

ANNUAL REPORT

2016 - 2017

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Aim, Vision And Mission

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 an overall increase in their knowledge and skills in areas that directly affect their standard and quality of life. It visualizes itself as an organization that 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.

Aim

of the

Society: The

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

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.



Governing Body Members

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Our Funding Partners

- Govt. of India
- Govt. Maharashtra
- NABARD
- Mondelez India Foods Pvt. Ltd
- Monsanto India Ltd
- Mahyco Monsanto Biotech (India) Private Limited (MMBL)
- IKEA Supply AG
- HDFC Bank Ltd
- Voltas India Ltd
- L & T Financial Services
- EdelGive Foundation
- IDH Sustainable Trade Initiative
- Rio Tinto Exploration India Ltd.
- Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd (BALCO)
- Coca Cola India Pvt. Ltd.
- UNICEF
- GIZ
- Welthungerhilfe
- World Vision
- Lutheran World Relief



Abbreviations

ADP	Area Development Programme	MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural
ATMA	Agricultural Technology Management Agency		Employment Guarantee Scheme
BCI	Better Cotton Initiative	MELD	Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning &
BCS	Better Cotton System		Documentation
BCSS	Better Cotton Standard System	MPC	Minimum Production Criteria
CBO	Community Based Organization	NBSS & LUP	National Bureau of Soil Survey and
CCT	Continuous Contour Trench		Land Use Planning
CFT	Cluster Facilitation Teams	NRLM	National Rural Livelihoods Mission
CNB	Cement Nala Bunds	PHED	Public Health Engineering Department
CLTS	Community led Total Sanitation	PRI	Panchayati Raj Institutions
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility	PU	Producer Unit
ENB	Earthen Nala Bund	ODF	Open Defecation Free
FFS	Farmer Field schools	O&M	Operation and Maintenance
FGD	Focused Group Discussions	RCF	Rashtriya Chemical Fertilizer
GP	Gram Panchayat	RO	Reverse Osmosis
GR	Gram Sevak	SAP	Sustainable Agricultural Practice
GRS	Gram Rozgar Sevak	ST	Scheduled Tribes
HID	Human and Institutional Development	SHG	Self Help Groups
HDPS	High Density Planting System	STFR	Soil Test based Fertilizer
ICT	Information Communication and Technology		Recommendations
IEC	Information Education and Communication	SSI	Sustainable Spice Initiative
ICD	Integrated Community Development	SGI	Sustainable Grape Initiative
IGWDP	Indo German Watershed Development Programme	TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
INM	Integrated Nutrient Management	VDC	Village Development Committees
IPM	Integrated Pest Management	VWSC	Village Water and Sanitation Committees
IWMP	Integrated Watershed Management Programme	VWDA	Vasundhara Watershed Development Agency
JAU	Junagadh Agricultural University	WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
KRC	Knowledge Resource Centre	WDT	Watershed Development Team
KVK	Krishi Vigyan Kendra	WHO	World Health Organization
LG	Learning Group	WFG	Women Farmer Group
LPH	Litres Per Hour		





Executive Director's Note

Sustainable Development with Participatory Approach

On 1st January 2016, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development — adopted by world leaders in September 2015 at a historic UN Summit officially came into force.

Over the next fifteen years, with these new Goals focusing on social, economic as well as environmental dimensions of sustainable development, all countries will mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind. To this end, promotion of sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion, and promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems are crucial.

From the beginning of the establishment of AFPRO, 50 years ago, the organization adhered to sustainable development of the poor rural communities focusing on food security and livelihood, creating drinking water and irrigation infrastructure by providing technical inputs, skills and knowledge and capacitating the various stakeholders to move towards sustainable development and ultimately improve the quality of their lives.

Sustainable development has been defined as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. It is a process that must encompass every section of society and every role that we play: the participation and role of communities, Govt. NGOs, CSOs and other business organizations are very crucial in project designing and policy making for sustainable development. It is a continuous movement of convergence, dialogue and participation among various stakeholders to precipitate the process of self-realization and empowerment of the community. When that happens, people themselves become both the architects and engineers of the concept and they commit themselves for sustaining the process of development.

Sustainable development is a challenging social process as it encircles different aspects of sustainability -social, economic and environmental. This calls for major institutional changes to create the right 'enabling environment' to achieve its goals. Institutional and individual roles and responsibilities have to change, so that new patterns of behaviour will foster sustainable development. These challenges demand new

approaches to decision making and action. It has long been understood that a multidisciplinary approach with a participatory process is needed to handle the analysis of social, economic and environmental dimensions and their interactions and coordination is required amongst the various authorities and interests. A workable strategy should be developed that emphasizes the continuous and cyclical nature of deliberate interactions, meticulous circle of information gathering, analysis, decision making, capacity building, implementation, monitoring and review. In effect, "a successful strategy is one in which the capacity is built up, characterized by participation to think and work strategically, as a product of all appropriate groups in interaction". This kind of approach will result in creating a network of committed individuals and institutions and greater participation from all stakeholders where the processes are characterized by openness, transparency, ownership and the involvement of all stakeholders with the understanding, skills and access to information, knowledge and training that enable them to function and perform what is expected of them effectively.

Sustainable Development at local level

Sustainable development at local level depends not just on the motivation, skills and knowledge of individual people, but on action taken by groups or communities as a whole. People who are already well organized or are encouraged by the project to form groups and whose knowledge is sought and incorporated during planning, decision making and implementation, monitoring and evaluation are more likely to contribute financially and other ways and continue with activities after the project completion. If people feel ownership and are committed, then there will be sustained change. Ownership is a crucial element of sustainability as we say “everyone's baby is no one's child”. The focus is on empowering local groups, meeting the basic needs of the community and optimal use of the natural resources without degrading the environment. Therefore, the development institutions must concentrate more on greater involvement with and empowerment of diverse groups of people, working along with them, building trust and confidence among them to create the right environment for achieving greater prosperity. In conventional rural development, participation is commonly centered on encouraging local people to contribute their labour or partial contribution in cash or materials. This type of approach distorts perceptions, creates dependencies, and give the misleading impression that local people always need

the external agencies for their development. This kind of dependency undermines sustainability goals and the impacts produced rarely persist once the project is completed. In the past years, many development projects and programmes have failed where people's needs, priorities and their greater participation were neglected, neither their knowledge nor skills utilized. All these evidences point towards long term success in social, economic and environmental terms comes about when people's ideas and knowledge are sought, and when they are empowered to make decisions and function independently of outside agencies.

The role of Government towards Sustainable Development

The Government plays a crucial role in implementing and achieving sustainable development goals. Many governments now recognize that they need to take an “enabling” role to facilitate progress towards sustainable development and involve and empower as necessary the various stakeholders – private sector, non- government groups, international bodies, and the general public (resource user groups, livelihood groups, etc). In the past years, Government of India has taken progressive steps in achieving sustainable development especially in the field of poverty alleviation, agriculture and irrigation. But the effect realized is far from desired. If India has to achieve substantial progress in Sustainable Development Goals, the Government needs to decentralize powers and authorize local bodies to act up on the social, economic and environmental issues. Article 243G of the Constitution of India articulates the powers, authorities and responsibilities of Panchayatraj institutions. According to the eleventh schedule of the constitution most of the rural development initiatives such as agriculture, land reform and land improvement, animal husbandry, fisheries, minor irrigation, drinking water, electrification, health and sanitation, education, gender equality, family and social welfare, non- conventional energy sources, poverty alleviation programme, housing, roads etc. come under the purview of this category. The local governments are the best sources for policy makers and catalysts of change as they are in the ideal position to identify people's needs and issues for rural development and utilize all available resources and services to tackle these issues.

Accordingly, the Legislature of the respective State Government should amend the law and endow the Panchayats with more powers and authority to function as institutions of self- government and decentralize powers and responsibilities so that the developmental activities carried out at the local level have more teeth and better results in a time-bound phase. The Government also should promote collective and workable

solutions, including strengthening governance, creating markets for sustainable development, strengthening global cooperation, increasing financial assistance and promoting transfer of technology. The local bodies, however, should build on indigenous, existing systems of local knowledge, land use and planning, taking care to retain their diversity and flexibility, the experience and expertise of other sectors and NGOs, government and local support, build and support local institutions that can manage common property resources such as land, water, pastures, wildlife, forest products and infrastructure, address social issues, especially land tenure and access to resources, as well as physical or environmental issues.

Sustainable development also plays a crucial role in meeting various challenges that we face globally. Some of these challenges are- climate change, energy consumption, waste production, threats to public health, poverty, social exclusion, management of natural resources, loss of biodiversity, and land use. The challenges of climate change and its cascading effects on Global setting have become a critical issue. Greenhouse gas emission is one of the main consequences of human activity that accelerate global warming. This warming carries risks of shortages and the disruption of certain natural cycles such as fresh water, impoverishment of agricultural soil, deforestation, and care for biodiversity coverings. This means that the future development of all species living on earth, including human beings is facing an imminent ecological crisis. All these require us to re-think about our economy and our growth in favour of a society that is more economical in its use of raw materials and energy. In the light of this, promoting sustainable development approaches are now essential obligations.

Conclusion

For sustainable development, an effective strategy with people's participation at all levels is necessary that brings together the aspirations of the community and the capacities of the government, civil society and the private sector to create a vision for the future and to work tactically and progressively towards it. It identifies and builds on 'what works', improves integration between approaches and provides a framework for making choices where integration is not possible. This calls for a coherent society which promotes cultural diversity, solidarity, tolerance, equality and accountability from the bottom up and building trust among the people and the government that will guarantee sustainable peace and development for its citizens.

D.K. Manavalan IAS (Retd)
Executive Director

FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

Better Cotton Initiative Programme

Bleeding Agrarian Sector - a threat to the livelihood of the rural population

Indian agriculture is reeling under the pressure of natural calamities and starving for credit and modernization. The second largest producer, cotton is one of the most important commercial crops cultivated in India. Depending on soil fertility, climate and high yielding varieties of seeds; cotton cultivation is marred by several problems like high input costs, low productivity and profitability. To sustain crop production without degrading the resource base, cotton cultivation needs to switch from input-based to knowledge-based growth. Dissemination of knowledge through farmers groups, capacity building programmes, Information Education and Communication (IEC) material, field demonstrations and Trainers' Trainings etc. on improved technologies like Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Water Management (IWM) is essential.

IKEA, IDH – AFPRO Partnership: Coverage & Approach

The Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) is a global initiative to make “global cotton production better for the people who produce it, better for the environment it grows in and better for the sector’s future”. The ongoing project is part of the Better Cotton Standard System (BCSS) started in 2013 in parts of Maharashtra and Gujarat with the support of IKEA Supply AG and IDH - the Sustainable Trade Initiative. Based on 6 Production Principles, the project aims at introducing crop protection practices, regulating the application of fertilizers and pesticides, efficiently managing water and improving fibre quality with consequent reductions in input cost and increase in net profits. The adoption of “decent work” especially by women and children are one of the Production Principles. Currently, the project is being implemented in Surendranagar, Morbi & Rajkot districts in Gujarat and Yavatmal District in Maharashtra with a target of approximately 35,783 and 19,370 farmers in Gujarat and Maharashtra respectively. Field demonstrations, trainings, development of IEC material, participatory peer reviews, 3rd party credibility checks are part of the approach.

Activities
Better Cotton Standards and Systems (BCSS) & Minimum Production Principles and Criteria (MPCs)
Production Principle 1&2: Minimize Harmful Crop Protection Practices & Water Use Efficiency
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 577 and 852 existing Learners Groups (LG) trained on BCSS in Maharashtra and Gujarat respectively. 141 new LGs formed in Gujarat. • 229 and 902 Demonstration Plots established in Maharashtra and Gujarat respectively on High Density Planting Systems (HDPS), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) etc. • 4 and 5 trainings conducted on the different Minimum Production Principles and Criteria (MPC) for new LGs in Gujarat and Maharashtra respectively. Refresher trainings conducted for the old LG's. Periodic reviews conducted to assess progress and rectify gaps. Local language is the medium of instruction • AFPRO Field Staff trained on BCSS, IPM, INM and Decent Work. 42 Krishi Mitra trained on BCS in Maharashtra. Staff from Gujarat also trained by Cotton Research Centre, Kukada and JAU on preparation of vermi compost and vermi washes. • 85 group meetings conducted on WHO banned pesticides in 2 blocks of Gujarat • Self-assessment of 10% LG of each PU, 2nd party credibility Checks and Third party verification conducted in Maharashtra and Gujarat for assessment of compliances with BCSS MPCs and certification as BCI farmers. • 434 BCI farmers from Dhoraji registered and receiving support from ATMA. This includes provision of demonstration kits (cotton seeds), access to Farmer Field Schools and Krishi Fair, formation of Kishan Goshthi and participation in trainings and exposure visits to Agricultural Universities and Gujarat Milk Production unit. • 24,252 farmers (Dhoraji and Wankaner) receiving agricultural information via SMS from Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU). Dhrangdhra farmers receiving messages from KVK, Kanthasar. 20,000 farmers receiving SMS based services from KRAYONS (weather alerts, weather based crop advisories, market price, information on news and subsidies for cotton and cumin crop). Technical support extended by AFPRO in dissemination of advisories. WhatsApp groups comprising of farmers also formed for sharing of information.

- Periodic Monitoring and Evaluation visits conducted by representatives from IKEA and IDH. Special emphasis was laid on strengthening of supply chains.

Production Principle 3 & 5: Care for the Health of the Soil & Preserve Quality of Fiber

- 27 farmers provided with seeds of gram, cumin and wheat with the support of KVK-Pipaliya
- 1498 and 600 soil samples tested by APMC Gondal, Junagadh Agricultural University, KVK, Pipaliya and RCF (Rashtriya Chemical Fertilizer) in Gujarat & Maharashtra respectively. Sample reports distributed to farmers, based on which Soil Fertility based appropriate nutrient application undertaken by farmers.
- 4627 soil health cards prepared based on the soil fertility maps developed by NBSS & LUP for farmers of Kelapur block and appropriate application of soil nutrients will be recommended
- Two Mini soil testing lab established in Dhrangdhra and Wankaner; purchased 3 Pusa STFR (Soil test based fertilizer recommendations) meters. Project staff trained by IARI on soil testing and scientific application of fertilizers

Production Principle 4: Conserve Natural Habitat

- Approximately 7000 plants distributed to women in Gujarat with the support of the Forest Department.
- Liaison with various Institutions like Dr. PDKV, Akola, KVK, Yavatmal, Bandera, KVK, CICR, Nagpur, RCF, IFFCO, PCI, Bayer Crop Science, CITI, IDH, Ginners & Spinners, NBSS&LUP etc.
- Awareness on Crop insurance schemes provided to farmers with the support of the Government department

Production Principle 6: Decent Work

- 113 Meetings/Awareness camps conducted with LGs, SHGs, women, Labour Groups and Children on decent work, child labour protection policy, health and safety in Gujarat. Village level child labour Committees formed in the villages in Gujarat
- 24 special training programs on health and safety conducted for women and children with the support of ICDS, GLPC, Gujarat Milk cooperative, schools & Panchayat in Gujarat.

Impact

- 100% compliance with Better Cotton standards in Gujarat and Maharashtra
- 40-45% reduction in use of Monocrotophos
- 20-25 % reduction in use of chemicals (fertilizer and chemical pesticide)
- Scientific application of Potassium has positively affected boll weight and boll number, lint yield and fiber quality.
- Cost of production reduced
- Quality of cotton improved due to safe harvesting practices
- Deshi varieties like Phule Dhanvantari need to be encouraged
- Community irrigation improved



Making a difference in the lives of cotton farmers through Inter-cropping: This is the story of a farmer Mr. Sudhakar Bhoyar having 3 acres of rain-fed land in Morawa village of Kelapur block of Yavatmal district, who joined the Learning Group. He was encouraged with trainings of BCI to adopt inter cropping of cow pea and cotton in his demo plot in half an acre of land. He also practiced normal cotton cropping in a Control Plot of the same size to know the benefit of inter-cropping. The adoption of inter-cropping resulted in a reduction in the dose of pesticides by 2 and inter-cultural operations by 2, along with one dose of fertilizer. The total expense incurred in demo plot was Rs. 4995 whereas in the control plot it was Rs.6849, thus saving Rs.1854. Mulching helped him to avoid moisture stress in the long dry spell. He also got an additional income of Rs. 4650 by selling cow pea from half acre of land. The farmer found economic as well as physical benefits of inter-crop by avoiding moisture stress, sucking pest attack and weed growth. He approximately achieved profit of Rs. 6500/half acre i.e. Rs. 13000/acre. The farmer honestly admitted that he utilized the worst land for demo plot where he could not attempt any soil and water conservation activities. This will also gradually improve the quality of his soil.

Water Resource management- a key factor for Sustainable agricultural practices

Historically, Bhagalpur district of Bihar experiences flooding. Increasingly erratic rainfall patterns not only affect sowing but also impact on the recharge of ground water aquifers that are being rapidly depleted for irrigation. This project is implemented by AFPRO in collaboration with LWR (Lutheran World Relief) in 11 flood affected villages of 4 Gram Panchayats i.e. Baijalpur, Lailakh, Chandheri & Parghari at Sabour block of Bhagalpur District, Bihar covering 5000 small and marginal farmers. They are predominantly subsistence farmers with small landholdings of 0.5-2.0 acres, with only about 20% cultivating rice and maize using traditional methods, primarily for self-consumption. Majority (80%) of the farmers do not cultivate any monsoon crops due to the fear of crop loss from flooding that occurs every year during monsoon seasons. They grow wheat in winter to meet the food needs of the family, albeit only for 6 months of the year and are compelled to migrate to nearby towns and distant cities to earn a livelihood during the lean seasons.

Comparative study of bore wells

Specification	Traditional Bore well	GPT well
Depth Range:	110' - 120'	180' - 210'
Plain Casing	110' - 120'	110' - 130'
Filter Casing	No.	70' - 90'
Gravel	No.	80' - 100' bag
Centrifugal Pump	5 HP Diesel Pump	3 HP Sub Pump
Head	Suction head 50' - 60'	100' - 150'
Discharge (Av.)	34,000 LPH	22,000 LPH
Static Water Level	28' - 33'	28' - 33'
WL after pumping	50' - 60'	36' - 45'
Draw Down	22' - 27'	8' - 12'
Running Condition	3 - 4 hours per day and no water in Summer	As per requirement supply continues through the year
Training to User Groups	Sustainability of bore wells, Water Saving Irrigation and Water Sharing Mechanism	

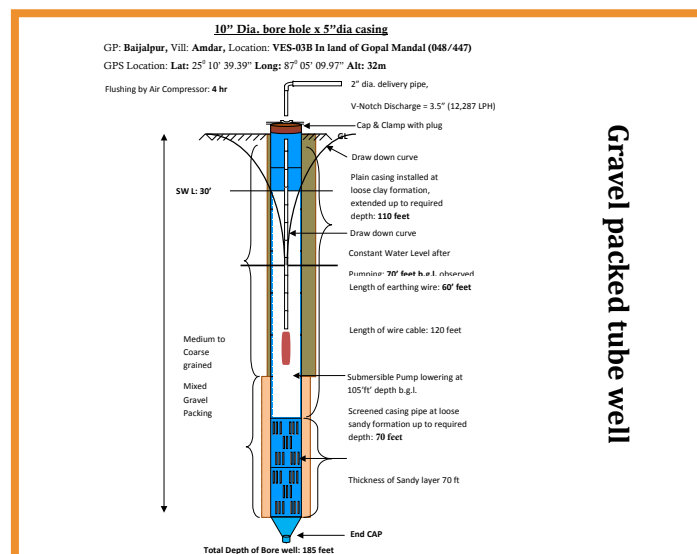
The LWR-AFPRO Partnership: Coverage & Approach

Agriculture is largely rain-fed due to lack of adequate irrigation facilities. This often deters farmers from cultivating other crops to secure dependable food supplies and livelihood, along with their lack of knowledge and exposure to improved, stress tolerant seeds and farming techniques. Declining agricultural incomes affect economic growth. Therefore addressing climate-related changes in agriculture and water management will make a significant contribution to their economic development. It is therefore pertinent that agriculture and water resource management are key developmental priorities for the Government of Bihar.

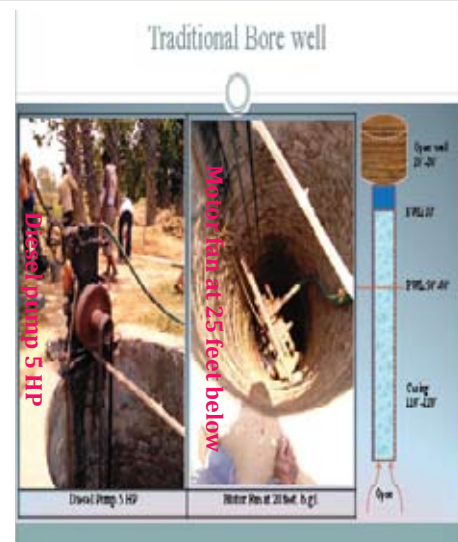
AFPRO is providing flexible and responsive technical assistance, including knowledge management, engagement and on-site capacity building, to 5000 farmers, in the area, which coincides with the State Government's development objectives.

Sustainability: Challenges & Way Forward

- Formed 166 Women farmers groups with 12-18 members in each group comprising of small and marginal farmers. Farmers associations are formed consisting of representatives from all the WFGs for sustainability of infrastructure made.
- Conducted interface meetings with bank officials/PRI for establishing linkages with financial institutions to avail credit for sustainability.
- AFPRO has developed partnerships with all relevant stakeholders, the departments of agriculture and water resources (district and block levels) and Research Institutions such as Bihar Agricultural University and local communities and their organisations to get the right inputs and assistance for progressive agronomy.



Activities and Outcomes		
Interventions	Outcomes	Impacts
<p>Climate-smart water management to increase income per acre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFPRO provided inputs to empowering the rural community on demand and supply management of water and technical support for digging bore wells after making the scientific study on the status of ground water For irrigation new bore wells have been made, Rocker sprayers and dry land weeders distributed to the WFGs to control pests, disease and weeds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 irrigation bore wells have been installed. Submersible pumps of 3 HP installed in these bore-wells Further planning is in progress to drill 10 more bore wells to cover 1250 hhs in 150 groups (1Borewell covers 3 WFG – Women Farmer Groups.). 280 NADEP compost pits have been constructed for organic manure. 373 demonstration plots for paddy (SS-1& Sabour Ardhjal) were set up during the Kharif season in 2016. 160 rocking sprayers and 320 dry land weeders have been procured and distributed to the WFGs. Many of the WFGs have started saving periodically. 2 WFGs have opened their bank account in the Bank of Baroda, Sabour through linkages with ATMA. The ICT component has been introduced and training initiated on ICT. 1400 farmers data entry have been done for wheat cultivation. They get messages for techniques of wheat sowing, use of fertilizers, irrigation etc. Prepared the IEC material for Swarna Sub-1 for paddy based upon our own experiences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bore-wells created which on an average, ensure irrigation to 15 - 18 acres of land, with an average discharge to the tune of 20000 lph to 22000 lph. The GPT (Gravel packed Tube-well) wells give water throughout the year and therefore the farmers are able to take a second crop during the year whereas the traditional well dries up in summer Adopting climate-resilient agriculture and diversified farming by cultivating stress Tolerant High Yield Cereals increased the productivity per acre and deduced the input cost such as seeds and fertilizers Use of organic manure increased in the crop production, quality of the produce improved and assured better price for the produce NADEP pit is also a means of safe solid waste disposal ensuring safety of drinking water sources Sustainability is ensured through formation of Women farmers groups and farmers associations and linkages are established among various departments and organisations for continued technical and financial support
<p>Climate-resilient agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFPRO in collaboration with Bihar Agriculture University, Sabour, promoted stress tolerant varieties of paddy and wheat: Swarna Sub 1and Sabour Ardh Jal for paddy, heat resistant variety-H1 1563 and HD 2967 for wheat.) 		
<p>NADEP compost pits</p> <p>For promotion of organic manure and reducing the use of chemical fertilizers, NADEP compost pits were made</p>		
<p>Agro-advisories</p> <p>AFPRO introduced the process of disseminating crop advisories via SMSs to 5000 farmers across 11 project villages to mitigate risks and reduce losses, through an app based mechanism to the farmers.</p>		



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

Strengthening irrigation infrastructure through restoration of functionality: A water conservation and O & M approach

Rural livelihoods depend mainly on the availability of sufficient water for irrigation throughout the year as their main source of income is agriculture and allied activities. Inland water resources like rivers, canals, ponds and ground water meet the demand for irrigation. However, operation and maintenance (O&M) of irrigation systems is crucial to the sustainability of irrigated agriculture. Sustaining irrigation facilities, reducing repair costs and keeping irrigation efficiency at design levels help the system last longer. Partnerships with non-government organizations, public-private initiatives and private ventures are seen as a way to maintain the system.

Outputs and Outcomes

Improvement in access to critical irrigation: Restoration/Creation of Irrigation Infrastructures

- 4 canals renovated by cleaning and excavation
- 1 dam renovated by de-silting
- 2 ponds constructed
- 1 pond renovated
- 3 core walls of black cotton soil constructed
- 2 ponds merged and strengthened by constructing bunds. 1 pond strengthened by constructing bunds
- 1600 acres of land brought under cultivation benefitting 1015 locals. Cultivation of rabi crop and fish rearing in ponds are additional benefits obtained.

The EdelGive Foundation Initiative: Coverage & Approach

A philanthropic arm of the Edelweiss Group and committed to sustainable change, EdelGive Foundation partnered with AFPRO in 2016 for implementation of a four year project in 4 villages, Gurur Block, Balod district, Chhattisgarh. The main objective of the project is promotion of rural livelihoods through farm sector activities by creation/renovation of water harvesting structures and ensuring access to critical irrigation. Targeting approximately 3000 locals, participatory approaches adopted included consultations with PRI members for needs assessment and reconnaissance surveys for mapping local resources, especially existing irrigation infrastructure and potential. Technical feasibility surveys have strengthened participatory processes ensuring design and implementation of technically viable interventions.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way Forward

Effective and timely maintenance of irrigation schemes can improve the efficiency of water distribution and help manage demand. Here participation of farmers through institutions like Water User Groups is essential. Collecting of irrigation user fees is a good practice for financing and sustaining O&M. Better on-farm management of water, introduction of techniques to reduce losses and treatment of catchment and command areas will reduce siltation and further ensure optimum functionality. However, immediate concerns continue to be awareness generation on the potential of irrigation in transforming livelihoods and provision of technical support for promotion of agriculture (inputs, knowledge and skills) and allied activities.



Rejuvenating the existing nala from dam to the fields at Kapaarmeta village



Renovated Pond

Promoting Intensive Cumin Cultivation among cotton growing farmers of Dhrangdhra block of Gujarat

Cumin cultivation- a profitable business for Indian farmers

Cumin is a short duration crop (3-4 months). As a spice, it has a huge commercial value, used extensively for flavoring food, curing illness and preparing ayurvedic medicines. In India, cumin is mainly cultivated in the states of Rajasthan and Gujarat. Moderate sub-tropical climate, well-drained and loamy soils that are rich in organic matter are ideal for its cultivation. An average yield of 5 q/ha is obtained under proper management. Improved varieties may yield up to 7 – 8 Q/ha. The major diseases observed are wilt, blight, and powdery mildew. However, heavy application of pesticides is resulting in serious problems like pesticide resistance, pest resurgence and pesticide residues.

The IDH-AFPRO Partnership: Coverage & Approach

“The Sustainable Spices Initiative (SSI) aims to sustainably transform the mainstream spices sector, thereby securing future sourcing and boosting economic growth in producing countries”. IDH - The Sustainable Trade Initiative established a platform wherein multiple stakeholders could converge resources to achieve common goals; collaborating with AFPRO in 2016 for implementation of a project in 34 villages, Dhrandhara block, Surendranagar district, Gujarat. The main objective is to impart knowledge and skill among farmers on production of good quality cumin with less inputs and scientific and controlled use of fertilizers and pesticides. 5000 farmers have benefited covering 5613 ha and with an annual production of 3695 MT.

Interventions	Impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 soil samples tested for macro (N, P, K) and micro nutrients. Reports indicate low to moderate N, P, K and excessive amounts of copper and boron. Application of fertilizers recommended accordingly. 4,937 farmers trained on SSI concept, soil, water, pest & disease management, INM and IPM 60 demo units established with practices like application of Trico derma, pseudomonas, DOC (Deoiled Cake), Gaumutra, Bio fertilizer, use of amrutjal, Neem oil, Bauveria, castor, and neem cake demonstrated. Technical bulletins with best practices developed in consultation with experts and distributed to farmers. 100 PPE kits distributed to labour on health and safety aspects Organic cumin cultivation encouraged through trainings, campaigns, IEC materials and field visits 25 farmers' clubs formed for dissemination of best practices 5000 farmers provided agricultural advisories via SMS and WhatsApp. Krayons and Cropin were the service providers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific application of soil nutrients and promotion of bio fertilizers and pesticides resulting in an improvement in soil fertility, yield and overall quality – grain size etc. Farmers' confidence and technical knowledge increased on SSI principles including long term disease management practices, 40:40:20 (40% Chemical, 40% organic and 20% Bio fertilizer) formula for sustainable farming etc. Improvement in the quality of cumin Technical solutions for treatment of Fusarium wilt and Alternaria Blight still need to be addressed



Field demo in Dhrangdhra block in Gujarat

Sustainable Grape Initiatives (SGI)

Handholding support to Grape farmers

India has the distinction of achieving the highest productivity of grapes in the world, with an average yield of 30 t/ha. With a variety of agro-climatic regions suitable for grape cultivation, grape is cultivated on 34,000 hectares with an annual production of 1,000,000 tons. Though grape cultivation is one of the most remunerative farming enterprises in India, it is not spreading to more areas because of the high initial and recurring cost, changes in weather, and production of very low proportions of export quality grapes. More than 80 percent of the total production is consumed as table grapes in India and the rest is used for making raisin and wine. Approximately, 2.5 percent (22,000 t) of fresh grapes are exported to the Middle East and European countries. The rest of the produce is marketed within the country.

On field agronomical support to grape growers in Nashik district



IDH- Sustainable Trade Initiative - AFPRO partnership: Coverage & Approach

The "Sustainable Grapes Initiative, India" was launched in India with the aim to "increase the sustainability of grape production by decreasing risk and increasing quality through sustainable production practices in farming and production." In 2016, AFPRO introduced this initiative in Nashik and Tasgaon-Sangli districts of Maharashtra in partnership with IDH-The Sustainable Trade Initiative. To improve the quality of grapes and bring the product up to MRL standards, trainings were conducted on scientific application of fertilizers (INM), IPM, bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides, use of composts and other organic manures, bacterial slurries and mulching, safe handling of chemicals etc. This would enhance quality while reducing input costs. Under this project, 4500 small and medium farmers and 500 large farmers have been targeted.

Learnings

- Reduction in excessive use of chemicals in grape farming
- Demonstration of scientific approaches among the farmers through SAP
- Improvement in farmer's knowledge on scientific soil and plant health management practices.
- Strengthening KRC and increasing its coverage for promotion of commercially viable and environmentally sustainable grape cultivation practices.

Interventions

- 5000 farmers registered with Cropin for mobile based agriculture advisories. 15 persons trained from AFPRO on the use of Cropin.
- 38 project staff trained by National Research Centre for Grapes (NRCG), Pune on sustainable grape practices.
- 129 Capacity building programmes conducted with the support of Krishi Vigyan Kendra and K.K. Wagh College of Agriculture, Nashik on SAP (Sustainable Agricultural Practices) in grapes, INM/IPM/ bio-fertilizers/ bio-pesticides
- 30 Demonstration plots and 1 Knowledge Resource Center (KRC) established

Impacts

- 1480 farmers benefited and learned to apply SAP principles in grape cultivation
- Knowledge resource Centre (KRC) set up in Nashik district provides online services to the farmers by way of addressing their grape cultivation related queries.

Field monitoring



Convergence of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) and Cluster Facilitation Team (CFT) Strategy in Karanja, block of Washim district, Maharashtra (Cluster Facilitation Approach)

Extending technical support to Government of Maharashtra in executing livelihood programmes

The objective behind the convergence of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) through Cluster Facilitation Team (CFT) approach is to synergize the two programmes so as to substantially enhance the quality of assets being created and thereby ensure better sustainability of rural livelihoods, eradicate poverty and unemployment. The Operational Guidelines 2013, developed by Ministry of Rural Development is the basis for the CFT approach. The focus is laid on people's participation especially women in planning, implementation and monitoring of the programme implemented in the communities through MGNREGS and NRLM. AFPRO as a Resource Organization assisted 91 Grampanchayat in Washim District in Maharashtra covering 167 villages in discharging their responsibilities laid down under the MGNREG Act.



Labour Meeting

Interventions

- 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 resulting generation of 105 demands and registering them under Kaam Manngo Abhiyan. Besides, 522 number of job card holders (all SC /ST households) registered.
- Integrated Participatory Planning Exercise (IPPE): Realistic and need based plans were prepared for 91 Gram Panchayats. Creating 742 wells and tree plantation works are under progress
- Capacity Building: AFPRO conducted four training programmes on Integrated Participatory Planning Exercise, for Gramsevak, Agriculture Assistants, Rojgar Sevak, village representatives and members of SHG from Karanja block; conducted project orientation meetings in 30 villages of Karanja block and one day training for technical officers working at block level. Formation of 16 no. of labour groups was also facilitated.
- 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.
- 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.

Building resilience to droughts: A water conservation approach

Droughts are a recurrent problem in the Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh- affecting productivity of crops, range land, and forests, reducing water levels and increasing livestock mortality. Food and nutrition security too are long term threats. A reliable resource, ground water potentials are often explored in crisis situations like droughts. However, indiscriminate exploitation during periods of droughts has lowered water tables beyond replenishable limits and deteriorated water quality. Here, conservation of water during periods of plenty through surface storages and ground water recharge can mitigate the effects of droughts and build resilience.

Outputs and Outcomes

- 16 roof top rain water harvesting structures constructed
- 4 non - functional hand pumps recharged
- 5 open wells renovated
- 23 dry bore wells fitted with hand pumps
- 30 youth trained on operation and maintenance of hand pumps

Supporting GIZ and WHH: Coverage & Approach

GIZ extends International Cooperation for promotion of sustainable development. Supporting GIZ in improving food and nutrition security in a drought affected district of Madhya Pradesh was Welthungerhilfe (WHH), India. However, catering to the requirement for additional technical support in developing water resources by WHH, AFPRO conducted detailed technical surveys in 8 villages of Chhatarpur and Sheopur districts, Madhya Pradesh. Initiated in 2016, technical support included the design, supervision and monitoring of 42 drinking water and rainwater harvesting measures. Monitoring the impact of the project in terms of groundwater recharge through observation wells was an additional responsibility. The project has met with remarkable success, benefitting 10,000 locals through improvement in ground water levels.



Community based drinking water security planning in selected GPs of Balod, Mahasamund and Dantewada districts, Chhattisgarh

Demonstrating the Water Security Approach to planning the management of water resources

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 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: Coverage & Approach

UNICEF provides humanitarian and developmental assistance and is a key partner to the Government of India in its water supply programmes. Concerned about the growing threat to groundwater in the state of Chhattisgarh, AFPRO initiated discussions with UNICEF – Raipur for formulation of a project on Water Security Planning. Post consultations and necessary approvals, a project was initiated in 2016 in 101 GPs across three districts – Gurur block, Balod district; Geedam and Dantewada block, Dantewada district; and Saraipalli block, Mahasamund district, Chhattisgarh. Estimation of water budgets, preparation of drinking water security plans (WSP), awareness generation among local communities on WSP and sharing of plans with the Government of Chhattisgarh were its key components.

Water Safety Plans (WSP) and Stakeholder Consultations: Key Results

AFPRO compiled and analyzed the primary and secondary data collected on ground water demand and supply during the second year. The water budgets indicate the need to be concerned about ground water development, especially, in Gurur block. Here, the stage of Ground water development is 83.34% with a net ground water availability of 9836.76 ham and an annual ground water draft of 8198.26 ham; resulting in the categorization of the block as 'critical'.

Dantewada and Mahasamund districts are 'safe'; with stages of ground water development of 14.53% and 14.75% respectively. Here, net groundwater availability is 2710.39 ham and 2584.1 ham; and total annual ground water draft is 393.71 ham and 344.51 ham respectively. Indicating an increasing reliance on ground water and the need to sustainably manage the resource are future projections (next 10 years) - 84.95% (Gurur), 17.26% (Dantewada) 18.71% (Saraipalli). Thus, key demand and supply measures proposed in the Drinking Water Security Plans (DWSP) include:

Demand Management

- Improvement in awareness on ground water exploitation among the farmer community
- Reduction in cultivation of water intensive crops like paddy
- Restricted drilling of bore wells for irrigation and optimum use during the summer season
- Restricted cultivation of water intensive crops, especially during the rabi season
- Promotion of water saving technologies like drip and sprinkler irrigation
- Social and institutional strengthening through farmers' groups.

Supply Management

- Accelerated rain water harvesting measures, creation of surface water bodies, rejuvenation of old water bodies etc.

Sustainability: Challenges & Way forward

AFPRO has the experience of supporting the National Rural Drinking Water Security Pilot project in 30 GPs of Mulbagal block in Karnataka. Continuing our advocacy of the Water Security Planning approach is mobilization of support from UNICEF for the scientific and participatory planning of water resources. A first of its kind for the state of Chhattisgarh, state and block level workshops were conducted to share the findings and mobilize support for implementation, while assurances have been given by PHED for inclusion of recommendations in state action plans and programmes such as the Jal Kranti Yojna, implementation and convergence with other departments like agriculture will determine success, build confidence and initiate sustainable ground water management regimes.

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

Extending relief to a distressed Vidharbha region: a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Approach

Inability to repay financial obligations has earned several regions of Maharashtra with the title “distressed”. Burdened by growing economic losses, farmers leave their lands, migrating to cities in search of alternate employment opportunities; some resorting to more extreme measures like claiming their own lives. Access to adequate safe drinking water and sanitation is one of the fundamental rights under the Indian Constitution. However, inadequate access to them adds to their woes and a sanitation facility rarely a priority. Here, the plans of the Government of Maharashtra to mitigate distress, need to include the provision of safe drinking water and sanitation.



Wash Training Programme among School Children and the Community

The Monsanto-AFPRO partnership: Coverage & Approach

Monsanto Holdings Private Limited (MHPL)- a 100% wholly-owned subsidiary of Monsanto Company, partnered with AFPRO to bring relief to distressed farmers of Vidharbha under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative. Initiated in 2015, 25 villages in 6 districts of Maharashtra have been covered over three years with a focus on improving access to drinking water and sanitation, promotion of sustainable agricultural practices and alternate livelihood generation opportunities for women. 53,400 beneficiaries from both households and schools have been targeted. Enabling more people to gain access to existing technologies has been the prime approach with social acceptability (usage) addressed through continuous human and institutional development.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way Forward

Contaminated drinking water and open defecation are serious health risks, affecting economic productivity and lives. Stakeholders' engagement through discussions, periodic meetings and community contribution in kind, scientific selection of designs and sites, access to water, human and institutional development and a strong internal monitoring mechanism are addressing sustainability concerns. However, due to periods of deficit rainfall, ground water levels are falling, thus, accelerated ground water recharge, regulated use of ground water and efficient irrigation need to be introduced to ensure resource sustainability. Here the partnership with Monsanto is a commendable initiative with technology playing a transformative role, bringing relief to distressed communities, relieving them from an unnecessary burden and enabling them to concentrate on productive social and economic upliftment.

Outputs and Outcomes	
Improvement in access to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 630 twin leach pit latrines constructed One 1000 LPH Reverse Osmosis (RO) plant installed; purifying water with Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) above permissible limits. Separate urinals and toilets for boys and girls with water facility (storage facilities and pipelines) constructed in 4 schools. Awareness on sanitation and hygiene conducted in 10 schools One dug well created. 2 nals and 1 Earthen Nala Bund (ENB) deepened and widened; 1 percolation tank deepened for recharging groundwater Approximately, 700 school children and 4150 local community provided with access to WASH 	Generating new opportunities through technical interventions & innovations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self Help Groups (SHG) comprising of 8-10 women trained on small and medium enterprise development Linkages with financial institutions and government schemes facilitated Goat rearing, dairy farming and fodder cultivation demonstrated with 3 SHGs. Inputs in the form of improved breeds (goat and buffalo) provided.

Stepping towards “Swatch” and “Unnat” Bharat: An integrated rural development approach through improved water, sanitation and agricultural practices in three states of Southern India – Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka

Assisting the Government of India in achieving National goals of water and sanitation

Though access to adequate safe drinking water and sanitation is one of our fundamental rights, the ground reality is not so desirable. The Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) too recognize this. However, rural villages continue to face inadequate sources of water in terms of quantity and quality and lack sanitation facilities. Further, chemical contaminants in drinking water are increasing. Recognizing the social, economic and health implications of consumption of contaminated water and inadequate sanitation, the Government of India has devised a collaborative approach seeking the active participation of donors, non-government organizations and corporate sectors in achieving its vision.



RO in Nandigama Village in Medak district Inaugurated

The Monsanto – AFPRO Partnership: Coverage & Approach

Monsanto Holdings Private Limited (MHPL)- a 100% wholly-owned subsidiary of Monsanto Company, partnered with AFPRO to promote access to safe and adequate drinking water and clean hygiene and sanitation in 35 villages surrounding its Production and Breeding centres under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Since 2015, we have been gradually targeting 52,000 community members spread across 2, 3 and 6 districts of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka respectively. Special emphasis has been laid on the inclusion of women, children and the elderly. Stakeholder consultation, community contribution, science and technology demonstration and human and institutional development have been actively promoted.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way Forward

Ground water is a strategic resource. However, it lacks sustainability. While, techniques of accelerated ground water recharge are addressing sustained availability, holistic approaches, ones that address underlying causes of growing water scarcity and contamination are required. Here, demand and supply management (efficient irrigation practices and accelerated recharge etc) are essential. Further, open defecation is a habit and behavioral change is required before continued usage can be documented. Strengthening of institutional and human capacity, active stakeholder participation, linkages with service providers, access to water supply and a strong internal monitoring mechanism are addressing the usage of toilets and infrastructural sustainability.

Outputs and Outcomes

Reduction in the health hazards associated with consumption of chemically contaminated water

- Two, 2000 LPH community and two, 50 LPH school Reverse Osmosis (RO) Plants installed, purifying water with excessive fluoride.
- 32 villages trained on the health hazards associated with consumption of contaminated water and benefits of RO.
- 14 recharge pits constructed around drinking water sources for harvesting rainwater
- Health hazards like fluorosis associated with consumption of chemically contaminated water reduced for 2500 villagers and school children.

Reduction in the health hazards associated with poor sanitation and hygiene practices

- 160 Single and double leach pit latrines constructed
- Additionally, the functionality of two school toilets restored through construction of separate urinals and toilets for boys and girls.
- Local communities and school children trained on the ill effects of open defecation, benefits of using toilets, and its maintenance. Further, 26 Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSC) trained on their roles and responsibilities.
- Health hazards associated with open defecation has been reduced for 1000 local people, including school children. Safe disposal of feces, providing safety and privacy are additional benefits.

India's Children - India's Future - Encouraging an open defecation free and hygienic environment in schools: Good schools need good students and good students need good sanitation. The Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the Indian Constitution recognize the right of every individual to basic water and sanitation. Recognizing the implications of inadequate access to sanitation on the health and education of school children, national policies recommended the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in all schools. Stipulations were also made for separate toilets for boys and girls. This ensured a healthy school environment and protected children from illness and exclusion.

Improving sanitation facilities in the Government Higher Primary School, Sunkalbidri village, Ranebennur block, Haveri district, Karnataka

Background: It is a very old school run by the Government of Karnataka. It has been providing quality education to children coming from poor families. The Government constructed a toilet in this school about 15 years ago. While the school is able to maintain the standard of its classrooms and even has a playground, a kitchen and a shed for the midday meals of children, lack of financial support from the district administration towards operation and maintenance of the toilets has resulted in the toilet being dysfunctional. The urinals have no water connections and either have no or broken doors, forcing a majority of the 92 girls and 90 boys to defecate in the open. This problem affects the girls the worst who find defecating in the open a challenge and a violation of their privacy. At least 10% of them routinely suffer from diseases like diarrhoea and many of the girl students become drop outs in between. Therefore, there was an urgent need for renovating the existing toilets and urinals in the school and restoring its functionality.

Project Intervention: Monsanto Holdings Pvt Limited supported this school to improve its access to school sanitation and enable an environment of healthy learning. Under the Swatch and Unnat Bharat Programme, a detailed need assessment was conducted in the school to understand the sanitation and hygiene requirements. 5 urinals and 2 toilets each for boys and girls were constructed along with water supply. Children were trained on the benefits of using the toilets, flushing of toilets, washing of hands after using toilets and also on maintenance of cleanliness inside the toilets.

Impact: The toilets have come as a blessing for these school children. They no longer need to defecate in the open, enjoying the privacy of a fully functional toilet. They have adequate water to wash up and keep the toilet clean. They are also safe from diseases associated with open defecation and can concentrate their energies in receiving quality education. With India's Children recognized as India's future, the Government of India's approach of transforming school education by the active involvement of donors, non-government organizations and corporate sectors is keeping its commitment to ensure that all the schools especially rural schools in the nation have basic sanitation and drinking water facilities and good hygiene practices are taught among the children.

Sunkalbidri school toilet, Haveri District



Integrated Community Development Project with focus on water, sanitation & livelihood at UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli (Silvasa)



15000 Ltr capacity ESR tank in Nanipati Babapada constructed for drinking water

Sustainable Development - a pathway to the future: Demonstrating Integrated Approaches to Development

Though tribal communities are an integral part of Indian society with their unique cultural, social and political characteristics distinguishing them from other groups, their socio-economic development has not seen much progress. Isolation from mainstream society, social discrimination, primitive agricultural practices and lack of infrastructure are responsible for their social, educational and economic backwardness. Concerned with this backwardness, the Government of India enacted special provisions under the Indian Constitution to safeguard their interests and accelerate their socio-economic development. However, despite efforts to improve their quality of life, poor management of natural resources and inadequate operation and maintenance of infrastructure, nullifies investments, pushing them back to a life of poverty.

The Monsanto-AFPRO partnership: Coverage & Approach

Monsanto India Limited (MIL) is a subsidiary of Monsanto, USA. With a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), the vision of improving the lives of socially and economically marginalized communities, MIL partnered with AFPRO for improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation in 5 villages, Silvasa district, Dadra and Nagar Haveli Union Territory. The project also addresses women empowerment through Self Help Group (SHG's) and agriculture and livelihood diversification by promoting community irrigation. Initiated in 2015, the project aims to target 1100 households entirely composed of Scheduled Tribes (ST) over a period of three years. Technology dissemination via demonstrations and capacity building formed the preferred approach. Participatory processes included discussions, community contribution and convergence with government departments.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way Forward

The main objective of developmental programme is enhancement in quality of life, especially, of the marginalized communities. However, associating with them is often accompanied by distrust and lack of interest, for which extensive community mobilization and confidence building is required. Initiatives like frequent household visits, meetings, trainings, careful selection of beneficiaries, periodic technical guidance and convergence with line departments are encouraging participation and addressing sustainability concerns. A good example of the spirit of "Partnership" recommended under the Sustainable Development Goals, the project is sustainably using the resources, transferring technologies and building capacities.

Outputs and Outcomes		
1. Agricultural & Livelihood Diversification	2. Drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)	3. Promotion of family based enterprises (SHG's)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27 farmers trained on basmati rice cultivation. Seeds and post-harvest management support (polishing) provided. Marketing of produce under progress. 52 farmers trained on cultivation of mango and cheeku. Convergence with the Horticulture department facilitated for distribution of saplings, other inputs and technical support One dug well constructed for group irrigation. Post supply of lifting device, vegetable cultivation are initiated Diversification of livelihoods will strengthen the economic base, gradually improving quality of life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 136 Double Leach Pit latrines constructed, with Water connections ensured 15000 liter tank constructed 200 school children trained on health and hygiene - personal (hand wash, teeth cleaning etc.) and food hygiene. Health kits also distributed. 680 local community provided with access to safe sanitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 76 SHGs trained on government schemes 25 women SHGs groups trained on poultry farming by the Animal Husbandry Department. Chicks and feed provided by the department; 25 poultry sheds provided under the project. 13 SHGS exposed to alternate livelihood opportunities

Stepping towards “Swatch Bharat” through improved Sanitation in East Champaran, Bihar

Assisting the Government of India in achieving an Open Defecation Free (ODF) India

Historically, people have defecated in the open, going out in the fields, bushes etc. rather than using a toilet. With linkages between the spread of diseases and Open Defecation (OD) well established and populations growing rapidly, it is increasingly becoming difficult to keep human feces from crops, wells, food and children's hands, posing a major health hazard. The Government of India, in continuation to its global commitments to eradicate the practice of open defecation has chartered an ambitious programme (Swatch Bharat Mission), targeting the achievement of an Open Defecation Free India by 2019.

Outputs and Outcomes

Improvement in access to sanitation facilities for rural households

- Local community trained on the health hazards associated with open defecation, benefits of using toilets, usage of toilets, maintenance of toilets, household sanitation and food hygiene, personal hygiene and community sanitation etc. Both men and women were targeted during the training.
- 80 household toilets constructed
- At least 400 members have improved their access to household toilets and reduced risk of disease.

The Monsanto-AFPRO Partnership: Coverage & Approach

Monsanto India Limited (MIL), is a subsidiary of Monsanto, USA. With a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) vision of improving quality of lives, it partnered with AFPRO to improve access of rural households to sanitation facilities. Initiated in July 2016, a village each from two extremely backward Gram Panchayats (GP) of East Champaran district, Bihar was adopted to construct 170 HH toilets and by March 2017 construction of 80 toilets were completed. Conscious efforts were made to create awareness, sensitize and mobilize the community, generate demand for sanitation facilities, and build an enabling environment for WASH, governance and behavioural change. While, technology demonstrations will directly benefit approximately 800 poor people, 9000 people will be exposed to good WASH practices.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way Forward

Mushahars are scheduled castes mainly inhabiting Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Engaged as landless agricultural labourers, they have exceptionally low literacy rates and belong to some of the most marginalized groups. Developing an interest in WASH practices including the use of toilets was extremely difficult and a continuous challenge. However, Community led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approaches, simple motivational slogans published inside the toilets, minor modifications in technical designs, especially provision of water (small tank with a tap connection) and the use of materials resistant to corrosion have resulted in noteworthy success, generating demand, encouraging usage and ensuring the creation of sustainable infrastructure.

Sensitisation to the community at Balhi Mushar Toli, Khairmal



Household toilet for Rajdeo Manjhi

School Sanitation in Maharashtra and Improving Water, Sanitation and Hygiene knowledge and Practices in Schools

Investing in our children, investing in our future: A Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Approach

Schools are institutions designed to provide learning environments for cognitive, creative and social development of children. Education infrastructures in the form of classrooms offer suitable spaces where structured learning can take place. However, separate sanitary facilities for boys and girls are integral components of school infrastructure and inadequate infrastructure is a barrier to their enrollment and participation, especially girls. Further, since good sanitation and hygiene practices (WASH) are linked to individual behaviours, such practices need to be inculcated in individuals at a nascent stage. With children receptive, quick to adapt and sustain change and disseminate learnings, they are an appropriate target group for the introduction of good WASH practices. Recognizing the relevance of school sanitation and hygiene in building a strong educational system, the Government of India under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has laid down legally enforceable norms and standards for school buildings including the provision of separate toilets for boys and girls, safe and adequate drinking water facility for all children.

A social responsibility initiative of HDFC Bank: Coverage & Approach

HDFC Bank Limited regards education as the single most significant intervention in the overall economic and social

development of society. Guided by this vision, it initiated two projects in 2016, in 52 schools located across 11 districts of Maharashtra. Supported by AFPRO, the main focus of these projects has been to ensure functional water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities in schools; introduction of good WASH practices amongst school children and creation and strengthening of institutional mechanisms to ensure operation and maintenance of the facilities. Dissemination of the science and technology of WASH and human and institutional development were the main approaches adopted.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way forward

Water, sanitation and hygiene in schools create an enabling environment which secures children's dignity, safety, health and attendance in classes. However, continued usage of toilets is subject to functionality of the toilets – cleanliness in the toilets, water connection etc. WASH Committees with the support of WASH Clubs represent dedicated groups or institutions created to ensure the operation and maintenance (O&M) of the school toilets. They have been trained on roles and responsibilities and monitoring schedules and procedures clearly communicated, while their delivery determines the sustainability of the project.

Outputs and Outcomes	
Improvement in access to clean and hygienic sanitation and drinking water facilities in schools	Improvement in awareness on clean and hygienic sanitation and drinking water facilities in schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate urinals and toilets for boys and girls constructed in 36 schools, while 28 school toilets and urinals (boys and girls) renovated. Water facility ensured through drilling of new bore wells, construction of overhead storage facilities and pipelines. Approximately, 3500 school children provided with access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The institutional mechanism created for operation and maintenance of WASH facilities includes a WASH Committee and a WASH Club for every school. While the WASH Committee comprises of 14-20 members including school children (boys and girls), teachers and parents; the WASH Club comprises of 12-15 school children (boys and girls) changing on a monthly basis. The WASH Committee has been trained to monitor the construction/renovation of toilets and other WASH facilities and the functioning of the WASH Club. The WASH Club has been trained to clean the toilets and other WASH facilities like tanks and wash basins on a weekly basis. The school children have been trained on good WASH practices – safe handling of drinking water, safe handling of waste water, safe disposal of human excreta, disposal of solid waste, household sanitation, food hygiene, personal hygiene and community sanitation.

Unlocking opportunities for an improved quality of life: An integrated community development approach

Based on economic condition, the scope of poverty has widened beyond income inequality that includes access to health, education and other essential services. Recognizing eradication of poverty as one of the greatest global challenges, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development resolves to “End poverty in all its forms everywhere”. Integrated community development (ICD) has been recommended in the past to address rampant poverty, rural upliftment and reconstruction. Programmes covered agriculture, health, education, employment etc. Retaining the spirit of ICD, recent efforts continue to involve the community in programmes and train them to be self- dependent and economically self-reliant.

Name of the Project	Duration
“Integrated Community Development Programme (ICDP)” of 5 villages of Mahasamund block of Mahasamund district, CG”	2015-2016
“Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme (ISRDP)” of 8 villages of Mahasamund block of Mahasamund district, CG”	2017-2018
Holistic Village Development in 19 villages in Kalahandi District, Odisha	2016-2018
Integrated village development plan – Meghalaya	2016



The HDFC-AFPRO Partnership: Coverage & Approach

HDFC Bank Limited believes in economic and social empowerment as the foundation for sustainable change. With its rural development programs focused on education and infrastructure, sustainable livelihood through skill development and natural resource management, water and sanitation, health and environment and energy, it partnered with AFPRO to implement four individual projects across the states of Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Meghalaya. The projects were initiated in 2015, 2016 and 2017 and are targeting 1853, 3374, 5454 and 70 households. Community and government participation, reconnaissance surveys and needs assessments were the important participatory approaches adopted, with project staff trained to assist communities articulate and prioritize their needs. Strengthening these approaches were scientific assessments and technical feasibility surveys (topographical surveys, water quality testing etc.) followed.



Sustainability: Challenges and Way forward

With a substantial population residing in rural areas, the holistic framework of ICD is enabling the poorest to improve their quality of life. They are informed, economically empowered, and participative in institutional structures and dissuaded to migrate, triggering processes of development. However, despite efforts, restricting community participation and contribution in infrastructure creation initiatives were lucrative alternatives in the form of MGNREGS. Concerned for the sustainability of interventions, village committees have been formed; linkages with government departments established; trainings on the watershed approach conducted; and small groups of youth trained with expectation that their assistance will be sought in maintaining the infrastructure. Additionally, accelerated groundwater recharge, efficient irrigation practices and linkages with local markets need to be further developed to ensure sustainability of interventions.



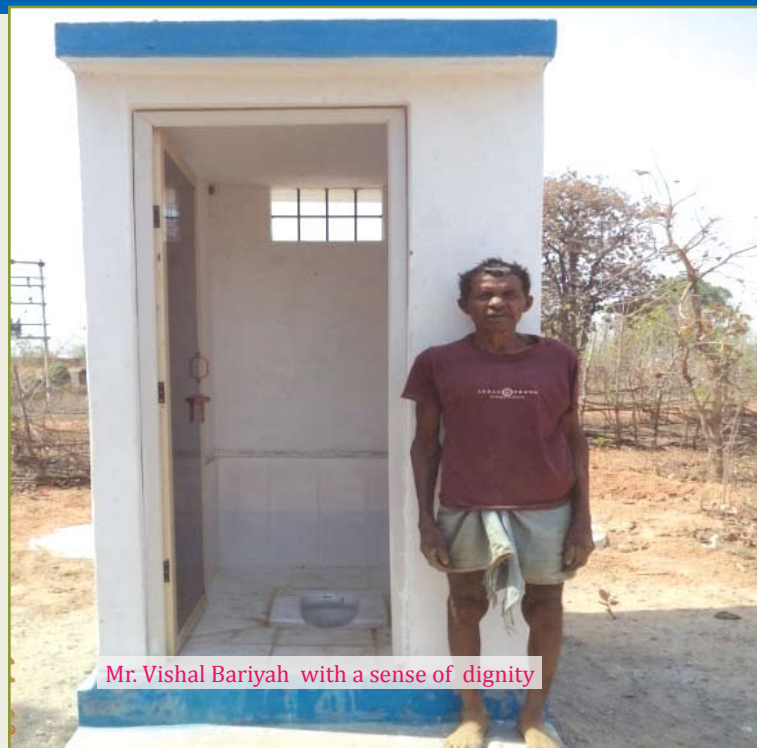
Training on WASH among School Children

Outputs and Outcomes			
	Water and Sanitation	Livelihoods & Water Resource Development	Energy
Chhattisgarh (2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Double Leach Pit latrine constructed in 232 households 42 Hand pumps repaired; and platforms and drainage constructed for 29 hand pumps. 450 households benefited. 5 roof top rain water harvesting structures constructed, recharging groundwater 4 stand posts and 1 drinking water pipeline installed in schools. 150 students benefited. 4 community stand posts repaired and 2 cisterns constructed. 70-75 households benefited. 27 youth trained on operation and maintenance of hand pumps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 community ponds renovated and 1 farm pond (5% model) constructed 205 farmers trained on watershed programmes 24 Nadep compost pits constructed. It will enable safe disposal of solid waste and the generation of organic manure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 139 smokeless chullahs distributed. This will protect women from health hazards associated with traditional cooking methods. It is also environmental friendly creating lesser air pollutions and reducing a dependence on fuel wood. 4 solar street lights installed and will provide light during the night.
Chhattisgarh (2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 roof top rain water harvesting structures made recharging groundwater 35 Hand pumps repaired; and platforms and drainage constructed for 15 hand pumps 450 households benefited. 14 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) training programmes conducted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 Nadep compost pits constructed. It will enable safe disposal of solid waste and the generation of organic manure. 3 farm ponds (5% model) constructed 	
Odisha (2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26 Hand pumps repaired providing safe and adequate drinking water. Additionally, 31 new hand pumps installed 95 water samples tested Groundwater investigation conducted at 15 sites, 3 irrigation wells constructed A model school toilet constructed with a ramp, for usage by differently-abled children with un-interrupted water supply to the toilets, opting for a solar and electric dual system for ground water pumping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village Development Committees (VDC) of 8 to 11 members formed with the key objectives of assisting and monitoring the project 19 Knowledge Resource Centres (KRC) established to create awareness and disseminate information about various government sponsored schemes Distributed 83 Does and 1 Buck under goat rearing 25 families provided with poultry birds, feed, feeder and nutrient supplements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 380 smokeless chullahs distributed. This will protect women from health hazards associated with traditional cooking methods and save use of wood and saving trees. 

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 208 farmers trained on vegetable cultivation in kitchen gardens by local horticulture department. Seeds and other inputs provided to the farmers. • Post-harvest processing of rice demonstrated to 13 women farmers as an alternate livelihood opportunity. 	
<p>Meghalaya (2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 drinking water pipeline, storage tank and distribution tank repaired. 1 new distribution tank constructed. 17 stand posts also constructed. This will improve the drinking water conditions in 70 households • 1 school toilet (toilet and urinal) for boys and girls renovated. Water supply provided. Roof top rain water harvesting structure also constructed. This will ensure access to sanitation and hygiene facilities for 40 students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double Leach Pit latrine constructed in 25 households • 35 households trained on pig rearing. A pair of piglets provided to each family on demonstration basis. This will help strengthen local livelihood opportunities. • 50 households trained on cultivation of horticultural crops. 5000 saplings each of Litchi, Arecanut and Banana provided to the households. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 smokeless chullahs distributed. This will protect women from health hazards associated with traditional cooking methods. It is also environmental friendly creating lesser air pollutions and reducing cutting of trees and saving environment.

Relief from relieving in the open

Experience of Mr. Vishal Bariyah from Lohardih village: Mr. Vishal Bariyah belongs to Lohardih village, Mahasamund block. His family comprises of six members (beneficiary himself, his wife, daughter in law and 3 grandchildren). His son passed away three years ago. Although he is 70 years old, he still works as a labourer along with his wife and daughter-in-law. With an income of just Rs. 4000 per month, he has to manage the family expenses of six people. He says "I don't have enough money to construct a toilet, though it is very much needed for me and my family. But you came forward to help me to construct a toilet for us. I am very much happy and thankful to HDFC and AFPRO for making the toilet for me".



Mr. Vishal Bariyah with a sense of dignity

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

Concentrating on improving the quality of life: Demonstrating environmentally sustainable approaches

Aimed at improving the quality of life, development is increasingly being accompanied by environmental degradation – contamination of soil and water, groundwater depletion, global warming etc. A growing awareness of an imminent ecological crisis and the need to maintain a balance led to the formulation of the concept of “sustainable development”. With the environment now under enormous pressure, development divide still wide and the international community working to bridge the gaps, environmental sustainability through conservation of natural resources is critical. Here, environment management aims to reduce the negative impacts of development and ensure the provision of clean air and water and productive land.



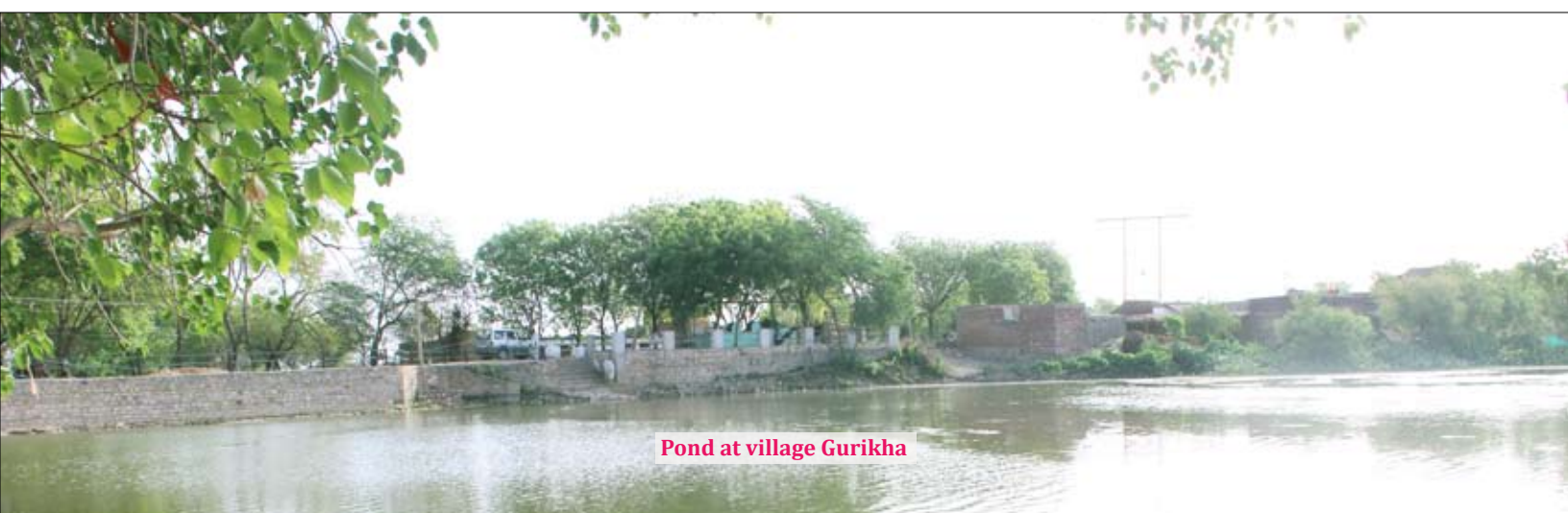
Construction of hand pump and soak pit at village latankanpura, Bhind district

Mondelez India Foods Pvt. Limited initiative: Coverage & Approach

Mondelez India Foods Pvt. Limited, part of the Mondelēz International Group of Companies, launched the Project called "Shubh Aarambh" as its umbrella CSR and community programme in the country. The programme focuses on development of children, skills and livelihoods, water conservation and greening. Mondelez India Foods Pvt. Limited partnered with AFPRO in 2015 for implementation of a project in 15 villages, 5 each in Induri district, Maharashtra; Malanpur district, Madhya Pradesh; Baddi district, Himachal Pradesh. The key components are access to drinking water, soil and water conservation, greenery development and skill development. The project aims to target 4,500 families. Technology dissemination is its main approach.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way Forward

Environment management approaches are relying heavily on technological advancements to solve environmental problems and cater to the demand for development – drilling of deeper bore wells, installation of RO plants, groundwater recharge shafts etc. However, these are technological fixes which do not address the underlying problems. Further, community acceptance of technology varies affecting sustained use. Here, an intensive and continuous community sensitization and mobilization is required to encourage acceptance and usage. Also, institutional mechanisms at the grass root level need to be created and capacitated to ensure operation and maintenance of infrastructure. In addition to awareness among the local community, a change in the processes of growth and development is required among all stakeholders including business houses, industrialists and government.



Pond at village Gurikha

Outputs and Outcomes		
	Drinking Water & Soil and Water conservation	Greenery Development
Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drinking water pipeline extended. 70 HH benefitted. One 250 LPH school RO plant installed. 264 students benefitted 614 benefitted due to access to safe and adequate drinking water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1650 homestead trees distributed. Additionally, 1185 trees planted in open land One Community Park and one School Park constructed providing recreational space for children and adults
Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One 1000 LPH RO plant installed. This includes drilling of the source, construction of shed and installation of plant. The local community is being mobilized to drink only the treated water. 1000 cum tank renovated including the construction of a ramp, steps and development of an adjoining park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1000 trees planted along the road side 10 beneficiaries trained on horticulture. Saplings of guava and lemon provided. A small community park renovated. providing recreational space for children and adults
Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One 2000 LPH community RO plant installed One check dam repaired 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2100 local tree varieties planted in the forest area in consultation with the forest department



Provision of community irrigation, health and sanitation in the UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli (Silvassa)

Sustainable Development - a pathway to the future: Demonstrating Integrated approaches to development

Tribal people are generally secluded from the mainstream society today and so they have to constantly fight for their rights. Generally they live in sparsely populated hills, remote villages and hamlets, who depend on their small and uneconomical land holdings for their livelihood because of which their crop yield is less and hence they remain chronically indebted. They do not enjoy the basic facilities like road, transport, communication, education, hospitals and banking. Very often their rights are violated and their land taken away forcefully for mega projects. The tribal communities need to be protected against all sorts of human violations and exploitation and they need to be supported for integrating fully into the national society through sustainable development programmes by introducing multi-faceted activities to raise their quality of life. Special government programmes introduced for tribal development have not significantly helped them in raising their economic and social status.



The Voltas-AFPRO partnership: Coverage & Approach

Voltas Limited is a well-known air conditioning company in India and one of the world's premier engineering solutions providers. With thrust areas of sustainable livelihoods and community development, Voltas Limited partnered with AFPRO for increasing irrigation potential, training farmers on agriculture, promoting alternate livelihood and educating the local community on better sanitation and hygiene practices. Initiated in 2016, the project is being implemented in 5 hamlets, inhabited by tribal people in Dadra district, Dadra and Nagar Union Territory. The project will target approximately 8000 population. Focusing on the overall development of the community, various strategies are adopted in the areas of water resources management, sanitation and livelihood opportunities.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way forward

The introduction of science and technology is often employed as approach to tackling under-development. Low levels of literacy, matching technological solutions with the needs and demands of the community, resource sustainability and sustainable usage of technology are still a challenge. Groundwater recharge, regulated use of groundwater, efficient irrigation and continuous capacity building are required for sustained availability of resources, functioning and usage of technologies and subsequent human development and economic growth.

Outputs and Outcomes	
Water Resources Development	Water and Sanitation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 water user groups comprising of 5-10 members formed and trained on Group irrigation. This includes operation and maintenance of the bore well, collection of user fees etc. 10 sites investigated for drilling of bore wells by trained hydro-geologist. 2 bore wells drilled and will soon be operational. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Double Leach Pit latrines constructed for 115 households 6 health camps conducted on health and hygiene, personal sanitation and hygiene practices, first aid techniques, women hygiene etc.
	Alternate Livelihoods
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 beneficiaries provided with chicks and poultry sheds and 10 provided with goats along with goat sheds.

Community Health care and access to Safe Drinking Water

Health Care for all - A Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Approach

Rural Health care is one of the biggest challenges facing the Health Ministry of India. In compliance with the Alma Ata Declaration of 1978, National Policies, too, consider health as an important component of socio-economic development. "The inclusion of education concerning prevailing health problems and methods of identifying, preventing and controlling them; promotion of food supply and proper nutrition, and adequate supply of safe water and basic sanitation; maternal and child health care, including family planning; immunization against major infectious diseases etc" are basic components of primary health care and the recommended approach to achieve the goal of "health for all".



Health camp conducted in Lakhegaon, district Gondia



Health camp in Mohadi village, District - Bhandara

Outputs and Outcomes

Improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene

- General health camps conducted in 2 villages with the support from the local blood testing laboratory. Basic parameters like sugar were tested. Participants were counseled on health and hygiene - personal hygiene, general awareness and nutrition.
- Sites for installation of 1 community RO plant finalized. Community mobilized to provide the room for installation of the RO plant.

The L&T-AFPRO partnership: Coverage & Approach

Larsen & Toubro (L&T) is a major technology, engineering, construction, manufacturing and financial services conglomerate. However, it is equally committed to developing projects that will contribute to the quality of life of rural people. Partnering with AFPRO, a project to enhance accessibility of rural communities to safe drinking water and health services was initiated in 2016. The project is being implemented in 9 villages of three districts- Akola, Amravati and Bhandara in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, with a target population of 81,015. Intensive community mobilization using participatory tools of household surveys, focused group discussions (FGDs) and SHG group meetings have been conducted to reach out to different sections of the community, create partnerships and ultimately address the pressing issues of the villages.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Climate proofing in Watershed


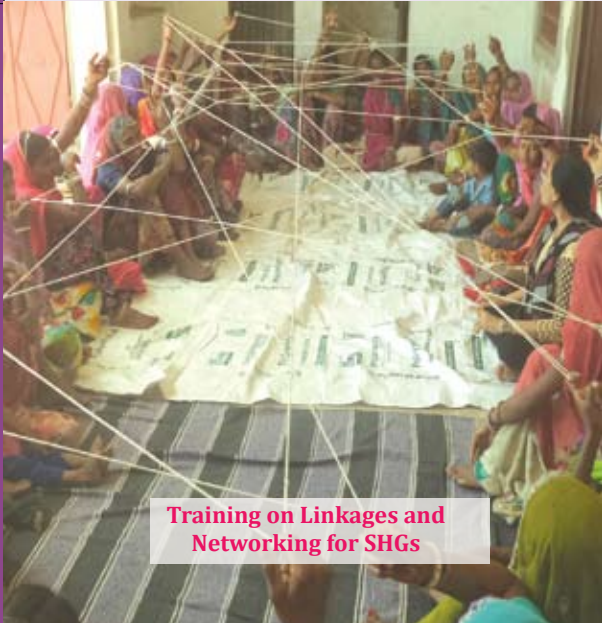
Building resilience to climate change: A watershed approach

Climate change poses a threat to poverty reduction, water and energy supplies, food security, human health and natural resources, with heavy dependence on climate sensitive sectors like agriculture, livestock and forests, limited sources of surface water, declining groundwater, and a large composition of socially and economically marginalized communities. Rajasthan is one the most vulnerable States in the country to climate change. Sensitivities are high and adaptive capacities low. Here, identifying climate related risks and adjusting development activities to them help build the resilience of vulnerable communities to climate change and this is the basis of “Climate Proofing”.

NABARD-GIZ Initiative: Coverage and Approach

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is implementing the Indo German Watershed Development Programme (IGWDP) with the aim of improving livelihoods of rural poor and rehabilitating highly degraded natural resources. GIZ, on the other hand is focused on integrating the issues of climate change adaptation into various sectors. To link watershed activities with climate change aspects, Anjeni watershed- a 972 ha watershed in Udaipur district, Rajasthan was selected for implementation of the Climate Proofing project. Since AFPRO initiated the work in this watershed in 2011, climate related risks have been considered in all soil and water conservation measures, pasture land development and agriculture and livelihood opportunities. With implementation being successfully completed in 2016, efforts to assess the impacts of watershed activities on biophysical, social, economic and institutional conditions in the watershed, especially with regard to climate change, were made. The findings from the impact assessment have been summarized below:-

Impact of watershed programme in Anjeni watershed

Type of Impact	Pre Intervention	Post Intervention
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gross cropped area is 173 ha and net cropped area is 82 ha Irrigated area is 67 ha. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently, the gross cropped area is 251 ha, a 10% increase; while net cropped area is 105 ha, a 28% increase. Irrigated area is 74 ha, a 10% increase These improvements can be attributed to soil and water conservation measures, increase in groundwater recharge, soil moisture retention and subsequent improvement in water for critical irrigation This has created livelihood opportunities for farmers, increasing their adaptive capacities.
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average Groundwater level was 10m Waste lands were in a highly degraded condition with no or little vegetative cover 193 Open wells and 3 tube wells 82 ha under maize crop 60 ha under wheat crop No area under soyabean There was no practice of mixed and inter- cropping Indigenous variety of goat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to soil and water conservation measures implemented in 56 ha and subsequent harvesting and recharge of rainwater; groundwater levels have increased by 1.2 m. Due to soil and water conservation measures, degradation of land resources has been reduced, vegetative cover has increased. About 30 ha of waste land converted to cultivable land 30 new open wells and 17 new tube wells drilled. Tube wells are used for drinking water purposes Area under maize is 98 ha, an increase of 20% Area under wheat crop is 66 ha, a 10% increase Soyabean introduced in 6 ha. Pasture land development led to production of 65 MT fodder and decrease the fodder deficit by 15 – 20 % Mixed cropping and inter-cropping has been introduced Improved variety of Sirohi goat introduced
Institutional	 <p>Training on Linkages and Networking for SHGs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One village watershed committee formed and registered to carry out all the project activities. One pasture bank with seed money of Rs. 1,00,000/- created to avail the credit for pasture during shortfall. 13 SHGs formed with total savings of Rs.1,94,450/- and inter-loaning of amount Rs.138800/- One federation formed of the SHGs with seed money of Rs. 1,25,000/- to avail the credit to SHG women for livelihood activities Four “Farmers Field Clubs” formed and different “Climate Smart Agriculture” practices introduced through “Farmers Field School approach.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning & Documentation (MELD)

Extending socio-technical assistance to the Government of Maharashtra

Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) is a joint programme of Central and State government. IWMP is being implemented through Water Conservation Department in all 33 rural districts of Maharashtra with financial assistance from Government of India and Government of Maharashtra. Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning & Documentation (MELD) is an important and crucial component of IWMP.

Coverage & Approach

AFPRO was selected as one of the MELD agencies by Vasundhara Watershed Development Agency. The Pune Agriculture division was allotted to us covering 93 projects (approximately 4 lakh ha) spread across three districts - Pune, Ahmednagar and Solapur. As a MELD agency, key responsibilities included the establishment of a 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).

Outputs and Outcomes

- Work Phase Evaluation completed for 26 watersheds from the Pune Division. The evaluation was conducted for six components of the IWMP project i.e Entry Point Activity, Project Implementing Agency (PIA) & Watershed Development Team (WDT), Village level institution building, Detail Project Report, Natural Resource Management and Capacity building. The final evaluation report has been submitted to Additional CEO and JDA Pune.
- Quarterly progress reporting (all four quarters) of 31 projects completed. Final reports were submitted to Additional CEO and JDA Pune.
- Community based monitoring conducted in 1 watershed committee on a half yearly basis
- Concurrent Process monitoring and Compliance Tracking monitoring completed in 15 projects respectively

Verification of Entry Point Activity during Preparatory Phase Evaluation Batch -IV in Ahmednagar District



Climate Change Accelerated land-Water bio-diversity degradation and Mitigation Measures & Adaptive Approach for Enhanced Agricultural Production in selected villages” of Korba block of Korba district, Chhattisgarh

Climate Resilient Development: Adaptation and Mitigation approaches

Human induced climate change is manifesting in an increase in average temperatures, changes in precipitation, frequency and intensity of extreme weather events like droughts, floods etc. Concerned about the adverse impacts of climate change on water resources, agriculture, food security, livelihoods, human health and biodiversity, the Government of India seeks to build capacities to cope with these adverse impacts. “Integrated approaches to inclusive, sustainable, and climate resilient growth and development” form part of the recommended approach. Encouraged are measures that promote development objectives which also result in co-benefits for addressing climate change.

Outputs and Outcomes

Strengthening livelihoods by creating access to irrigation

- Six 5% farm ponds constructed and one 5% farm pond renovated providing 46 acres access to critical irrigation.
- 2 community ponds constructed and 2 community ponds renovated providing 10 acres access to critical irrigation
- 1 canal constructed providing access to critical irrigation to 40 acres.
- 1 farm well constructed providing access to critical irrigation

The BALCO-AFPRO Partnership: Coverage & Approach

Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO) is an Indian aluminium company. Committed to social development of communities residing around its operating plants, BALCO partnered with AFPRO for implementation of a unique climate resilient approach to development in 4 villages, Korba district, Chhattisgarh. Support for capacity building is being provided by NABARD. Initiated in 2016, the project aims to reduce the vulnerability of approximately 800 rural communities to climate change by strengthening farm based livelihoods. Here conservation and management of surface water resources is the main approach. Inclusion of observed changes in climate, especially changes in climate variability, stakeholder engagement in problem analysis and need assessment, and joint reconnaissance surveys have strengthened an understanding of local issues and challenges and shaped the formulation of implementation strategies.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way Forward

Since, agriculture is sensitive to the adverse impacts of climate change, livelihoods of rural communities reliant on it, too, are vulnerable. Despite, awareness on access to adequate water in strengthening farm based livelihoods and continuous engagement of communities in decision making processes, locals were reluctant to provide land for construction of surface water bodies. Here, regular community mobilization was undertaken to convince them to contribute land. Further, access to critical irrigation and additional livelihood opportunities will strengthen local confidence, encourage efficient resource utilization, build adaptive capacities and generate additional demand. Skills and knowledge on efficient use of surface water, climate resilient agricultural practices, and operation and maintenance of structures including regular de-siltation and treatment of the catchments with biophysical measures need to be undertaken subsequently.

Construction of 5 % model pond in Bishram field



Periodic Evaluation of CNB Series (Cement Nala Bunds)

Sustainable Management of Natural Resources: Soil and water conservation

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development emphasizes on the sustainable management of natural resources including soil and water. However, water scarcity and droughts are increasing, impacting poverty, economic growth etc. Crops are failing, livestock dying and people forced to migrate. Proper management of water and creation of adequate storage and distribution and infrastructure can help address water scarcity. Soil and water conservation measures, part of watershed programmes, have successfully demonstrated their ability to regenerate water resources, recharge groundwater levels and improve moisture availability.

Findings of the Evaluation

- The quality of the CNBs was satisfactory
- CNBs have increased water storage and retention capacities. Groundwater levels in the influenced wells remained within 2-3 meters from the ground level.
- Improvement in area under agriculture (kharif and rabi season). Multiple cropping documented due to enhanced water availability.
- Farmers Groups formed for the operation and maintenance of CNBs. However, capacity building is required, especially on watershed approaches – treatment of upstream areas.

Supporting the Government of Maharashtra: Coverage & Approach

The Government of Maharashtra (GoM) through the Water Conservation Department has constructed 1500 cement nala bunds in 15 talukas of six districts of Maharashtra. An independent monitoring of these bunds is part of the GoM implementation strategy. Initiated in 2014, AFPRO was selected to monitor the construction and impact of 33 CNBs in 8 villages, Purandar taluka, Pune district, Maharashtra. The methodology included selection of beneficiaries, physical verification, groundwater monitoring through observation wells, siltation analysis and structured interviews. The observations and recommendations have been shared with the Water Resources Department for strengthening of approaches, implementation strategies and replication in other areas.



Increased water storage due to CNB Construction

WATER AUGMENTATION PROJECT

Sustainable Water Resource Management Programme

Sustainable Water Resources Management: A water augmentation approach

Water resources have been historically regarded as essential for a good agricultural output and adequate food supply for the people. Irrigation enables greater agricultural production than is achieved under rainfed conditions. With utilizable water resources fixed and demands for water for different uses increasing, the Government of India has recommended sustainable water resources management. Here increasing the supply of water and managing water demand is crucial.

Outputs and Outcomes

Improving access to critical irrigation by harvesting rainwater in surface water bodies

- 2 earthen and 2 masonry stop dams constructed
- 3 earthen dams renovated
- 2 waste weir constructed
- Field bunding in 7 ha completed
- 95 sprinkler irrigation sets installed
- 1,61,860 cum water storages capacity created



West weir at Tilai on earthen bund

The Rio Tinto – AFPRO Collaboration: Coverage & Approach

Rio Tinto is a leading Global Mining Group that focuses on finding, mining and processing the Earth's mineral resources. Committed to sustainable development initiatives like solar based drinking water supply schemes, water harvesting, strengthening Anganwadi and health services. Rio Tinto collaborated with AFPRO for implementation of a project in 15 backward villages, Chhatrapur district, Madhya Pradesh. Initiated in 2016, water augmentation by storing excess rainwater in ponds, dams etc. has been actively encouraged.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way forward

Participatory approaches can contribute significantly to long term sustainability of development. Here, local communities and their institutions (Village Water Development Committees) participated in identification of technological solutions, selection of sites and monitoring of implementation work. Due to topographical and technical surveys, technically sound interventions have been implemented, addressing sustainability concerns. The impact includes an increase in access to critical irrigation (kharif and rabi season), groundwater recharge, reduced shortages of water, employment generation and a reduced burden on women. However, focus on treatment of catchments with biophysical measures will reduce siltation, improve the efficiency of the structures and ensure sustainability.



Dug well development at Veerampura for drinking water scheme

Water Conservation Structures

Sustainable Water Resources Management: A water augmentation approach

Water has always been the most necessary resource for life on earth and therefore human development. Water resources are required for agriculture and food production. Groundwater resources sustain a significant and increasing share of irrigated agricultural production. However, overexploitation of ground water for irrigation has led to lowering of water tables, reducing its potential for future use. A combination of water resource management approaches are being advocated to ensure sustainability of the resource. These include development of surface water and demand management.



Construction of anicut

Coca Cola India Pvt Ltd and AFPRO: Coverage and Approach

Coca-Cola India Pvt Ltd, is a subsidiary of The Coca-Cola Company, USA. Recognizing a responsibility towards communities residing in areas where it operates, it is committed to sustainable development and inclusive growth-focusing on water, environment and healthy living. Partnering with AFPRO in 2015, a project on water conservation was successfully completed in 4 villages, Sawai Madhopur district, Rajasthan. However, since all the water conservation measures were completed post the monsoon season, the impact of the project on the lives and livelihoods of the rural communities was yet to be realised .

Impact

In 2016, an impact assessment was conducted to understand the benefits from the water conservation measures. Narrated by beneficiaries, the impact included creation of 556,45,553 liters of water storage; availability of water for life saving irrigation (kharif and rabi season), especially during dry spells; improvement in groundwater recharge and a resulting increase in groundwater levels; improvement in yield of bore wells during the summer season; increase in area under rabi crop (20 acres); increase in productivity of crop and subsequent increase in average annual incomes. The impacts have been excellent, long lasting and far reaching, generating a demand for water conservation measures in adjoining villages. Confident, Coca Cola India has approved a new project in the adjoining villages.



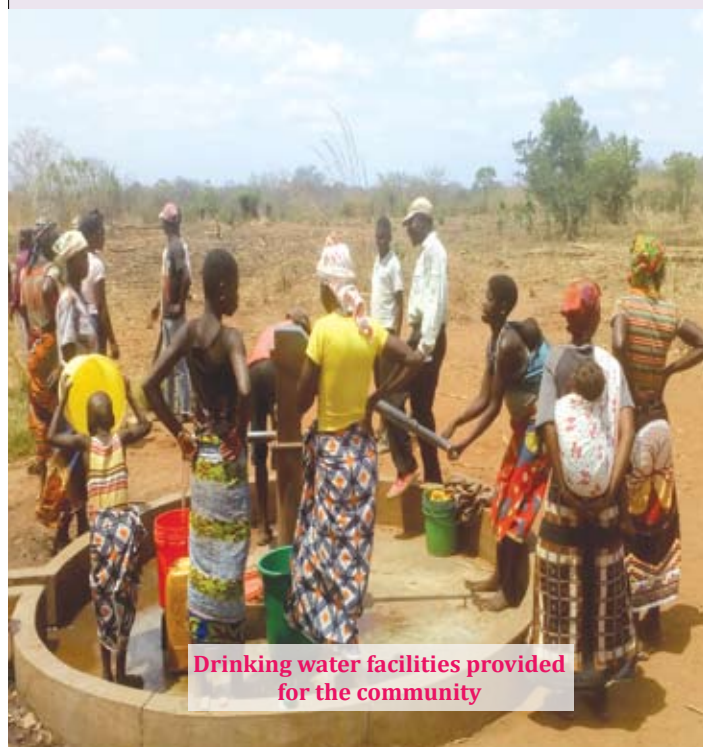
Mozambique Climate Resilience Project

Building Resilience to Climate Change: Watershed management approach

Production systems in Mozambique are agriculture based, primarily subsistence in nature, relying on traditional knowledge, with limited or no access to improved agricultural practices and water resource management techniques. Climate Change induced climate variability poses serious challenges to this production system due to increased frequency and intensity of extreme climatic events, changes in temperature and precipitation patterns. Here, it is the small farm holders who are the most vulnerable. The key goals of adaptation strategies are to reduce vulnerability to climate-induced change and to sustain and enhance the livelihoods of poor people.

Outputs and Outcomes

- 4 farm ponds and 1 retention wall constructed
- 2755 m of water absorption trenches constructed
- 1 spring developed for drinking water
- 63 cotton farmers trained on farm mechanization techniques
- 17 trainings camps conducted on improved animal husbandry practices – vaccination, health, feed etc.
- Group formation for promotion of livestock based livelihoods (goats and poultry) initiated in all four villages.
- 16 youth trained as Village Health Workers. Exposure and training on practical aspects provided on deworming, vaccination etc



Drinking water facilities provided for the community

The IDH-AFPRO Collaboration

IDH Sustainable Trade Initiative is a foundation based in Netherlands, collaborating with various stakeholders for promoting economically viable options for green and inclusive growth. IDH extended its long association with AFPRO, requesting our socio-technical assistance in building the resilience of 4 villages in Mozambique to climate change. The project is being implemented by four local partners of IDH with technical support extended by AFPRO. Fundamental approaches of the watershed, development of agriculture and allied activities and community level capacity building were introduced. Participatory approaches – rapid rural assessments, baseline surveys, consultations with farmers etc were also relied on to build awareness on project interventions and mobilize their support.

Sustainability: Challenges and Way forward

In Mozambique all land remains as the state property. There are about 3.9 million households in the country and about 80% of them have some form of small-scale agricultural holding roughly 0.5 ha to 1.5 ha which they cultivate for sustenance. Besides, the government has allocated vast tract of land to big farmers and concessionaires to encourage agribusiness activities and to bring the land into productive system. Given the importance of rain-fed agriculture both as a source of employment and its contribution to total household incomes, reducing rural poverty in the short-run may require more investments in the agricultural sectors supporting sustainable and inclusive growth through direct support to small holder groups and other supply chain participants via adoption of improved technologies and irrigation use/water conservation technologies, creating small agriculture water infrastructure like small scale irrigation, promoting off farm employment opportunities, and management of the community forest, strengthening the capacities of the farm families, sustainable management of the natural resources, capacity building, including on farm demonstration and beneficiary training programmes.



Construction of water absorption trenches

Socio-Technical Support: Ground Water Investigation

AFPRO partnered with World Vision India this year for ground water investigation in 117 villages, ADP Jamui Bihar. Access to adequate drinking water was the main problem in these villages. In order to solve this problem, World Vision took the short term technical support of AFPRO. This included a technical feasibility study (hydro-geological investigation) and monitoring and supervision of proposed interventions. Here, 50 sites were surveyed for development of groundwater. Geophysical instruments like the Abemterrameter, SAS-300 in addition to interpretation of geological, hydro-geological maps and Toposheets, observation of different kinds of rock trends in field, lithology, lithostratigraphy etc were relied on. 40 appropriate sites were recommended for development of groundwater resources. Hand pumps, too have been installed under the technical supervision of AFPRO and they are successfully providing drinking water to more than 1500 families.



GWI for borewell site selection at Dorsa Village of Chakai Block ADP-Jamui



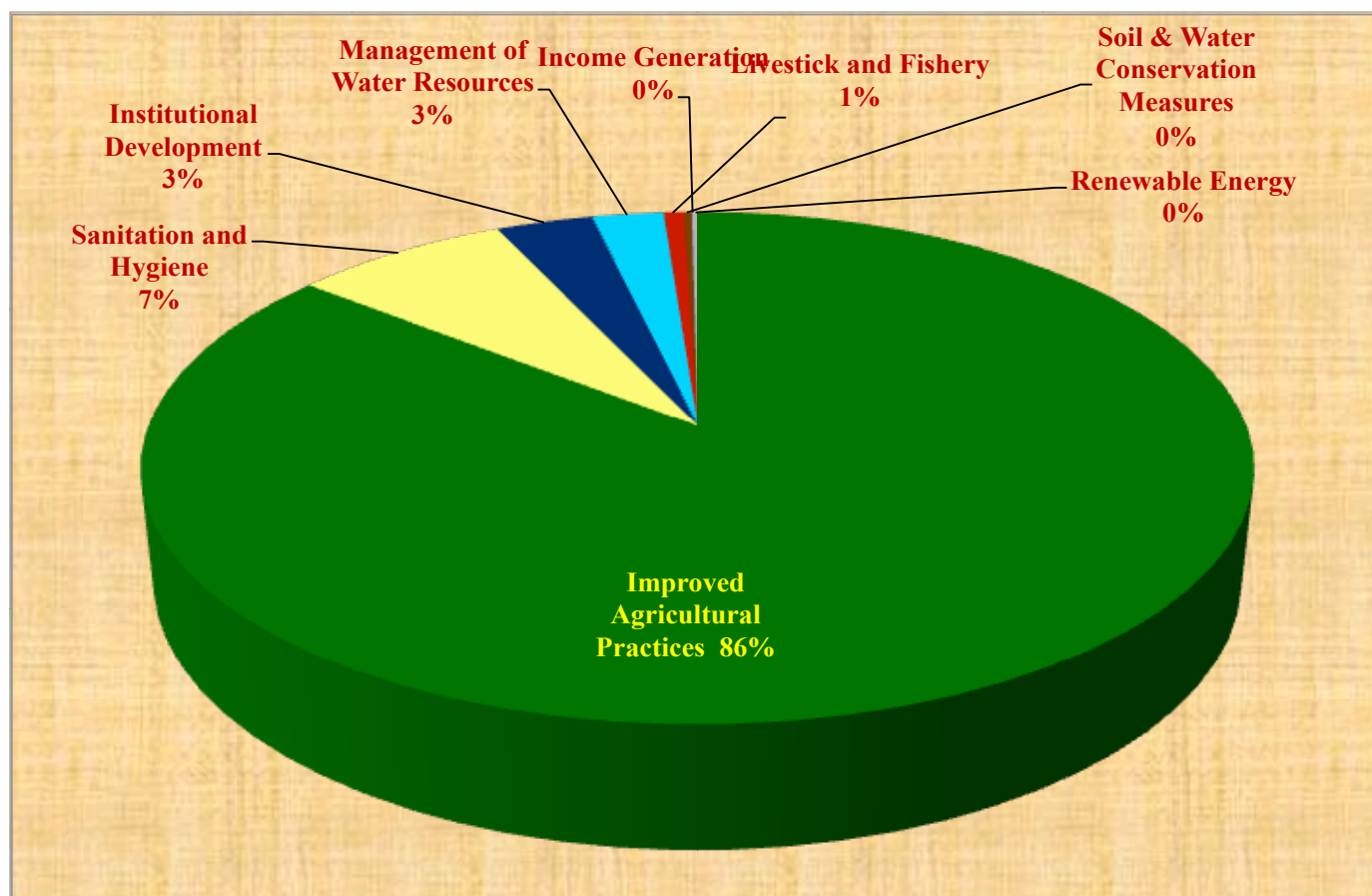
Verification of Hand Pumps ADP-Jamui

HUMAN & INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Humans and Institutions are fundamental to the development process with enlargement of people's choices and enhancement of human capabilities is integral to sustainable development, enabling people to act to advance their own well-being and contribute to economic growth. Capacity building and institutional development aim at empowering all interested parties, particularly local authorities, private sector, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations to play an effective role in planning and management.

Capacity building programmes are conducted by the organization for building capacities of communities, institutions and stakeholders with whom we work (farmers, members of the Panchayati Raj, village committees, user groups, school children, women, non - government organizations and corporates). The content of the trainings is especially designed to meet the needs of the community and includes areas of food security and livelihoods, water and sanitation, watershed management and renewable energy. In addition, internal capacities are periodically built to update knowledge and skills with latest technological advancements. Staff is provided regular internal orientations, attending external trainings, exposure, meetings, workshops and consultations.

Theme based representation of AFPRO Capacity Building activities



Improved agricultural practices	57936	Livestock and Fishery	470
Sanitation and Hygiene	5015	Soil and Water Conservation mesaures	180
Institutional Development	2227	Income Generation	78
Management of Water Resources	1638	Renewable energy	60

AWARDS & APPRECIATIONS

Bagging the Vanashree Award:

AFPRO through its Regional Office in Ahmednagar has been implementing a project “Improving Lives of People through Participatory Management of Environmental Resources (Water & Greening)” in partnership with Mondelez India Foods Pvt Ltd in 5 villages of Induri district, Maharashtra. One of the key components of the project is development of green cover in open land, schools and along roadsides with the active participation of the local community. Recognizing the outstanding work in increasing local green cover, the Government of Maharashtra honored Kanhewadi Tarfe Chakan village with the prestigious Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vanashree Award of the Forest Department for plantation of 1600 trees. The Grampanchayat Sarpanch and Grampanchayat members of Kanhewadi tarfe Chakan village received the award from Hon. Governor of Maharashtra, Mr. Vidyasagar Rao and Hon. Chief Minister of Maharashtra Mr. Devendraji Fadnavis on the occasion of International Forest Day (21st March) at Mumbai-the only village in the State to receive this award. It is a proud moment for AFPRO as this project is a clear example of the significance of creating strong partnerships with multiple stakeholders – Gram Sabha, Civil Society and Corporates. Hearty congratulation to the AFPRO – Ahmednagar team for its inspirational effort!



**Receiving
Vanashree
Award**

Jalgram Pariyojna wins the “Best India CSR Project Award”:

AFPRO through its Regional Office in Raipur has been implementing a project titled “Jalgram Pariyojna” with the support of BALCO in 4 villages of Korba district, Chhattisgarh. The project is focused on harnessing the potential of abundant rainfall through development of surface water – construction of dams, ponds etc. With cumulative storage capacity of 20,499,000 liters created, the project has contributed to transforming the livelihoods of marginalized farmers by providing them with access to critical irrigation during the kharif season and the ability to cultivate an additional crop in the rabi season. Appreciating the commendable work, Shri T.B. Jayachandra, Hon Minister of Law, Parliamentary Affairs & Higher Education, Govt of Karnataka and Dr Bhaskar Chatterjee, DG & CEO, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) presented BALCO with the “Best India CSR Project” at a glittering award ceremony held on 27th August, 2016 in Bangalore. The criteria followed for awarding the points were the process followed, water management, quantum of additional water available, water security, improved and climate resilient agricultural practices and enhancement of people’s income. The letter of appreciation received from BALCO, thanking AFPRO team for its continuous support in implementation of the project and achieving the envisaged goal of transforming lives of people is a source of motivation for all those associated with the project, encouraging us to make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate. Hearty Congratulation to AFPRO – Raipur team for their hard work and dedication!



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ACTION FOR FOOD PRODUCTION : NEW DELHI BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2017

Particulars	31st March 2017 (Rs.)
SOURCES OF FUNDS	
Head Office Account	-
Excess of Expenses over Income	-
Funds and Reserve	56,310,263.08
Programme Balances	65,418,776.88
TOTAL	121,729,039.96
APPLICATION OF FUNDS	
A) Fixed Assets	
i) Gross Block	59,847,087.31
ii) Less: Depreciation	49,490,630.69
iii) Net Block	10,356,456.62
iv) Capital Work in Progress	-
	10,356,456.62
B) Investments	48,202,233.00
C) Current Assets	
i) Interest Accrued on Deposits	2,036,017.05
ii) Recoverables & Prepaid Expenses	4,515,529.71
iii) Cash & Bank Balances	63,660,758.37
	70,212,305.13
D) Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions	7,041,954.79
Net Current Assets	63,170,350.34
TOTAL	121,729,039.96
Significant Accounting Policies & Notes to the Accounts	

The Schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Balance Sheet.

As per Books of Account,
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: 11.09.2017

ACTION FOR FOOD PRODUCTION : NEW DELHI
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2017

Particulars	31 st March 2017 (Rs.)
INCOME	
Programme Contributions	885,809.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	617,087.00
Sale / Disposal of Assets / Old Items	477,010.00
Interest - Savings & Deposits	941,011.55
Total	2,920,917.55
EXPENDITURE	
Core Integrated Development Programme	
Human and Institutional Development	268,906.70
Socio - Technical Personnel Cost	28,243,918.21
Outreach Support	1,178,717.85
Information Services	395,776.00
Administrative Cost	
Admn. - Personnel Cost	6,849,350.25
Outreach Support	130,735.50
Office Exepenses	4,788,114.36
Hired Services	1,940,312.00
Capital Expenses	43,530.00
ED's Discretionary Fund	50,000.00
	43,889,360.87
Excess of Expenditure over Income Transferred to :	
Programme Fund	(40,968,443.32)
Total	2,920,917.55
Significant Accounting Policies & Notes to the Accounts	

The Schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Income & Expenditure Account.

As per Books of Account,
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: 11.09.2017

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 than one year, is credited directly to the general reserve.
- e) Foreign Contributions are accounted for on the basis of the credit advice received from the bank.

(iii) Fixed Assets :

Fixed Assets are stated in the Balance Sheet net of depreciation, with a corresponding credit to the Capital Fund Account. Assets received as donation in kind, are incorporated at a value stated by the donor and adjusted for depreciation.

The cost of assets is charged in full to the relevant programme in the year of acquisition. Cost of acquisition is inclusive of freight, duties, levies and any directly attributable cost of bringing the assets to their working condition for intended use.

(iv) Depreciation :

Depreciation on fixed assets are charged on the Written Down Value (WDV) method at the rates prescribed under the Income Tax Rules with a credit of the assets account and correspondingly reflected in the Capital Fund Account.

(v) Investments :

Investments include long term fixed deposits having a maturity period exceeding one year at the time of placing the deposit and reflects principal amount placed as deposit. Mutual funds reflects the amount invested.

(vi) Retirement Benefits :

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

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

Gratuity payments are covered under the Group Gratuity Scheme of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). The premium paid during the year is charged to revenue.

2. NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

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

Multi-dimensional Approach to Sustainable Development



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ODISHA

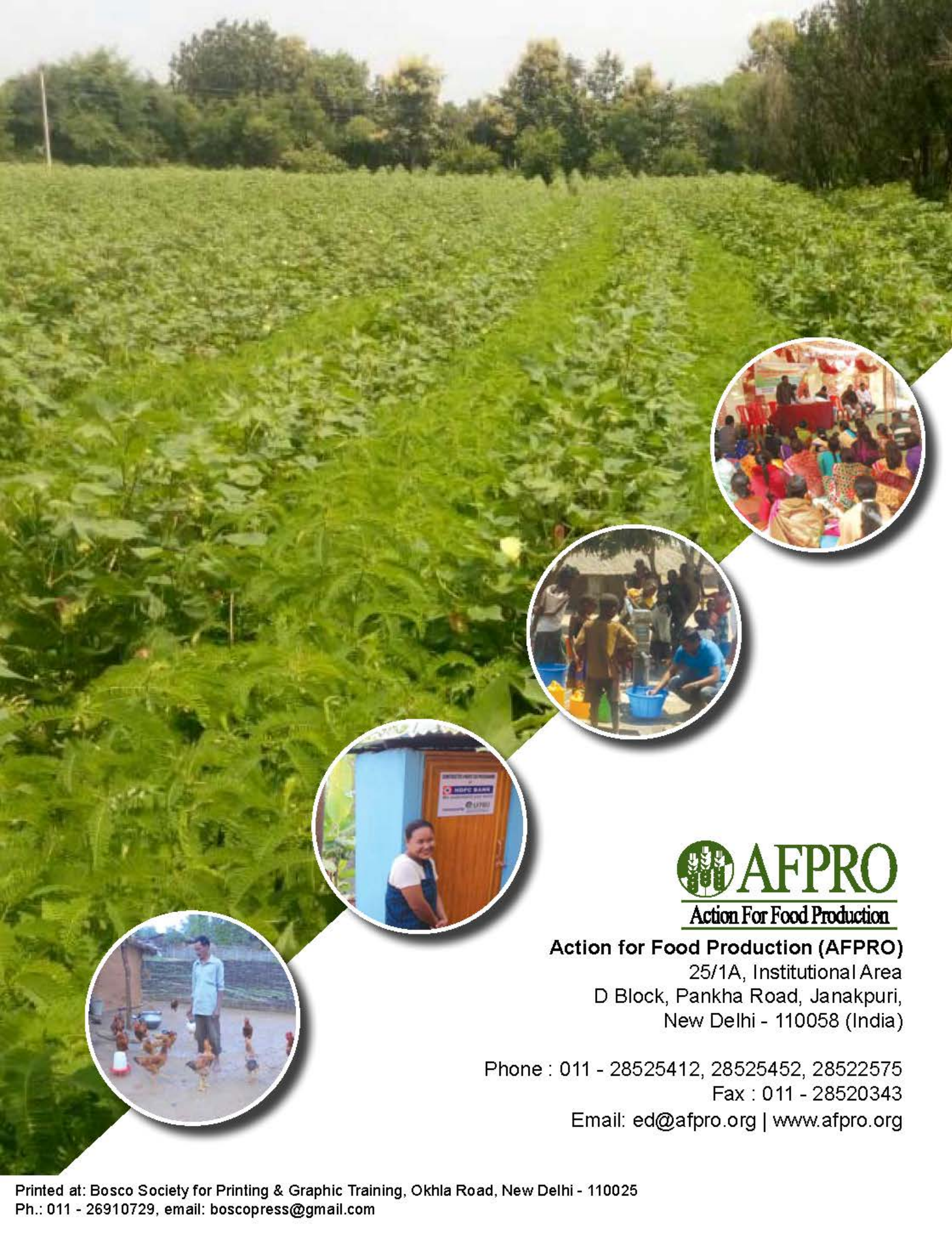
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AFPRO in India





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