were organized in Chhatarpur and Panna district with PHED officials and the district administrative set up to implement the recommendations in least one village i.e Khoup (Chhatarpur) and Navasta (Panna).

Water Security represents a holistic approach to planning the management of water resources. While the estimation of demand and supply of water serves as a means to motivate users of groundwater to adopt different groundwater regulation practices including restricted drilling of irrigation tube wells, development of surface water and regulated use of groundwater for irrigation, the scope of the project was confined to the development of drinking water and measures to ensure its security alone. Therefore, agronomy based recommendations were restricted to efficient irrigation practices and changes in cropping patterns; and mobilization of institutional support to ensure the same an enormous and under explored opportunity.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Documentation (MELD)

Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) is implemented by Water Conservation Department, Government of Maharashtra in all thirty three rural districts. We supported the Government of Maharashtra in monitoring and evaluating approximately 4 lakh ha sanctioned under (IWMP) for a second consecutive year. As a Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Documentation (MELD) agency, key responsibilities included the establishment of an MELD system, concurrent monitoring and compliance tracking (process and progress monitoring and facilitation of community based monitoring), periodic evaluations (phase wise evaluations and impact assessments) and learning and documentation (thematic studies and case studies).

Since these watersheds are under different phases of implementation; and detailed templates for monitoring and evaluating these watersheds were designed and developed in close consultation with concerned institutions at the district, Joint Director Agriculture (JDA) and divisional level (Superintendant Agriculture Officer (SAO) at the initiation of the MELD project; efforts were made to ensure timely submission of monthly, quarterly and half yearly reports by Project Implementing Agencies (PIA) and the Watershed Development Teams (WDT). While, quarterly progress monitoring has been completed for all the 93 watersheds, quarterly process monitoring has been completed in 46 watersheds and compliance tracking completed in the remaining watersheds. Further one watershed committee from each of the 93 clusters was trained on community based monitoring and conducted one such half yearly monitoring under our supervision. Final reports including observations on the MELD agency have been submitted to CEO and JDA, Pune division.

Location	Ahmadnagar, Pune and Solapur districts
Funding Agency	Vasundhara Watershed Development Agency (GoM)
Duration	August 2013 to July 2018
Beneficiaries	406504.36 ha

Preparatory Phase Evaluations of 11 Batch IV watershed clusters were also conducted. The Watershed Committees and the Project Implementing Agencies (PIA) were involved in these evaluations. The findings from these evaluations have been shared with the Additional CEO and JDA Pune. Additionally, gaps in the institutional mechanism hindering effective implementation of the programme were assessed with meetings and workshops with Division Planning and Monitoring Officers (DPM). While, district level workshops have been completed in Ahmadnagar and Solapur, workshops in Pune will be taken up subsequently.

Focus Group Discussion during Work Phase Evaluation of Batch-I in Solapur District

Water Conservation Structures

Water is the basic requirement of life. The importance of water conservation in the country has been recognized since time immemorial. Over the years, watershed approach has conventionally been applied for the purpose of arresting rainwater runoff, its harvesting and in situ soil and moisture conservation in the country. However, since rainfall patterns in a watershed determining the availability of water are erratic, groundwater, a reliable alternative, expanded in an unplanned and rapid manner resulting in a decline in groundwater levels and a stress on groundwater resources. The challenge is to find ways to store rainwater where it falls.

Supporting Coca Cola Foundation, we contributed to the development of surface water bodies in 4 villages of Sawai Madhopur district, Rajasthan. Key interventions supported under the project included the construction of water absorption trenches, gully plugs, farm ponds, earthen dams, recharge pits, dug wells and restoration of anicuts. Efforts to improve productivity of farmers included trainings by the local Krishi Vigyan Kendra on different thematic areas. The impact of these measures includes an increase in irrigation potential and support to farm based livelihoods and groundwater recharge.

Location	4 villages of Sawai Madhopur district, Rajasthan
Funding Agency	Coca Cola Foundation
Duration	April 2015 to March 2016
Beneficiaries	2354 households

In the changing climate scenario, water and land resources of Rajasthan are facing a threat of reduction in productivity due to lowering ground water, leaching, soil erosion and scarcity of water for irrigation. Increasing uncertainties in weather due to climate change increased variability in precipitation (heavier rainfalls after longer drought spells) have increased the general vulnerability of farmers. Here, the project on water conservation structures is a simple example of reducing the vulnerabilities of local communities to climate change through development of water resources.

Project Outputs during the Reporting Period
• 556,45,553 litres water storages and recharge capacity developed

Water Augmentation Project

Rainfed agriculture continues to dominate livelihood systems in several tracts of the country. Here agriculture is defined by single cropping systems characterized by low productivities often associated with inadequate access to modern agricultural inputs and water at critical stages of crop production. Developing water resources by harvesting and storing excess runoff in surface storages holds the potential to transform rural livelihoods.

Supporting Rio Tinto in developing project villages around its area of operation, we planned, implemented and supervised the creation/renovation of additional surface water bodies in the form of earthen bunds and farm ponds and renovation of waste weirs in 8 of the 10 project villages. Due to the storage of water in these structures 631.9 ha of land will be brought under irrigation.

Representing a convergence of efforts, support under the umbrella of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is helping shape livelihoods in historically neglected areas of the country – the rainfeds. Backed with technical support from non governments, agriculture based livelihoods will be streamlined. However, linkages between beneficiaries falling within the command areas of these structures and local agricultural departments need to be facilitated, especially on water budgeting, in order to ensure sustainable use of water resources created and maximization of production benefits.

Location	15 villages, Buxwaha Block, Chhatarpur District
Funding Agency	Rio Tinto Exploration India Ltd.
Duration	April 2015 to April 2016
Beneficiaries	700 Families

Project outputs during the reporting period
• 5740.55 lakh litres of storage created • 631.9 ha of land will be brought under irrigation

State level resource organization under Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)

Common Guidelines for Watershed development projects have recommended the creation of institutional mechanisms at the national, state, district and village level for effective implementation of watershed development programmes. However, the level of knowledge on processes involved in effective implementation of watershed programmes at the different levels of the institutional set up is varied. Capacity building serves as a medium to enhance knowledge and skills and develop a shared vision among officials entrusted with implementing the project. We continued to extend our support to YASHDA, Pune (State Institute of Rural Development) in order to build the capacities of its own staff on planning and implementing its Integrated Watershed Development Programme (IWMP).

Location	Amravati and Yavatmal districts Maharashtra
Funding Agency	State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD)
Duration	April 2015 to March 2016
Beneficiaries	140 officers

Since we have been working with YASHDA for the sixth consecutive year, we trained Community Organizers, Livelihood Expert, Agriculture Assistants, DRO Master Trainers, Agriculture Assistants, Agriculture supervisors and DRO Master trainers from Amravati, Yavatmal and Nagpur districts. While, trainings on Social Mobilization, Agriculture Management and Agriculture Engineering continued, trainings on one new theme – Process Management Software - were conducted.

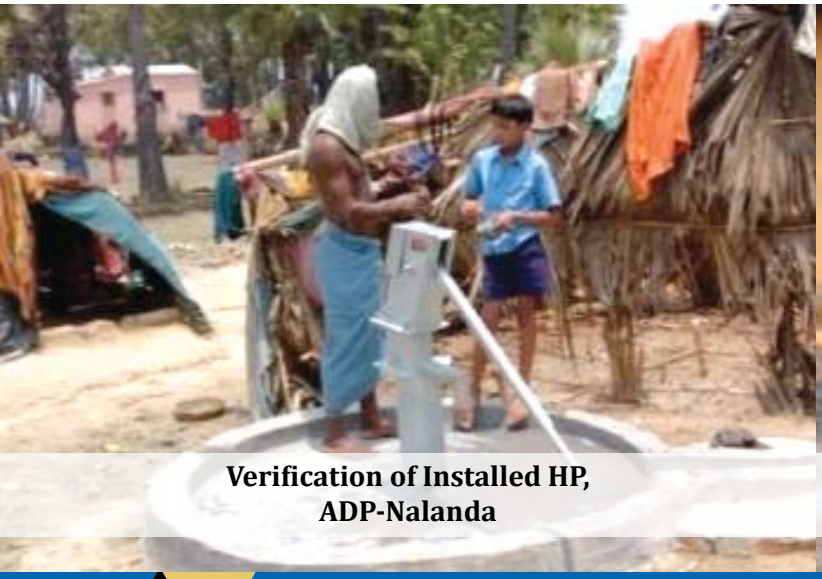
No.	Theme	Districts allotted	Stakeholders	No. of Trainings
1	Social Mobilization	Amravati & Yavatmal	Mobilization Community Organizer, Livelihood Expert, Agriculture Assistants, DRO Master Trainers	9
2	Agriculture Management	Amravati & Yavatmal	Agriculture Experts, Agriculture Assistants, DRO Master Trainers	24
3	Agriculture Engineering	Amravati & Yavatmal	Agriculture Experts, Agriculture Assistants, Agriculture Supervisor, DRO Master Trainers	56
4	Process Management Software	Amravati & Nagpur	Additional Project Manager, Deputy Project Manager, Accountant, Data Entry Operator	51

Training of Community Organizers, Livelihood experts, Agriculture assistants etc on Social Mobilization

Partnership with World Vision India for Area Development Programme (ADP)

AFPRO had supported World Vision India in conducting detailed technical surveys, feasibility studies and periodic monitoring of proposed land and water management related physical structure. While hydro-geological investigations are primarily focused on ensuring the availability of water for drinking and irrigation, soil and water conservation measures are also helping address the irrigation requirements of agriculture. Technical services were extended to the following ADPs during the year 2015-16:

ADP Godda, Dumka, Giridh, Nalanda, Muzaffarpur	**Location:** • Sunderpahri and Poraiyahat block of Godda Dist. • Kathikund block of Dumka Dist. • Gandey and Giridih block, Giridih block of Nalanda district • Jharkhand with Bihar of Muzaffarpur Dist., Bihar **Technical services rendered:** • Hydrogeological investigation were conducted at total 120 sites in different project villages. 2080 families benefitted from safe drinking water from the installed hand pumps. • Total 104 Hand Pumps were installed at recommended sites. • Awareness generated in the community for water saving , sanitation and repair & maintenance of the hand pumps.
ADP Nawada	**Location:** Hisua block of Nawada Dist., Jharkhand **Technical services rendered:** • 3 irrigation bore wells drilled and submersible pump installed to solve the irrigation water problem at Hisua block of Nawada Dist. Bihar. Total 2116 families benefitted. • The bore well group consists of 12 members in each group and the total 36 families are getting irrigation water facilities by water sharing mechanism rules made by the user groups. • Borewells are mostly used for irrigating wheat. Water is also used for irrigation of vegetables such as pumpkin, potato, onion, garlic and cereal like moong etc. • Irrigation is also applied to paddy incase of delay or failure of monsoon.
ADP,Narla, Kalahandi, Odisha	**Location:** Narla, Dist: Kalahandi, Odisha **Technical services rendered:** • Ground Water Survey in Narla block of Kalahandi district for (20 points) in 20 Villages.



Verification of Installed HP, ADP-Nalanda

Verification of Recharge cum Soak Pit

CSR Initiatives by AFPRO

CSR initiatives are implemented by companies, usually in partnership with credible Non-Governmental organizations (NGOs), who are experienced in working with the local communities and are knowledgeable about local conditions and are experts in tackling specific social issues specific to the area. From responsive activities to sustainable initiatives, corporations have clearly demonstrated their ability to make a significant difference in the society and improve the overall quality of life. In the present social context, change is required at an enormous scale. Corporations can apply their expertise, strategic thinking abilities and manpower and money material resources to facilitate extensive social change through supporting civil societies. Most companies do not want to spend in areas (both thematic and geographic), where they do not operate.

This is not the only challenge faced while implementing CSR projects. The challenges commence from project designing and development itself. Understanding of Project Development still remains a challenge with Corporates. Companies are required to follow processes for implementation to achieve the desired impact. However, companies are financing the CSR activities as per the budgetary provision with the approach to meet the physical and financial targets. The Companies do not give the required emphasis on the implementation processes such as planning, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation, stakeholder engagement and engagement of qualified human resources for effective implementation.

It is important to convince the corporates on the need to build the capacities of the local communities. They are not adequately trained and equipped to operate efficiently and effectively to contribute to making the CSR activities sustainable. Lack of appreciation on the part of CSR companies on the need of local capacity building further magnifies the issue. The challenge can be overcome through persistent dialogues with the heads of CSRs of the corporates conveying them that capacity for strong performance in the community is the foundation for lasting social benefits. The collective nature of civic action helps to ensure that the interests of all citizens—including women, the poor and other marginalized groups—are adequately weighed by public institutions that make policy and allocate resources. Many civil society organizations (CSOs) face common challenges that limit their effectiveness namely, the ability to manage human and financial resources, weak advocacy abilities, and insufficient management ability to scale up promising innovations and results to achieve wider impact. Thus strengthening of civil society must be a major component of all CSR projects.

With changing global and national focus, interventions in rural development needs to address climate change, which has evolved as a cross cutting challenge. Immense experience of implementing climate change projects by AFPRO, can be utilized for incorporating climate change (both adaptation and mitigation) and effectively addressing practical rural development issues in watershed management, water and sanitation projects, sustainable agriculture and livelihoods projects, while designing projects for CSRs. It is the duty of AFPRO to share experiences with CSR counterparts and influence them to shift focus from business – as – usual projects to climate smart developmental projects. It is a pleasure to inform that AFPRO have started in this direction, albeit in a small way, with BALCO in Chhattisgarh, however, more sincere efforts are still needed with other corporate partners of AFPRO.

The role of media in highlighting good cases of successful CSR initiatives is welcomed as it spreads good stories and sensitizes the local population about various ongoing CSR initiatives of companies. NGOs need to learn and adopt this apparent influence of gaining visibility and branding exercise from CSR counterparts, without compromising on meaningful grassroots interventions. AFPRO is in the learning process with active cooperation from Monsanto, HDFC Bank and Mondelez India Foods Private Ltd.

Installation of RO Plant, Asarkheda village

The following table provides the initiatives of AFPRO during the reporting period (2015-16) under CSR

Title:	**Improving quality of lives of people with distressed districts through adoption of integrated approach for Water Conservation, Sanitation and Women Empowerment in five villages of Silvasa.**
Activities:	Drinking water & sanitation - This includes rejuvenation & rehabilitation of existing drinking water facilities and creating new facilities for drinking water purpose. In situ Water Conservation – Efforts are being made to work with village panchayats through NREGA (National Rural Employment Guarantee Act). Women Empowerment – Self-help groups are formed and their capacities are being developed on various aspects and linking them with resource agencies to initiate sustainable entrepreneurships to support their livelihood.
CSR partner:	Monsanto India Ltd.
Location:	Five villages of Silvasa
Duration:	April 2015 to March 2017

Title:	**School Sanitation Project in Maharashtra**
Activities:	Construction/Renovation of school toilets and water storage facility for sanitation and facilitating sustainable drinking water for school children are being undertaken.
CSR partner:	HDFC Bank
Location:	51 schools in 11 districts of Maharashtra
Duration:	October 2015 to January 2016

Title:	**Development of Kasar Amboli and Motewadi Villages through Integrated Rural Development Approach**
Activities:	Besides construction of household toilets (10 at Motewadi and 39 at Kasaramboli village) and construction of 15000 L RCC ESR Tank with inlet & outlet distribution system at Motewadi, installation 11 solar street lights at Motewadi and 39 for Kasaramboli have been completed as a part of integrated Rural Development approach.
CSR partner:	HDFC Bank
Location:	Motewadi and Kasaramboli village. District Pune, Maharashtra
Duration:	October 2015 to March 2016

Title:	**Improving quality of lives of people with distress through adoption of integrated approach for Water, Sanitation and Women Empowerment in 25 villages of six Districts in Maharashtra**
Activities:	The main activities include a) increasing the access of the rural communities (5800 households with 28,000 population across 5 districts of Maharashtra) to improved and sustainable drinking water and sanitation services along b) economic development of rural women through strengthening of Self Help Groups and promoting small & medium entrepreneurships, c) promoting Sustainable Agriculture through adoption of Better Management Practices such as Water Management, IPM, INM and developing market linkages, d) as part of water and sanitation component, school infrastructure on water and sanitation needs of the students are being supported, e) to make the initiatives sustainable, capacities of local institutions/CBOs (water user groups, Water & sanitation committee, SHGs, Farmer's producer groups etc) are being developed.

CSR partner:	Mahyco - Monsanto Biotech (India) Pvt. Ltd.
Location:	Six Districts in Maharashtra
Duration:	April 2015 to March 2018

Title:	**Improving Livelihood of tribal through Skill Development and Promoting Entrepreneurship in the UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli**
Activities:	The different components of the project are a) water for irrigation, b) sustainable agriculture, c) sanitation, health and hygiene and d) livelihoods promotion. Only the sanitation, health and hygiene component is being implemented as it is learned that the state government has started initiatives on agriculture and irrigation in the project villages. A revised proposal has been shared with Voltas and its approval is awaited.
CSR partner:	Voltas India Ltd.
Location:	Dadra and Nagar Haveli
Duration:	2015-2018

Title:	**Improving Lives of People through Participatory Management of Environmental Resources (Water & Greening)**
Activities:	The project aims to increasing the access to safer and sustainable drinking water of rural household through creation of new surface and ground water sources. Creating models for rain water harvesting and artificial recharge in the villages for improved water availability for agriculture being the main activities. Environmental protection is enhanced through plantation of trees and greenery development in and around the project villages.
CSR partner:	Mondelez India Foods Private Ltd. (Cadbury India)
Location:	15 villages across Madhya Pradesh (Malanpur), Himachal Pradesh (Baddi), Maharashtra (Induri)
Duration:	2015-2018

Title:	**Stepping towards "Swatch" and "Unnat" Bharat: An Integrated Rural Development Approach through improved Water & Sanitation and agricultural practices in Andhra Pradesh, Telengana and Karnataka of Southern India.**
Activities:	The 4 components of the project are a) drinking water infrastructure- through water supply system, recharge structures etc., b) ensuring safe drinking water to schools and community by installing RO plants in affected areas, c) providing safe and hygienic sanitation to all by constructing household and school toilets, d) women empowerment through entrepreneurship development.
CSR partner:	Monsanto Holdings Private Limited
Location:	19 Villages in 6 Districts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana 16 villages in 6 Districts of Karnataka
Duration:	May 2015- April 2018

Title:	**"Integrated Community Development Programme (ICDP)" - HDFC**
Activities:	The project envisages to a) provide safe & adequate drinking water facility to the community and increase the availability of water for domestic use, irrigation, agriculture, etc. b) promote rural livelihoods through farm and non- farm based livelihood intervention/activities, c) improve sanitation & hygiene facilities/ practices in the assigned villages, d) develop infrastructural facilities for schools. Efforts are also being made to promote renewable sources of energy (Solar, biogas, and smokeless challah).

CSR partner:	HDFC Bank
Location:	5 villages of Mahasamund district, Chhattisgarh (Lohardih, Amajhola, Jalki, Fuseradih and Bhoring villages)
Duration:	2015 - 2016

Title:	**Promotion of Rural Livelihoods through farm sector interventions by water conservation measures/structures.**
Activities:	As the title implies, the project focuses to promote rural livelihoods through farm sector activities by creation/renovation of water harvesting structures/measures to ensure/protect kharif crops to optimize yield and initiation of rabi cultivation.
CSR partner:	**EDEL GIVE FOUNDATION**
Location:	4 villages of Tengna Barpara, Kosmi, Nahanda and Kaparmeta, in Gurur block of Balod district of Chhattisgarh.
Duration:	January 2016 to December 2019

Title:	**Integrated Village Development Plan for Upper Balian village, Umling block, Ri-Bhoi district of Meghalaya.**
Activities:	The major interventions are safe and adequate drinking water, sanitation (individual and school toilets), promotion of livelihoods (poultry, piggery, horticulture), energy and environment, education and infrastructure for school children.
CSR partner:	HDFC Bank
Location:	Village: Upper Balian, Umling block, Ri-Bhoi district of Meghalaya
Duration:	January to December 2016

Tailoring trainees, tailoring class at Vasona Amrunpada

Tailoring trainee Smt. Filuben Babjibhai Andher Vasona Amrunpada

Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2016

Particulars	31st March 2016 (INR)
SOURCES OF FUNDS	
Funds and Reserve	57,906,631.76
Programme Balances	13,363,950.90
Total	**71,270,582.66**
APPLICATION OF FUNDS	
A) Fixed Assets	
i) Gross Block	64,024,257.58
ii) Less: Depreciation	52,969,287.32
iii) Net Block	11,054,970.26
iv) Capital Work in Progress	----------
	11,054,970.26
B) Investments	39,574,924.00
C) Current Assets	
i) Interest Accrued on Deposits	2,189,962.12
ii) Recoverables & Prepaid Expenses	2,844,786.41
iii) Cash & Bank Balances	24,967,010.56
	30,001,759.09
D) Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions	9,361,070.69
Net Current Assets	20,640,688.40
Total	**71,270,582.66**

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

Cyriac Mathew
Manager - Adm & Finance

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

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

Place: New Delhi
Date: 21.09.2016

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31st March 2016

Particulars	31st March 2016 (INR)
INCOME	
Programme Contributions	3,555,136.56
Miscellaneous Receipts	510,613.00
Sale / Disposal of Assets / Old Items	97,071.00
Interest - Savings & Deposits	2,020,190.19
Total	**6,183,010.75**
EXPENDITURE	
Core Integrated Development Programme	
Human and Institutional Development	517,788.00
Socio - Technical Personnel Cost	29,407,047.71
Outreach Support	1,318,291.61
Information Services	409,396.12
Administrative Cost	
Admn. - Personnel Cost (F & A)	6,232,313.54
Outreach Support	147,642.00
Office Expenses	4,857,044.97
Hired Services	2,017,337.84
Capital Expenses	201,241.00
ED's Discretionary Fund	647,690.00
Total	45,755,792.79
Excess of Expenditure over Income Transferred to : Programme Fund	(39,572,782.04)
Total	**6,183,010.75**

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

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Manager - Adm & Finance

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

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

Place: New Delhi
Date: 21.09.2016

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 are 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 that 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 :

a) 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.

b) 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 reflects the amount invested.

(vi) Retirement Benefits :

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

b) 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.

c) Gratuity payments are covered under the Group Gratuity Scheme of Life Insurance Corporaion 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.

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