



Annual Report
2018–19

Empowering farmers towards
agro-ecology drought mitigation
and sustainable livelihoods
in Ananthapuramu



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Salil Sakhalkar





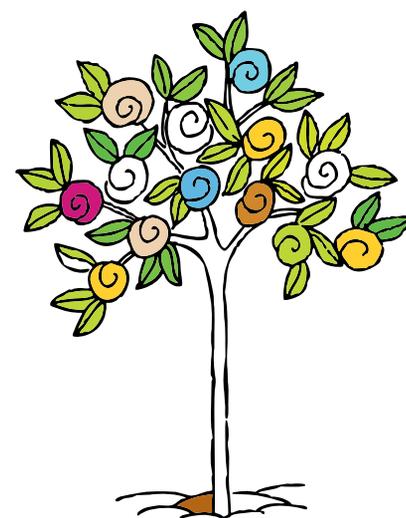
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Acronyms

AF	Accion Fraterna
AGEEWA	Achieving Gender Equality through Empowerment of Women in Agriculture
APDMP	Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project
APGB	Andhra <i>Pragathi Grameena</i> Bank
APWALTA	Andhra Pradesh Water Land and Trees Act
ANGRAU	Acharya N. G. Ranga Agricultural University
ADATS	Agricultural Development and Training Society
APMAS	Andhra Pradesh <i>Mahila Abhivruddhi</i> Society
AP-MARKFED	Andhra Pradesh Marketing Federation
ASMS	Apex <i>Sasya Mitra Samakhya</i>
BC	Backward Classes
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CMSS	Community Managed Seed System
CRZBNF	Climate Resilient Zero Budget Natural Farming
DPMU	District Project Management Units
FAs	Facilitating Agencies
FPO	Farmer Producer Organisations
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit German Society for International Cooperation
GSMS	<i>Grama Sasya Mitra Samakhya</i>
HEIDA	High External Input Destructive Agriculture
HMV	Heavy Motor Vehicle
HNSS	<i>Handri Neeva Sujala Sravanthi</i>
HRP	Human Resource Policy
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IWMP	Integrated Watershed Management Programme
ICRISAT	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics

IGP	Income Generation Programme
JLG	Joint Liability Groups
KVK	<i>Krishi Vignan Kendre</i>
KfW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau - Reconstruction Credit Institute
LFA	Lead Facilitating Agency
LMV	Light Motor Vehicle
LEISA	Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MSMS	<i>Mandal Sasya Mitra Samakhya</i>
MVK	<i>Mana Vitthana Kendram</i> ("Our Seed Centre")
MACS	Mutually Aided Cooperative Society
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
OD	Organisation Development
PPC	Primary Processing Centres
RDT	Rural Development Trust
RySS	<i>Rythu Saadhikara Samstha</i>
SDP	Sustainable Development Plan
SPMU	State Project Management Units
SMG	<i>Sasya Mitra Group</i>
SC	Scheduled Caste
ST	Scheduled Tribe
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UG	User Groups
VCP	Value Chain Project
WDC	Watershed Development Committee
VWDC	Village Watershed Development Committee
WASSAN	Watershed Support Services and Activities Network



The interventions during 2018-19, gave a definitive direction to the projects and offered several interesting opportunities to move forward. The interventions were reported project-wise. This annual report presents an overview of the projects being implemented and initiatives by Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre.

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M. Shaikshavali



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Overview from the Director

Climate change is happening at a much faster than predicted by the Climate Scientists. The year 2018-19 has recorded a disastrous 41% reduction in rainfall in Ananthapuramu District. And it was thoroughly ill-distributed, affecting not only farmers, but all livelihoods in rural areas.

This high climate variability is not limited to this year! For the past 20 years or so, the weather patterns have been erratic and unpredictable. Important trends in weather patterns have been,

- a. number of rainy days have come down from about 30 in a year to about 20 days
- b. intensity of rainfall has increased
- c. dry-spells between rain-events have increased
- d. dispersion of rainfall has increased, shifting rainfall from crop-season to non-crop season
- e. the duration of summer season has lengthened.

These changes have resulted in consecutive crop failures (droughts). It has caused prolonged and profound impact on livelihoods in rural areas, particularly farmers.

The farmers distress deepened, distress migration increased and farming is being abandoned! The big challenge is to make the agriculture climate resilient, that too in a chronically drought-hit arid and semi-arid region of Ananthapuramu. Our interventions efforts in this direction has certainly

given us a hope. However a favourable policy environment and a scaling up of the interventions seem to be essential! So, our focus is much on scaling up the proven technologies and practices and securing a favourable policy environment.

The projects — Sustainable Agriculture and Diversified Livelihoods, Climate Resilient Zero Budget Natural Farming (CRZBNF), Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project (APDMP), Value Chain Benefit Project offer us an opportunity to demonstrate the climate resilient technologies and practices on a visible scale and access to Government forums for lobbying towards favourable policies and programmes in this direction.

Our efforts with under-educated rural youth and women in promoting skill based non-farm employment or self-employment – like driving motor cycle repairs, cell phone repairs, garment making, nano-enterprises for women have shown positive impact. However there is big need for scaling up such efforts given the crises in farm sector.

Monthly savings and revolving credit by *Sasya Mitra Groups* (SMGs) have been growing consistently, in spite of the economic distress, distress migration etc. It has grown by March 31, 2019 to a tune of ₹53.7 million by about 18,000 families. Every month about 2500 families from SMGs are borrowing from ₹5,000 to ₹25,000 from their savings. This year our facilitation of SMGs focused on encouraging credit for non-farm livelihood activities. Many women who borrowed

initiated what we called home-based nano-enterprises like garment business, petty shop, mobile shops etc. with earnings of ₹200 to ₹500 per day. This sector with women has an immense potential and we plan to scale it up.

Farmers Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies (MACS) also known as Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) have been strengthened with capacity building and institutional development in preparation for taking up farm-sector business activities. Meanwhile a Value Chain Benefit Project has been initiated in collaboration with ICRISAT with Walmart Foundation as its back donor. This project envisages to setup 4 Primary Processing Centres (PPCs) by 4 MACS and a secondary processing unit (SPC) by the apex federation of MACS for secondary processing groundnut and red gram.

This year we invested considerable time and effort in equipping and strengthening our organisation in order to consolidate the new projects and take up the upcoming challenges. An Organisation Development (OD) process was facilitated by AUGEO, an OD Consultant group based in Bangalore. The OD process focussed on a) consolidating and integrating the new projects like CRZBNF, APDMP, VCB into the organisation Vision, Mission, Values b) Deepening the organisation culture and ethos c) revisiting and updating the Human Resource Policy (HRP) of the organisation. The process was highly participatory and inclusive of not only all levels of staff, but also the communities with whom we work.

The challenges before us like climate change, farmers' distress, and crisis among youth are gigantic! We are gearing up as an organisation to address these challenges. As we go along we learn from our own experiences and of others

and sharpen our policies and programmes to be relevant, effective and efficient in view of the changing needs and priorities of people with whom we are working.

I, on behalf of the people, staff and the Board of Trustees, earnestly thank Bread for the World, our core partner for their understanding and continued support for SADLP. I thank the Government of Andhra Pradesh, particularly Department of Agriculture, DWMA, Government of India, IFAD, APPI, NABARD, ICRISAT, Walmart Foundation, FCN for their financial support to various projects. Further, I thank RDT, ADATS, WASSAN, APMAS, KVKs, Regional Agriculture Research Stations and a network of activists, friends and well-wishers from CSOs, Government, practitioners and experts who have been with us in our efforts.

I wish to thank all the people, the SMGs, their federations, Farmers Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies, Watershed Development Committees etc., who have partnered with us in the fight against drought and poverty.

Last and most importantly, I thank our Board of Trustees and our personnel for working with passion in pursuing the Goals and Objectives of the organisation.



Dr. Y.V. Malla Reddy

Director

June 30, 2019



Introduction



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AF-EC

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre was founded by Father Vicente Ferrer in 1982 and is registered under the Indian Registration Act, 1908. Since its inception, AF-EC is working with poor rainfed farmers in order to find solutions to the problems of drought and poverty in this chronically drought affected Ananthapuramu district, Andhra Pradesh.

The solutions to drought and poverty include various technologies, practices and programs on agro-ecological sustainable agriculture, drought management, watershed development, job oriented training and skill building etc. Through its work over the years, AF-EC could demonstrate the effectiveness of community

centric approaches and practices for mitigating ill effects of drought and improving livelihood security. The program interventions offer multiple options to people for diversification of income opportunities across farm, off-farm and non-farm sectors. Through policy advocacy and community centric lobbying, Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre was able to mainstream of its experiences into government programs/schemes.

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre currently works directly with more than 40,000 families of small and marginal rainfed farmers and farm labour who live in 14 *mandals* (sub-divisions) of Ananthapuramu District: Atmakur, Beluguppa, Dharmavaram, Kalyandurg, Kuderu, Kundurpi, Rapthadu, Settur, Kanaganapalli, Ramagiri, Amarapuram, Brahmasamudram, Gummagatta and Kambadur.



Our Vision

“All people in rural areas lead a respectable and dignified life with economic security, social equity, gender equity, in an atmosphere of democracy, peace, cooperation and community support; and all the people and institutions live as ‘Eternal Trustees of Mother Earth’, and follow a culture of simple living and the ethics of conservation. Thus, people and nature live in harmony with each other, showing due care for sustainable ecology, environment and biodiversity.”

Our Mission

We are committed to free poor farmers from drought, poverty and distress; working,

- a) through their organisations with emphasis on women and youth
- b) promoting ecological farming and drought mitigation
- c) diversification of livelihoods with off-farm, non-farm and skill based employment/self-employment.

We are not alone!

We are not alone in this endeavour. We recognise that the farmer themselves, government, media, CSOs, research bodies, scientists, experts and others, are all working for the same cause and we endeavour to work with all the agencies closely for achieving our mission.

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre is a solidarity institution of Rural Development Trust, Ananthapuramu.

Our dharma

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre's guiding principles and code of conduct for itself and its staff:

Concern for others
Work beyond duty
Pursuit of excellence in work
Reaching as many needy people as possible

Our core values

Basic Human Values: Compassion, Concern, honesty, sincerity, hard work.

Social Equality and Gender Sensitivity: equality of human beings, particularly women, poor, disadvantaged.

Concern for Sustainable Ecology and Environment: bio-diversity, ethics of conservation, sustainability.

Relevant and learning: rooted in the local context, reflecting, learning and changing.

Participation and Team work: inclusive, participatory in decision making, planning and implementation.

Transparent and Accountable: transparency in all transactions and accountable to all stake holders.

Strategic Approach

Accion Fraterna's Strategic Approach integrates the following key aspects:

- ▶ Promoting vibrant peoples' institutions in order to actualise their own potential and access opportunities with Government Banks, Private sector, NGOs etc. Gender and Social equity are an integral part of people's institutions.
- ▶ Developing agro-ecological and climate smart farming systems, technologies and practices for coping with droughts and enabling livelihood security for drought-affected rainfed farmers. It includes off-farm, non-farm, skilled employment/self-employment for women and youth.
- ▶ Demonstrating effective proven and scalable practices, technologies and models at a visible scale to the farmers, Government functionaries, policy makers, CSOs, media etc.
- ▶ Public opinion building and policy advocacy for pro-poor and pro-environment policies and programmes.

Our Journey



1982

Generating awareness on poverty and development of dalits and tribals

Exclusive focus on dalits and tribals; improving awareness of government programs addressing poverty, illiteracy and health.

1986

From being farm labour to being farmers an upward social mobility

Focus on participatory development of dalit and tribal land-holdings for natural resource management, drought mitigation, soil and water conservation activities with the objective of mainstreaming dalits and tribals from farm labour to farming.

1995

Watershed development

Moved to area approach (micro watershed development) that covered all farmers, not just dalit and tribal, in the village. Micro watershed based natural resources development activities following ridge-valley treatment in order to improve natural resource endowment were undertaken.



2007

Focus on sustainable rainfed agriculture and small and marginal farmers

With the government's MGNREGS initiative and investment in watershed development, Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre shifted to focus on small & marginal farmers, rainfed agriculture in order to make it drought resilient viable and sustainable.

2017-2018

Drought mitigation, sustainable farming systems and diversified livelihoods

Intensified the work on drought mitigation technologies and cropping systems in rainfed agriculture and promoted skill based livelihoods. And started to grow as knowledge based resource organisation in Ananthapuramu eco-region for outscaling the interventions through multiple projects in which the Government of Andhra Pradesh is a key stakeholder.

2018-2019

Drought Mitigation, Sustainable Farming Systems, Diversified Livelihoods

A Value Chain Development Project in cooperation with ICRISAT, initiated with Walmart Foundation as its back donar

Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) also known as Mutually Aided Cooperatives locally came into prominence and started business processing and value addition services to the farmers.

The Drought mitigation, climate smart farming systems, diversification of livelihoods through off-farm, non-farm livelihoods with focus as women and youth intensified.

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Major interventions/ projects during 2018-19

Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture and Diversified Livelihoods

Brot
für die Welt

1 Sustainable Agriculture

This has been our core project, funded by “Bread for the World” Germany. It has made significant contribution for improving farmers’ livelihoods through **drought mitigation, sustainable agriculture and diversifying livelihoods.**

Moreover, it has been a spring board for implementing favourable policies and new projects for drought mitigation.

Objectives

- ▶ Form, promote and strengthen informal and formal farmers groups and organisations and enable them to be able to play a main role in the process of their development. Special emphasis of the project is on the socially economically backward (like SC, ST & BC) rainfed farmers and Gender.
- ▶ Research develop and design technologies and practices for drought mitigation; demonstrate, propagate and advocate with Government that such technologies and practices be scaled up.
- ▶ Design climate and drought resilient mixed cropping systems integrating perennial fruit tree crops and annual seasonal cereal food crops (millets and pulses).
- ▶ Promote agro-ecological farming with focus on rainfed crops with low cost and low external input and free from agro chemicals.



- ▶ Promote diversified livelihoods in order to create livelihood security for rainfed farmers and farm labour with particular focus on women and under educated youth.
- ▶ Facilitation and enabling of farmers groups and their institutions to effectively access Government programs for their development including the Banks and enabling them to lobby for favourable policies for agriculture, livelihoods, gender, environment etc.
- ▶ Policy advocacy for creating favourable policy environment to be favourable for farmers in general and rainfed farmers and farm labour in particular.

| Outreach

- ▶ Directly reaching out to 20,000 drought – affected farmers (nearly 1,00,000 population) in 230 villages in Ananthapuramu District.

- ▶ Bulk of the 20,000 families are from socially and economically disadvantaged like SC, ST and other Backward communities.
- ▶ Women among the families and under educated youth are particularly focused.

| Highlights

- ▶ Under this project 830 informal *Sasya Mitra* Groups (SMGs) have been organised covering 20,000 families. Over 60% of the members are women in SMGs. They are practicing monthly savings and credit. The savings have increased from ₹33 million last year to ₹53.7 million this year.
- ▶ The SMGs are lending credit every month to approximately 2,500 of their own members for improving their livelihoods. The lending amount ranged from ₹5,000/- to ₹25,000/-. The recoveries are almost 100%.

- ▶ Eight Farmers Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies (MACS) have been organised and formally registered under AP Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies Act, 1995. As on March 31st 2019. 11,681 members from SMGs were enrolled with ₹110/- as a membership fee and 4,410 shareholders were enrolled with ₹1,000/- as share capital.
- ▶ The 8 Farmers Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies (MACS) were involved in community Managed Seed System (MSS) by accessing 5,349 quintals of quality seed produced in their own villages and benefitting 4,832 families. Under the same program 6,225 families accessed as many seed kits containing 5 types of quality seeds of millets and pulses.
- ▶ Three farmers Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies were involved in procuring the red gram produce from farmers at MSP (Minimum Support Price) at ₹5,500/- on behalf of the Government. They procured 12,564 quintals of red gram from 1,595 farmers and each farmer benefitted ₹2,000/- per quintal.
- ▶ As the farmers Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies began to procure the red gram from farmers at ₹5,500/- per quintal, the open market price also increased from ₹3,500/- to ₹5,000/- and by that thousands of farmers benefitted by enhanced market rate.
- ▶ A total of 375 FFS sessions were conducted with rainfed farmers. 966 farmers participated of them 615 are women.
- ▶ Nine hundred and seventy farmers have demonstrated higher yields from climate and drought resilient improved varieties of red gram, castor and groundnut seed in 1070 acres. Approximately 20,000 farmers were exposed to the demonstrations.
- ▶ Two hundred and eighty four families cultivated improved variety of fodder in 491 acres in order to ease fodder problem for their livestock and cattle.
- ▶ Seventy farmers have lined their farm ponds with cement and stored water for protective irrigation and save the crop from drought. Approximately 3,500 farmers were



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AF-EC

exposed to the lined farm ponds in order to popularize farm pond as an important measure for drought mitigation

- ▶ One hundred and fifty nine farmers sown crops successfully in time using Row Watering and Sowing method in 328 acres; this technology was demonstrated to 5,000 farmers. This technology is developed by AF-EC in order to sow the crops in time when the rains fail in sowing season which is July.
- ▶ Five hundred and thirty three farmers provided protective irrigation in 1,559 acres and saved the crops from drought. This technology was demonstrated to over 10,000 farmers, Government officers, Policy makers, NGOs and Research Bodies.
- ▶ Contingency crops were sown by 3,583 farmers (who could not sow main crop because of lack of rain in sowing season (July) covering 9,064 acres with horse gram and jowar and produced fodder and some grain yields also.
- ▶ Gap filling was done by 994 farmers in their fruit tree crops with 15,682 with drought tolerant fruit plants like mango, sapota, guava, jamun, amla etc.
- ▶ Dry land horticulture has been promoted with 21,362 drought tolerant fruit trees like mango, sapota, guava, jamun, amla etc. benefitting 130 farmers.
- ▶ Cycle seeders were availed and used by 382 families to reduce drudgery for women and save costs of weeding and seeding.
- ▶ 3,417 three layered bags were availed by 3,000 farmers for storing seeds and grains.

Wider impacts beyond the project

- ▶ SADL Project has been a spring board of many innovative technologies and practices in agriculture. These technologies and practices are essentially low cost, practical, effective and economically remunerative. AF-EC also gives wide publicity to the proven technologies and practices. So, they are being scaled up by farmers themselves. The Government has adopted them in their programmes, impacting farmers across the state of Andhra Pradesh.

- ▶ Mono-cropping of groundnut is changing to crop diversity with millets, pulses and oil seeds creating food and nutritional security to the families.
- ▶ Protective irrigation is being scaled up by thousands of farmers themselves across the project area and crops are saved from droughts.
- ▶ Protective irrigation is being implemented in Government projects like APDMP and CRZBNF across the state of Andhra Pradesh.
- ▶ Farm ponds as a measure of drought mitigation is being implemented by Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- ▶ Improved high-yielding varieties of castor, red gram and groundnut are adopted across the project area.
- ▶ Rainfed horticulture is being supported by Government under various programmes with drought tolerant trees like mango, guava, sapota, jamun, custard apple etc.
- ▶ Cycle seeder cum weeders, 3 layer bags are non-available in the market and widely used by farmers.

Learnings

- ▶ It is also hard to inculcate organisational culture in CBOs like Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) among the Board of Directors or managing councils. They tend to behave as individuals and conduct their business informally as opposed to functioning as a formal organisation.
- ▶ It is also hard to inculcate a sense of "Serving others" among the CBO leaders. They tend to think the CBO is to serve themselves, not others.

Please visit: af-ecologycentre.org





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Nagappa

Success Stories

1 SMG members availed loan from Banks and improved livelihood activity

Photo credit
M. Shaikshavali



Mrs. Alivelamma W/o Ganganna is the convener of a *Sasya Mitra* Group in Sanapa Village, Thopudurthi Cluster in Atmakuru Mandal. Her family consists of her husband and two school going children, one son and a daughter. The major income source for the family was agriculture labour. In agriculture season, Alivelamma and Ganganna could earn ₹150/- each per day only for 10 to 15 days in a month which was barely sufficient to maintain their family. They were unable to pay for education of the children.

The SMG Alivelamma belongs has 25 members and, is functioning since 4 years, have a savings amount of ₹1,50,000/-. Alivelamma had taken loan from the group for her children education. Alivelamma wanted to buy buffalos for taking up dairy activity. But the SMG was unable to give big loans for investing in such livelihood activity.

During the year 2019-20, Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre facilitated Bank credit from Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank (APGB) to 50 deserving women farmers for taking up dairy activity in Gandlaparthi, G. Kottapalli, Bukkacharla, Sanapa villages. Interested women were identified and formed into Joint Liability Groups (JLG) of 5 women per group and applied to the Bank for loans. After proper appraisal, the Bank had given loans to the 10 JLGs (50 women) for purchasing milch animals. Each member was given ₹50,000 each. Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre had facilitated this process. These women were trained in managing dairy animals and marketing the milk through RUDSETI. AF-EC also provided fodder seed, so that they cultivate their own fodder needed for animals. All the women have made good use of the opportunity and earned incomes through dairy activity.

Alivelamma joined a JLG with 4 others from her SMG and got a loan of ₹50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand only) from the Bank. She purchased one buffalo and started dairy activity with her husband's support.

Every day she got 9 litres of milk from the buffalo. She kept one litre for her family consumption and sold 8 litres to milk vendor at ₹50/- per litre. She earned ₹400/- per day, i.e ₹12,000/- per month. The expenditure of feed, fodder and medicines was ₹6000/- per month. She repaid the loan regularly with monthly instalment of ₹3,000/- per month. The net monthly income was ₹3,000/- which she used for household expenditure and also saved for her children education.

Alivelamma is planning to repay the loan earlier than the schedule and avail another loan for buying one more buffalo, so that her income would double. Now Alivelamma's family has two sources of income, one from Milch animals and other from Agri labour. Now she saves money for her family future needs.

"I am happy now as I have some regular income. I thank Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre and APGB for giving me loan. My children are going to school happily. I am now confident that I can improve the dairy activity and save enough money for my children education. My SMG also provides me a loan up to ₹ 10,000 at any time for unforeseen needs" says Alivelamma.

Like Alivelamma the other 49 women are also earning similarly. The 50 families are able to cope with droughts and avoided distress migration. They are able to meet their basic needs, including health and education of their children. Their family nutritional is also enhanced with milk consumption. "More important is that our self-esteem and social status has gone up not only in the family but also in our village" the women say in chorus.

2 Sasya Mithra Group's Mini Bank and Mutual Cooperation turns a new leaf in their lives!

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre is promoting monthly savings, credit support and mutual cooperation among members of *sasyamitra* groups (SMGs) to improve their livelihoods. The two SMGs in Singampalli village, Atmakuru mandal have broken a new ground in their livelihoods with savings, credit and mutual cooperation. The following are the details of those SMGs.



Photo credit
M. Shaikshavali

Name of the group	BC Metta	BC Thota
Number of members in the group	22 Members	23 Members
Number of women in the group	17	18
Name of the convener	Ms. Naga Lakshmi	Ms. Ramanjinamma
Name of the co-convener	Malrayudu	Dhanunjaya
Monthly savings amount	₹ 100/-	₹ 100/-
Total savings amount accumulated as on date	₹ 2,30,943/-	₹ 2,25,050/-
Number of members availed loans till now	19	20

Savings and loans

In the year 2016, Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre staff suggested these SMGs to utilize savings for livelihood activities instead of petty loans for consumption. They started lending loans to needy members for improving livelihoods. There are 45 members in these two groups, as on date 39 members taken loans and purchased cows, sheep and investment in agriculture leading to improved economic condition. They re-paid loans regularly so that the same can be loaned to other members. The SMGs have framed some rules to ensure better loan utilization and repayments.

Some of the rules are:

- ▶ The maximum loan amount for any livelihood activity at a time is ₹30,000/-.
- ▶ The interest rate for loan is 24% per annum.
- ▶ The loan has to be repaid in instalments with interest within one year. The installment can be paid either monthly or bimonthly.
- ▶ The loan amount should be utilized for livelihood activity within 10 days period, else ₹1000/- fine will be imposed.
- ▶ If any member wants loan for consumption or other reasons, the maximum loan amount given is ₹1000/- less than their savings amount.
- ▶ Every member of the group must attend the Group Meetings on scheduled day at scheduled time; else they pay ₹10/- as a penalty to attend the meeting.

Mutual Cooperation

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre has facilitated these SMG on mutual cooperation. The SMGs have taken up common activities like keeping the village clean, conducting village festival, maintaining the village water body etc. The SMGs members and sub group members are cooperating mutually with each other in agriculture operations by exchanging labour, implements, draft animals etc. Thus all the SMG members have saved the costs, avoided need for cash and benefitted.

Benefits accrued to members from the activity:

- ▶ The members are earning additional income upto ₹3000/- per month from the milch animals and from sheep rearing.
- ▶ For last 3 years, due to seepage from Jeedipalli reservoir, the village water body is always filled with water. This has recharged

all the bore wells in the village. The SMG members, now are able to grow enough green fodder for their cattle.

- ▶ All the bore well farmers are able to grow two crops in a year as sufficient water is available, so the SMG members are getting sufficient wage employment in Agriculture. Thus they are able to repay loans every month.
- ▶ As green fodder is available, rearing the sheep is providing additional income.
- ▶ Cow dung from dairy animals is being used to enrich the soil especially in the paddy fields for better yields.
- ▶ During harvesting season, there is high demand for agri labour. The SMG members cooperate with each other by pooling labour from their own families in completing harvest operation of all the farmers. They pool labour, take turns and support each other in harvesting activity.
- ▶ All the 45 members from both the FPOs have joined the FPO formed at *mandal* level as shareholders. Thus they are benefitting from FPO activities too.

Conclusion

Earlier the villagers were sceptical about SMG meetings and thrift activity. *"Due to thrift credit and mutual cooperation in SMGs there is clear economic benefit accrued to all the member families. Now other villagers are showing interest to join SMGs or form new SMGs. In the last two years, 80 families have joined new SMGs"* says Naga Lakshmi, the convenor of SMG.

"We have cordial and supportive relations among all the families in the village. It gives us a feeling of unity, confidence and empowerment" says Ramanjinamma, the convenor of another SMG.

The SMG members have expressed that AF-EC has provided them good facilitation support and motivated them to cooperate with each other.

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre helped in conflict resolution and supported SMGs in crisis situations. They feel that they have gained respect in the village because of improved economic situation and group support.



Photo credit
Snehal Balapure



Photo credit
Snehal Balapure

2 Youth Centre

Photo credit
AF-EC



Major Objectives

The main objective is to provide skill based alternate employment/self-employment to under-educated unemployed youth in order to diversify the family livelihood opportunities and to enhance their socio economic independence as well as an upward occupational mobility, so that the families could cope with droughts.

The program emphasizes that the employment must be created either at home or closer to their homes, so that the opportunity costs, adverse effects of migration on the families are minimized, families kept together and cities are not flooded with rural distress migrants.

Major achievements 2018-19

- ▶ This year, 160 under educated youth have been trained in LMV & HMV Driving. Out of them, 90 candidates are employed as professional drivers within Ananthapuramu District and earning ₹7000/- to ₹10,000/- per month.
- ▶ In motor cycle mechanism, 59 youth were trained and in mobile phone repair another 44 rural youth were trained during the year. After training of 60 days, tool kits were provided, so as to enable them to establish their repair shop in their own village or nearby village as a livelihood.
- ▶ 22 trainee sub-inspectors from police training college, Ananthapuramu, did a refresher course for the period of 4 days, from 5th November to 8th November 2018 in maintenance of vehicles and driving skills.
- ▶ The organisation has imparted driving skills in 4 batches to 151 prospective police constable candidates as drivers and mechanics from Andhra Pradesh police transport organisation.
- ▶ In order to inculcate traffic discipline among the trainees, innovative traffic education with simulator has been introduced in the course curriculum.
- ▶ Trainees were taken to automobile show rooms as a part of exposure visit to improve their knowledge of the Industry.

Impact from 2008 to 2019

- ▶ In total, 2,508 boys and girls were trained and 1,571 of them are either employed or self-employed. Their families are economically better off with diversified income opportunities. The families are able to cope with droughts. More importantly they have an upward occupational mobility from being farm wage earners to drivers; a skilled employment giving them a better social status and self-esteem.
- ▶ Breaking gender barriers, women, particularly from rural areas were introduced to auto rickshaw driving. Training was imparted to 81 rural women and licenses were obtained. The training also included self-defence, gender, personality development, so that they realize their capacities and use for their own as well as family development.

- ▶ Out of 81 women trained, currently 18 women were facilitated with Bank loans for purchase of an auto rickshaws and they are operating the auto rickshaws. They are earning from ₹700/- to ₹1,000/- a day. For the rest of the women, the bank loans are being organised.
- ▶ The transport department has recognized the AF Driving Schools and awarded the best professional school in Ananthapuramu district.
- ▶ Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre has collaborated with Gurukul and has trained around 50 young women for BPO jobs, out of which, 44 have been employed. Gurukul is an NGO based in Bangalore trains the youth in various job oriented skills and helping them getting employed in and around Bangalore.

Important learnings

- ▶ Moulding the trainees to industrial work culture is very important as they are not used to office settings, punctuality, employee attitudes etc.
- ▶ Improving of communication skills, both spoken and written among trainees is very essential. A minimum of spoken English is found to be essential in settling down as self-employed or employed.
- ▶ Exposure to basic health education such as personal hygiene, awareness on HIV/AIDS, etc. is found to be essential for rural youth.
- ▶ The personality development inputs, legal literacy and laws governing transport activities, are also found to be essential for drivers and mechanics.

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Success Stories

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M. Shaikshavali



1 **Rayudu makes a difference!**

Sri B. Hanumantha Rayudu S/o B. Lingappa (Late) hails from Chapiri village of Kalyandurg *mandal*, Ananthapuramu District. His family consists of 5 members all of whom are daily wage earners. The family has 3 acres of dry land. The rainfed agriculture has not been feasible the family lived as farm labour. B. Hanumantha Rayudu studied till the Intermediate also worked as wage earner to support his family.

He came to know about AF-EC Driving School, through his friend, who had been trained at Kalyandurg and got enrolled as a trainee.

As a trainee at the Driving School, he learnt vehicle driving, mechanism, spoken English, soft & communication skills and personality development. He gained self-confidence to work as a professional driver. He could see a change in his behaviour & attitude.

B. Hanumantha Rayudu got employed immediately after completion of his training with a salary of ₹8,000/- per month. His widow mother & siblings felt very happy that Hanumantha Rayudu can earn a salary and they could lead a better life.

"More than myself, my mother and siblings are very happy and feel proud that I am working as a driver and now we can lead a better life", says Hanumantha Rayudu.

2

Ramalaxmi breaks the barriers!

Ms. Ramalaxmi from Parasannayapalli village is married to Mr. Rama Mohan. They have two sons, 8 years and 5 years. The family is landless.

C. Ramalaxmi's husband is an auto driver and earns ₹500/- per day, which is insufficient to meet family needs including children's education. Rama Lakshmi has studied up to 7th class and her strong ambition was to earn and add to the family income. She was inspired by the previous batch of women auto driving trainees. With this back drop she approached DRDA, (District Rural Development Agency) and AF-EC and got selected for training in auto driving.

She was happy and emboldened after the training at AF-EC, as she was trained not only in auto driving but also in traffic education, first aid, self-defence, gender equality, personality development, spoken English etc.

Immediately after the training she approached the bank authorities for a loan to buy an auto rickshaw. As the loan process was getting delayed, she rented a vehicle and started operating in Ananthapuramu sub urban areas. Ms. Ramalaxmi now earns ₹400/- per day.



Photo credit
M. Shaikshavali

She now gets respect from her friends, relatives and community. She expressed her gratitude towards AF-EC youth centre for the quality training.

"Now, I am able to send my children to better schools and support my family better", says Ramalaxmi with a smile.

Success Stories



3 Parameswar is self-employed

Sri. Parameswar S/o Yerriswamy from Ipperu village studied up to SSC and could not study further due to financial constraints. Before joining the two wheeler mechanic trade at AF-EC youth centre, he worked as a farm labour with few days of work, that too only @ ₹150 to ₹200/- a day. He was in search of an alternate opportunity, which could fetch him sustained earnings to support his family. AF-EC staff, in an SMG meeting advised him to join the two wheeler mechanic course at Ananthapuramu centre, which he gladly joined.

He attended classes regularly and acquired skills for repairing of all types of Motor Cycles. He gained self-confidence during his training, that he would become good mechanic. Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre provided him a tool-kit to start his own repair shop.

Immediately after passing out, he established a small work shop at Kuderu, a small town just 4 km from his home. When AF-EC team visited his village, he proudly said that he was earning ₹300/- per day and was thankful to Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre.

Sri Parameswar is happy that he is relieved of his daily physical labour and having hand-full of skilled work. His parent's morale is high, as their son has not only become skilled, but also a responsible person. He is also an inspiration to the youth in his village.

4 Naveen is self-employed in his own village

Mr. M. Naveen Kumar S/o Ganganna hails from Gangavaram village, Beluguppa mandal living with his wife, father & mother. As his two elder brothers are married and living separately, his father & mother are living with him. He studied up to class 10th and was doing minor electrical repairs, as a semi-skilled labour and under-employed with very meagre earnings.

Mr. Naveen Kumar was seriously exploring ways of regular income. Incidentally, he met one of his friend from his village and narrated his desire. His friend had got trained in mobile phone repairing at AF-EC Kalyandurg centre.

Mr. Naveen Kumar underwent 60 days of training in mobile phone repairs. After completion of course he was given certificate and complete tool kit by Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre for starting a mobile phone repair workshop.

He started a small repair shop at his native village near Gangavaram bus stop. He is earning ₹400/- to ₹500/- per day, which enables him to take care of his family. He is proud of himself and fully satisfied with his self-employment.

"Naveen Kumar is in a better position than our two elder sons. We appreciate him that we could lead a better life. Our socio economic conditions has improved", says Ganganna, the father.

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3 Non-farm livelihoods for women

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Major Objectives

- ▶ To diversify income opportunities for women and youth in non-farm and off-farm sectors from rainfed farmers and farm labour, so that they cope with droughts and prevent distress migration.
- ▶ To promote women as nano entrepreneurs, so that they earn and contribute to the economic well-being of the family and attain self-esteem and respect.
- ▶ To facilitate and enable women in accessing bank services to take up non-farm activities.
- ▶ To facilitate upward occupational mobility for youth and women from farm labour to being entrepreneurs, skilled workers or self-employed.

Major Achievements

- ▶ Totally 208 rural women have been trained in industrial garment making in cooperation with Pro-skills Corporation Ltd. After the training, 196 of them started garment stitching for industry from their own home. They are earning ₹120/- to ₹300/- per day as wage for stitching.
- ▶ The garment production is in progress for a garment company employing 46 women at two cluster units, namely Venkatadripalli and Gangavaram. The women earn ₹150/- to ₹250/- a day for stitching the garments.
- ▶ Loans from Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank have been facilitated for 96 women for purchase of sewing machines to a tune of ₹19,20,000/- Among them 47 of them (50%) are from SC community.

- ▶ Millet snack making training is imparted to 38 women by involving *Krishi Vignana Kendra* (KVK) Kalyanadurg and 23 of them are making nutritious snacks and selling at home and in weekly markets.
- ▶ A total of 53 women were helped with loans for setting up dairy activity @ ₹50,000/- each. Their monthly earning is ₹10,000/- to ₹12,000.

Impact

- ▶ 414 women who were farm labour earlier are now either employed or self-employed and adding to the family income. They also own assets like shops, sewing machine and three-wheeler auto etc. Their drudgery is reduced and now work at home or in garment making

centre. Their self-esteem and social status have enhanced as they have moved to an occupation better respected than farm labour.

Learnings

- ▶ One major lesson learnt in providing employment opportunities for women in garment industries, is that it's very difficult to instil industrial work culture and discipline among rural women, and to make them understand the importance of punctuality and regularity. It is taking longer to induce industrial work culture in them than anticipated.

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Success Stories

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M. Shaikshavali



Garment making

Mrs. Jyothi from Gangavaram village of Beluguppa *mandal* is a member in SMG since 2016. Her husband Mr. Yerriswamy works as a Community Organiser (CO) at RDTs Rayadurgam *mandal*, and has a two year old child. Jyothi used to stitch blouses at home and earned ₹200/- per week. Her husband gives only ₹2,000/- for family expenses every month. The income earned by them was not sufficient and they could barely make ends meet. Jyothi was worried and exploring for a better livelihood.

Jyothi learnt about the AF-EC's garment training centre in her group meeting and immediately enrolled for the training. AF has partnered with Skillpro, an expert organisation to train and handhold rural women to set up garment making centres.

Subsequently, all the trained women from Gangavaram village were formed into a group and set up a Garment stitching centre. With support of AF-EC, the group had approached, *Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank* for loan for buying sewing machines. The Bank sanctioned ₹20,000/- each to 20 women in the group. They have purchased Industrial sewing machines and other equipment for setting up the centre. Skillpro had provided the required technical support and also gave the initial orders. Now Jyothi earns about ₹5,000/- per month.

"Earlier I had very limited skills in stitching clothes. Now I can work on industrial sewing machines and stitch better. I have gained confidence and am able to support equal amount to family as my husband. Thanks to AF-EC for changing my life" says Jyothi.



Earning regular income from Garment making unit

Mrs. Mamatha from Gangavaram village of Beluguppa *mandal* is a SMG member. Her husband is a truck driver and works for private vehicles. Mamatha stayed at home to take care of her small kids and cultivate Bengal gram under rainfed in their 5 acres. However since two years they could not grow the crop due to drought. The income was not sufficient and lived in poverty. Mamatha was worried and exploring for a better livelihood.

Mamatha learnt about the garment making training centre in her group meeting and immediately enrolled in it. AF-EC has a partnership with Skillpro, an expert organization to train and handhold rural women to set up garment making centres. In the first training, Skillpro had trained 30 women for 60 days on different aspects of garment making. Mamatha was one of the participants in that training organized at Kalyandurgam.

Later all the trained women from Gangavaram village were formed into a group and set up a garment stitching centre a garment industry from Bangalore. With the support of AF-EC, the group had approached, Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank for loan. The Bank sanctioned ₹ 20,000/- each to 20 women in the group. They have purchased Industrial sewing machines and other equipment for setting up the centre. Skillpro had provided the required technical support and also brought the garment orders for stitching. Now Mamatha earns about ₹ 5000/- every month by stitching garments for the industry.

“Earlier I did not have any skill and lived in poverty. Now I have skills, I am confident as I support myself and my family. My in laws and neighbors respect me. I am thankful to Accion Fraterca Ecology Centre for supporting me” said Mamatha.





4 **Palle Jeevam** Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project (APDMP)

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Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project (APDMP) is an initiative of Department of Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh with funding support from 'International Fund for Agriculture Development' (IFAD).

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre has been selected as Lead Facilitating Agency (LFA) for the project implementation in 12 mandals of Ananthapuramu district. AF-EC and Sahajeevan Trust, its sister concern facilitate the project implementation as Facilitating Agencies (FAs).

Objectives

The overall goal of the APDMP is to improve the incomes of 1,65,000 farm households and strengthen their resilience towards drought in 5 drought-prone districts of Andhra Pradesh. This goal is to be achieved through the development objective of strengthening the adaptive capacity and productivity of agriculture in the rainfed areas of these districts in southern Andhra Pradesh. The objective has to be achieved in a participatory approach through 'Farmer Producer Organisations'.

- ▶ Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre, as LFA is implementing this project in 36 *Grama Panchayaths* located in 12 mandals. The mandals are Ramagiri, Kanaganapalli, Rapphadu, Atmakur, Kuderu, Kalyandurg, Beluguppa, Brahasamudram, Gummagatta, Kambadur, Kundurpi and Amarapuram.
- ▶ The projects that AF-EC, as an LFA, aims to cover 18,000 drought-affected poor farmers and farm labours in 36 *Grama Panchayats*.
- ▶ The project at village level, is being implemented by Farmer Producer Organisations (FPO) formed and facilitated by the grass root NGO's as facilitating Agencies (FAs). The GoAP set up State Project Management Units (SPMUs) at State level and at District Project Management Units (DPMU) in each of the five selected districts.

Interventions and Outcomes

The project is implemented through a set of 3 Sectorial interventions and the outcomes are measured against them. They are

- (a) Adoption of drought resilient and adaptable agriculture, with supplementary irrigation to protect crops from dry spells, along with improved soil management (including improving its water-holding capacity) and better drought tolerant cropping systems. This would be linked in providing farmers with information on weather, markets and cropping options, along with promotion of improved practices for annual crops and horticulture.
- (b) Enhancing the productivity of livestock (mainly for small ruminants) by improving and managing the fodder produce, along with improved access to animal healthcare and introducing improved breeds of live stocks. Backyard poultry will also be promoted to diversify income, as part of building household resilience to drought.
- (c) Better management of scarce water resources, through groundwater demand management, at the community level and embedding this in local government structures, along with making more water available through rainwater harvesting and storage, and via improved recharge of groundwater aquifers.



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FPOs with facilitation and capacity building by FAs plan, implement, monitor, reflect, learn and scale up FPO provided services to the farmers through Climate and Livelihoods Information Centres (CLICs) promoted under the project. The FPOs get financial assistance for the first two years and the CLICs are expected to operate in sustainable mode, by providing services and technologies for drought mitigation on a sustainable basis.

Highlights

- ▶ Formed, registered and strengthened two Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies (Act 1995) of farmers in 12 *mandals* covered by the project, and they are popularly called as FPOs.
- ▶ Enrolled 6,000 farmers in 12 FPOs as members by collecting ₹ 110 as a membership fee and raising a share capital of ₹ 1,000 from each of the member farmers.
- ▶ The membership and shared capital raised amounted to ₹ 61 lakh by the 12 FPOs.
- ▶ A series of trainings were organised in order to build awareness and capacities of members and Board of Directors.
- ▶ The Board of Directors were unanimously selected by consensus building among the Shareholders.

- ▶ More than 50% women representation, was ensured in the Board of Directors. SCs, STs and Women were unanimously elected as Chair Persons in all the 12 FPOs.
- ▶ Business plans for the year was developed for each of the 12 FPOs.
- ▶ The Business plans were being implemented and various services being provided to the member farmers.
- ▶ 12 Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) for renting agricultural implements like tractors, ploughs, planters, rotavators and tractors to the member farmers at lower rates and prioritising SCs, STs, single women, physically challenged small farmers for providing services.

Major Learnings

- ▶ Services and timely input services increase community participation in the FPOs: APDMP, unlike other projects in the past, invested in creating assets for FPOs which worked as incentive for people's participation. These community based assets which are difficult to own as individuals, improved people's participation with a sense of collective ownership.





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Success Stories

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1 No more summer migration for this sheep flock Contingency crops for fodder needs

"My father Mr. Naganna and I would have been migrated by now to black soil belts in Kurnool district with our flock of 200 sheep, had we not sown short duration Horse gram and Sorghum crops in leased land as fodder crop." says **Mr. Nagaraju**, a sheep rearer from M. Cherlopalli Village in Rapthadu mandal of Anantapur district.

Naganna joins in and explains about current years' experience of avoiding a probable migration. "Our mandal did not receive any rain fall during the sowing season – June and July. Most of the lands were left fallow and it looked more like a desert. When all of us lost hopes about fodder availability, the APDMP staff conducted an awareness meeting in our village in August. They explained that the sowing season for seasonal crops was over, but one can still go for sowing short duration contingency crops like horse gram and sorghum even during September and October rains. They at least give fodder if not grains.

Nagaraju leased a 25 acre plot of fallow land which belongs to a farmer settled in Ananthapuramu town. He has sown horsegram and sorghum in September. He spent Rs.

29,800/- on purchase of seed, sowing, wages and lease. Finally the family received 30 tractor loads of fodder which is worth over Rs.75,000/-. The sheep also grazed the crop residues during the summer months.

"It is not the monetary value of the fodder that is important, but the priceless value of overcoming our need to travel hundreds of kilometers under scorching sun by leaving our families behind and worrying every minute about what bad news is in store for us", Naganna explains with great relief and hope for better future.

2 From Valasa (Migration) to Valasa (Name of a Village) The story of a successful woman farmer

"Whenever I went through difficult times in life, the CBOs, be it my SHG or the FPO in which I am a member, had helped me in overcoming the hardships." said **Mrs. Lalitha**, a woman farmer from Valasa village of Amarpuram mandal in Ananthapuramu District.

Lalitha's Husband Gangadhar owns 5 acres of rainfed land in Valasa village where they grew groundnut crop. Due to drought, the crops failed often and they could not make a living with Agriculture. Four years back they migrated to Hindupur town for livelihood and worked as handloom weavers. They earned a monthly income of ₹6,000/-. They worked for 2 years on handloom but had to return back home due to health issues.

Lalitha is a member of village SHG for past 12 years. She used to send monthly savings regularly to the group even when she was in Hindupur. She learnt about various government schemes in the SHG meetings and about natural farming



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M. Shaikshavali

and the importance of deshi cows. She decided to purchase cows and start natural farming. She availed a loan of ₹80,000/- under SHG-Bank linkage scheme and purchased two cows.

She cultivated mulberry with natural farming practices (ZBNF) in one acre land and had taken up sericulture. She borrowed water from her brother-in-law's bore well. The cows came in handy both as draught animals and also for providing inputs for preparing bio-fertilizers. After all the expenses, she earns ₹50,000/- every year from sericulture.

Lalitha also joined Sri Annapurneswari Farmers FPO, which is formed for implementing Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project (APDMP) in Amarapuram *mandal*. As she had experience in ZBNF, the FPO selected her as entrepreneur for Bio-Resource Centre (BRC) and sent her to training at KVK in Kurnool District.

Many farmers in the village were interested in ZBNF methods but did not have deshi cows and the knowledge for preparing the bio-inputs. Lalitha had set up the BRC and started preparing and selling *jeevamrutam* and other bio-inputs to farmers. Now Lalitha is able to earn both from farming and from BRC. She is happy that she could send both her sons to convent school ensuring them good education.



Azim Premji
Philanthropic
Initiatives

5 Climate Resilient Zero Budget Natural Farming (CRZBNF)

Photo credit
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The project was initiated in July 2017. AF-EC is a Resource Organisation for CRZBNF (Climate Resilient Zero Budget Natural Farming) initiated by Government of Andhra Pradesh in collaboration with Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives (APPI) and RySS (Rythu Saadhikara Samstha).

It is a multi-partner project involving District Project Management Unit, Department of Agriculture, RySS, a number of NGOs and CBOs.

Major Objectives

- ▶ Promotion of CRZBNF and integration of CRZBNF and Drought Mitigation practices in 10 villages of Chintharlapalli cluster involving 2000 farmers.
- ▶ Developing 4 Model Resource Villages by incorporating CRZBNF practices and drought mitigation covering 190 farmers directly and over 1000 farmers indirectly.
- ▶ Training Master Farmers and technically hand-holding them in their field work in propagation of CRZBNF covering 30,000 farmers across 194 villages in the Ananthapuramu District.

Major Innovations

- a. Establishing ZBNF 5 layer crop models integrating at each farm level, big tree crops like mango, tamarind medium tree crops like custard apple, amla, sapota, guava. Small trees like drum stick and diverse annual crops with millets (foxtail millet, sorghum, bajra and pulses like red gram, green gram, cowpea and vegetables like chillies, tomato, brinjal, ladies fingers among others. This Model will help the soil biology and enhance climate resilience and has potential for not only drought-mitigation and reversing desertification, but also for mitigation of climate change.
- b. Regeneration of Degraded Pastures in order to help replenishing the soils that are left fallow or degraded, (producing fodder for the animals).
- c. An agro-ecological farming model called Pre-monsoon sowing/Dry Sowing (PMDS, 365 days green cover) is being experimented. It is a continuous cropping of various millets, pulses and vegetables and keeping the land under green cover throughout. It is expected to utilise moisture from atmosphere and also help to regenerate soil biology.

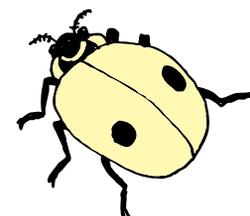
Major Achievements:

2018-19 was one of the worst drought years in the last 50 years or so with 40% less than normal rainfall. It created a severe water scarcity for crops, people and animals. Many farmers could not sow the rainfed crops. The groundwater sharply

depleted, so the farmers could not raise crops under bore wells. However in some villages where crops were sown even under insufficient rains, the mitigation practices together have performed comparatively better. The following are the major achievements during 2018-19

- ▶ In 4 resource villages and in 10 villages in the Chintarlapalli cluster 420 (14%) farmers out of total 2,955 are practicing the ZBNF with seed to seed and 380 (30%) are practicing ZBNF partially.
- ▶ 5-Layer model of cropping is established in 26.5 acres covering 30 farmers.
- ▶ 19 farm ponds with lining have been established covering 19 farmers and the farmers are prepared to provide protective irrigation during dry-spells.
- ▶ Dry sowing was practiced by 59 farmers in about 34.5 acres
- ▶ Row water sowing was demonstrated successfully in 55 acres covering 44 farmers and over 800 farmers were exposed to the practice of Row Water Sowing. It is a technology to practice timely sowing when monsoon fails in sowing season.
- ▶ Contingency crops with jowar and horse gram were promoted with 232 farmers covering 481 acres, as they could not sow the main crop due to failure of monsoon in July, the sowing month.
- ▶ An innovative 5-layer vegetable model is practiced by 14 farmers covering 9 acres.
- ▶ 36x36 crop model was practiced by 19 farmers.
- ▶ Back yard poultry was established for 119 families with 596 birds.
- ▶ Kitchen gardens were established by 21 families.
- ▶ Grass land development for fodder production was taken up by 41 farmers covering the 84.5 acres.

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Success Stories

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M. Shaikshavali



1. **Mahadevi turns a new leaf to beat the drought!**

Mahadevi w/o Vannuru Swamy is a farmer from Khairevu village, Settur mandal. Her family has 4 acres of dry land since the bore well they had was dried up. Due to the rising costs and consecutive droughts, she has left the land fallow for the last 3 years. After she was informed about CRZBNF practices and row water sowing and protective irrigation by AF-EC coordinator and convinced to try the practices.

"When I explained about the row water sowing and protective irrigation to my husband and my in-laws, they didn't believe in sowing a crop without rainfall. I somehow convinced them. First I treated the red

gram, cow pea, green gram and castor seed with Beejamrutha and sown the seed as an inter-crop with row water sowing on 13. 08. 2018 in one acre of my land with technical guidance from

Ms. Bhavani, our CRZBNF Coordinator. Germination was good for all our surprise. Ms. Bhavani suggested spraying dhava jeevamrutam twice a month, hence, vegetative growth of red gram, castor, cow pea was good and very healthy. My in-laws were quite happy with the positive turn of events, as surrounding lands are kept barren unsown, my father in law went to protect the crop from animals grazing away. Then a long dry spell occurred and crop began to show moisture stress. AF-EC came to subsidise partially for protective irrigation for one acre. Due to this protective irrigation the crop recovered fully and a good yield was recorded.

Finally harvest was 3 quintals of red gram, 7 kgs of cow pea and 7kg of green gram. We retained 20 kgs of red gram, all cow pea and green gram for home consumption and the rest was sold. We got a net income of ₹ 8,360/-. My thanks to Ms. Bhavani, our coordinator” narrated Mahadevi.

Only my family got some harvest this year. Other farmers in my village kept their land barren due to lack of rain. Our harvest, convinced the other farmers to adopt row water sowing and protective irrigation for next season.

Like Mahadevi, demonstration of these technologies and practices was done (during 2018 crop season) with 500 farmers covering 500 acres by AF-EC. Even under such harsh drought conditions it has been successful wherever water was outsourced and 2 or 3 protective irrigations have been given. It takes outsourcing of only 10,000 litres per protective irrigation. The protective irrigation is given with mobile drip system in order to enhance water use efficiency.

2

Ramakka sets an example for other farmers

Ramakka hails from Gangulavaripalle village, Neelakantapuram cluster of Madakasira mandal. She owned 50 cents of land which is irrigated. She was investing ₹ 10,000/- on chemical fertilizers and pesticides every year for groundnut cultivation. She got good yields initially, but gradually the yields started reducing due to loss of soil fertility diseases and pest build up. She suffered huge losses and landed in the debt trap.

During 2018, the local Community Resource Person (CRP) conducted a series of awareness campaigns and meetings on CRZBNF. She got motivated and came forward to try with CRZBNF practices. Under the guidance of the CRP she practiced CRZBNF like seed treatment, *jeevamrutam* application in groundnut crop.

She adopted other CRZBNF practices like Bajra and Jowar were sown as border crop in order to protect the crop from diseases. She arranged pest traps and bird perches in the field to control the pests. She applied *jeevamrutam* for every 15 days once. She slowly started to see change as the plants had a luscious crop growth. She also sprayed neem oil and decoction made out of green chilies and garlic to control Red hairs caterpillars. All these practices did not cost her much as they were made by herself from the local materials. At the end she had a very good harvest of 6 quintals of groundnut pods.

She had a net income of ₹ 24,800 from groundnut crop thanks to CRZBNF. It was years that she had seen any net income earlier ! She vowed never to return back to chemical farming. She has set an example in the village for many chemical farmers to emulate CRZBNF methods!

“If I had to but chemical fertilizers, it would have costed another ₹ 10,000/- and my income would have been only ₹ 15,000/-”, says Ramakka.



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M. Shaikshavali

Success Stories

Photo credit
AF-EC



3 Multi-layer Vegetable Model by Master Farmer Sankarappa

Sankarappa, a farmer from Balasamudram village, Gandodivaripalli cluster. He has 2 acres of cultivable land and a bore-well which irrigates a part of the land only for 4-5 months. His wife Nirmala and children Shekar and Devika help him in the agricultural operations. Sankarappa has been cultivating only one crop of vegetables in his 2 acres as a monocrop.

The high infestation of pests in the mono crop led to higher expenses on chemical pesticides and fertilizers, which eventually incurred him losses. With the motivation of the CRP he attended a 5 day training for Master Farmers at AF-EC. After the training, he was inspired.

He designed and established his own multi-layer vegetable model (okra, raddish, beans, cluster beans, onions, ridge gourd and bitter gourd) in his 2 acres of land following CRZBNF practices.

He prepared and applied *Ghanajeevamrutam*, *Dravajeevamrutam*, and the plant extracts on his own with a small investment of only ₹10,000. He started getting regular income from the third month approximately ₹25,000 a month. His idea is to maintain the multi-vegetable farming on continuous basis and ensure regular income.

He was very happy about the training he had at AF-EC and the constant support by the field trainer in establishing 5 layer vegetable model. "Now many farmers from the village are visiting my farm and I am helping other farmers to shift to CRZBNF paradigm" says Sankarappa.



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AF-EC

6 Achieving Gender Equality through Empowerment of Women in Agriculture (AGEEWA)

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AF-EC



The objective of the Project is to achieve Gender equality through enabling institutional platform of women in agriculture. This Project is funded by AEIN Luxembourg being implemented by a consortium

lead by APMAS (Andhra Pradesh Mahila Abhivrudhi Society) and four implementing partners, Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre, Rural Environment Development Society, GMM and PEACE.

Major Objectives

- ▶ Empower women farmers by Promoting and strengthening exclusive women Farmer's Producer Organisation (FPO) covering 500 women farmers who are affected by droughts.
- ▶ Promote women & farmer friendly innovations in sustainable agriculture through the women FPO, including agri value chain development for sustainable livelihood.
- ▶ Support advocacy platforms of women farmers in order to access various services and realise their rights and entitlements.
- ▶ A cluster of 6 villages were selected in Dharamavaram *mandal* of Ananthapuramu District for implementation of the project. The villages are 1. Ravalucheruvu, 2. Dharmapuri, 3. NRK Kottala, 4. C Bathallapalli 5. Thumparthi, 6. Pothula Nagepalli.

Major achievements:

- ▶ During 2017-18 small and marginalised women farmers were mobilized and a women FPO was formed and registered enrolling 405 women as members. 111 women were mobilised as shareholders to pay a share capital of ₹ 1,000/- each amounting to ₹ 1,11,000/- at the FPO.

Achievements during 2018-19

- ▶ Organised a 3 days training for the Board of Directors on the objectives of Governance and management of FPO.
- ▶ Organised 2 exposure visits for the Board of Directors (BoD) to Maharashtra & Telangana states in order to expose them to successfully functioning FPOs.
- ▶ Conducted monthly BoD meetings and discussed the issues on agriculture and livelihoods and the possible opportunities and alternate livelihood options. Annual General Body Meeting was organised on 21.02.2019
- ▶ 14 village level awareness campaigns were conducted were organised on drought mitigation technologies & practices, alternate livelihoods, innovative farming methods, group dynamics, gender issues in agriculture and at family, strengthening of women FPO etc.
- ▶ Fifty demo plots with drought mitigation technologies were organised and exposed to all the women farmers in the project area.
- ▶ Innovative contingency crops were initiated in September with 91 farmers for production of fodder, as the main crop could not be sown due to the lack of timely rains in July 2018.



Photo credit
AF-EC

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- ▶ In order to augment their income and overcome the drought, small livelihood improvement loans were given to 10 single women to start petty business.
- ▶ Organised *mandal* level convergence meetings with government officers from NREGA, veterinary, banks and RUDSETI in order to understand their programmes and avail them for the benefit of women/family.
- ▶ Organised 10 days training program for 30 women who were interested in varying activity with the support of veterinary department and RUDSETI.
- ▶ Bank loans worth ₹6,50,000 were also facilitated through FPO to 13 trained women farmers for setting up dairying with milch animals.

Learnings

- ▶ The convergence meetings at *mandal* and district level were very effective in building rapport and relationship with government officers like agriculture, animal husbandry, banks etc.

Plans and Priorities for 2019-20

- To mobilise a total of 500 eligible women shareholders for AGEEWA FPO.
- Proper business planning for FPO to take up agriculture business services to women farmers at a fair price.
- To educate and empower the women members to mobilise resources and programs from government departments and banks.
- Establishment of red gram processing and value addition unit at Tumparti village by FPO.



Please visit: apmas.org



Photo credit
Salil Sakhalkar

1 Farm Labour to a Nano-Entrepreneur

Mrs. Malleswari from Ravulacheruvu village of Dharmavaram *mandal* is a member of Bhumatha women since 2013. Her husband Narayana Swamy is a shepherd and owns 50 sheeps. Malleswari works as farm labour. Their 2 children are studying in local government school. Due to health issues, Malleswari was unable to work as farm labour and wanted to take up alternative livelihood. She discussed with her husband and well wishers and decided to start flower business.

Mrs. Malleswari availed a loan of ₹5,000/- from Bhumatha women MACS and also another loan of ₹5,000/- from her SMG for doing flower business. She goes to Bangaluru twice a week and purchases different kinds of flowers. She makes garlands with help of her neighbour and

sells them to flower vendors for ₹12,000/- in Dharmavaram town. She incurs transport cost of ₹1000/- and labour cost of ₹500/- for making garlands. Thus she earns net profit of ₹1,500/- every three days.

She is happy now, as her earning has increased from her flower business than as farm labour. This business is well suited for her as she can work from home most of the time, which does not require much of physical work as a farm labour. She is also able to support her children education. She expressed her thanks to SMG and AGEEWA project.

"I was depressed that I was unable to earn as a labour due to my health problems. My SMG and FPO, came to my rescue by providing me a loan for business. Now I am able to earn regularly and also earn more. My family is happy as I support them with my income. I am very thankful to AF-EC, FPO and SMG for their support," says Malleswari.

Success Stories

2

Additional income from Goat rearing

Mrs. Bharathi, aged 30 years, lives with her husband Mr. Narasimha and her two school going children in Pothulanagepalli village of Dharmavaram *mandal*. Bharathi is a member of SHG. They have 1.5 acres of Rainfed land. Due to drought, the crops were failing almost continuously. So they left their land fallow. Narasimha worked on handloom for livelihood while Bharathi worked as farm labour. Their combined income was insufficient to meet the household expenditure.

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre field staff suggested Mrs. Bharathi to take up an additional income generating activity of 2 or 3 goat rearing, while she continues to work as farm labour. She applied for a loan to SMG and got a loan of ₹5000/-. She purchased two young

goats (of 3 months old) and started rearing them by taking them with her while going to farm labour and graze them. When she was not going to work, she procured some green grass from neighbouring farm lands with their permission and fed the goats. Her children too supported in taking care of the goats.

Thus in next 5 months, the young goats grew well. She sold them at ₹7500/- each in Dharmavaram town and earned gross income of ₹15,000/- for 2 goats. She repaid the loan with interest to SMG and purchased another two goats with ₹6,000/-. Remaining ₹3000/- she used for household expenses and health expenses. She was very happy that she found a supplementary source of income to support her family needs.

"Our family has additional income because of goat rearing. Now I am able to support my family health and educational needs with this income. I will continue this activity. Thanks to my SMG and Accion Fraterna for timely support," said Mrs Bharathi.

Photo credit
Salil Sakhalkar





Photo credit
Salil Sakhalkar

3 Farm Labour to a Nano –Entrepreneur

Mrs. Mutyalamma from Ravulacheruvu village of Dharmavaram *mandal* is a member in Lakshminarayana Swamy SMG since 2013. Her husband Mr. Ganganna works as Mason and earns ₹400/- per day. Mutyalamma worked as agriculture wage labour. Ganganna could not go to work regularly due to ill health. They have three girl children studying in local Government School. The income earned by them was not sufficient and they could barely make the both ends meet. Muthyalamma was worried and exploring for a better livelihood as agriculture wage employment was very seasonal and inadequate. She discussed with her husband and well wishers and decided to take up vegetable vending business.

Mrs. Muthyalamma had availed a loan of ₹5,000/- from Bhumatha Woman MACS under

AGEEWA and started vegetable business. She purchases vegetables worth ₹4,000/- every day from Dharmavaram town and sells them in her village. The expenses incurred are ₹500/-. She earns a gross income of ₹5,000/- after selling all the vegetables and a net income of ₹500/- day.

She works 6 days a week and earns about ₹3,000/- per week. She is happy now that she is able to earn more income from business than from agriculture labour. She is now able to support her children education and family expenses. She expressed her thanks to SMG and Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre.

"I was struggling to run the family, due to lack of income. At that time Accion Fraterna and Bhumatha FPO supported me to set up the vegetable business by providing a small loan in time. Now I am able to earn better than earlier and I also have work round the year. I am able to support for my husband's health and children education", says Muthyalamma.



7 IWMP Watershed Projects

Photo credit
AF-EC



Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre has been implementing two Integrated Watershed Management Project (IWMP) in Ananthapuramu District. They are, 1) Bandameedapalli IWMP Watershed consists of 3 micro watersheds in Rapthadu *mandal* with a Geographic

area of 4,942 hectares with an outlay of ₹593 lakhs.

2) Kuderu watershed consists 5 micro watersheds in Kuderu Mandal with a Geographic area of 4,264 hectares with an outlay of ₹511.68 lakhs.

Major Objectives

Enhance livelihood security and incomes of farmers and farm labour by developing micro watersheds in order to cope with droughts with a participatory approach and active involvement of all sections of people by organizing an inclusive watershed development committee (WDC), User groups (UG) and Women Self Help Groups (WSHG).

The sectoral objectives include,

- ▶ Conserving and upgrading soil, surface water, ground water, and green cover and mitigating drought-proneness. Creating an eco-friendly micro climate by enhancing green cover in (a) common lands, (b) farm forestry and (c) dry land horticulture in farm lands.
- ▶ Enhancing ground water recharge, increasing the area under bore well irrigation and income security for the farmers and sustainable rural based employment.
- ▶ Diversifying land use substantially from seasonal rainfed crops to perennial tree based rainfed horticulture like mango, custard apple, tamarind etc and enhancing rainfed farmer's income and their capacity to cope with droughts.
- ▶ Promoting enhanced productivity enhancement systems with farm mechanization and infrastructure development.
- ▶ Promoting off-farm and non-farm livelihood opportunities for landless and small farmers.

Major cumulative achievements

- ▶ Constructed three rock fill dams, 6 gabion structures, 7 check walls, 14 new check dams, and 7 check dams have been repaired to harvest the rain water recharge the bore wells.
- ▶ Established 292 Farm Ponds in 1198 acres benefitting 292 farmers.
- ▶ Staggered trenching was done in 75 acres of common lands.
- ▶ Greening of hillocks achieved in 75 acres of common lands.
- ▶ Dry land Horticulture established in 173 acres benefitting 35 families.
- ▶ Boulder removal was done in 13 acres covering nine families.
- ▶ NADEP composting was established for 25 families.

- ▶ 8 community threshing floor is established benefitting all farmers
- ▶ 4 community cattle troughs providing water for cattle were established.
- ▶ Generated employment of 62,420 person days benefitting 624 families with wage amount of ₹ 14 million

Achievements during 2018-19

- ▶ Boulder removal was done in 13 acres covering 9 families.
- ▶ Constructed 3 rock fill dams, 6 gabion structures, 7 check walls, 14 new check dams, and 7 check dams have been repaired to harvest the rain water recharge the bore wells.
- ▶ Established 292 Farm Ponds in 1,198 acres benefitting 292 farmers.
- ▶ Staggered trenching was done in 75 acres of common lands.
- ▶ Greening of hillocks achieved in 75 acres of common lands.
- ▶ Dry land Horticulture established in 173 acres benefitting 35 families.
- ▶ NADEP composting was established for 25 families.
- ▶ 8 community threshing floor is established benefitting all farmers.
- ▶ 4 Cattle troughs for community cattles drinking & bathing purpose.
- ▶ Generated employment of 62,420 person days benefitting 624 families with wage amount of Rs. 14 million.



Impact of the Project

- ▶ 4,826 bore wells (belonging to 2,546 families) are recharged due to increase of water table in below mentioned micro watershed areas and 7,335 acres of irrigated land has been increased.
- ▶ 138 defunct open wells have been revived and recharged so that 138 families are benefited during 2018-19.
- ▶ The rainfed agriculture under inter/mixed cropping has been increased in 2 project villages 2,475 acres to 7,750 acres benefiting 1,022 families during 2018-19.
- ▶ For the first time 20 families of sheep rears formed as a Shepherd's User Group owning 5,400 sheep and goats in Aravakur village had sown collectively horse gram in 100 acres for fodder production in order to overcome fodder shortage in summer season. They generally migrate with sheep to faraway places in summer. Now they need not migrate leaving behind the family. Now they grow enough fodder for the summer season during 2018-19.
- ▶ 341 acres of land belonging to 139 farmers are benefited from soil and moisture conservation as a result of rock fill dams, loose boulder and staggered trenches.
- ▶ Vegetation improved as a result greening of hillocks in 187.50 acres for community benefit in Antharaganga, Kammuru and Yerragunta.
- ▶ Vegetation developed in Block Plantations in 60 acres of common land in very green with forest and Fruit trees in Yerragunta, Bandameedapalli. The plantation is to be handed over to gram panchayath and temple endowment trust.
- ▶ A change in land use by Dry Land Horticulture established totally in 2,532 acres benefitting 603 families since 2013-14. As on 2018-19, yielding started in 1,852 acres benefitting 371 families.
- ▶ 478 families particularly women benefited with off-farm and non-farm livelihood activities and have diversified their livelihoods.
- ▶ Since the beginning there was no distress migration reported in the eight IWMP



watershed villages. The IWMP was able to halt migration by creating employment which benefitted 624 families payment through online direct accounts amounting to ₹1.40 crores were paid to wage seekers.

Future Plan

- ▶ Watershed programme implementation will be over by September 2019 after completion of project period, all the community assets created will be handed over to Gram panchayat for further management & maintenance. The assets like water purification plant, Tent House, Block plantation, Greening of hillocks are the community assets.
- ▶ Water harvesting structures like check dams and percolation tanks have to be maintained properly by the concerned user groups.
- ▶ Livelihood development fund is already being managed by village organisation (VO). VO is the federation of women SHGs. It is like a small village bank being managed by VO and service loans for income generation for women.

Please visit: iwmp.ap.gov.in



Photo credit
AF-EC

1 Dry land Horticulture beats drought & poverty

Krishnamma from Yerragunta village under Bandameedipalli village had separated from her husband and living with her two children, one daughter and son. She has 4 acres of rainfed land in the village where she used to grow groundnut crop. In 2011 she drilled a bore well, but failed to yield any water. Due increased cost of cultivation and frequent droughts, she stopped to cultivate the crops, and she stated to work as farm labour and wage labour in IWMP works.

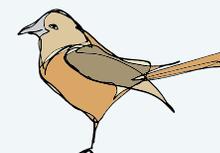
The Bandameeda Palli mega watershed started in year 2010-11. As part of watershed works in the year 2013-14, Krishnamma had taken up dry land horticulture in 4 acres of land. She had planted 270 mango saplings in July 2014 with support of IWMP. The project provided plants, pits digging cost and watering costs for first 3 years. Krishnamma had taken good care of the plants.

She did timely weeding and provided manure to the plants. The survival of the plot was 90% and the plants grew up well.

A check dam was built near her land in 2017. This had recharged the bore well in her land which had failed 6 years ago. With support of Micro-Irrigation Project of Government, she set up drip irrigation for the plants with bore well water.

The Horticulture plot started yielding from 2017 summer. Each tree has yielded 50-60 fruits and she got a net income of ₹36,000/-. This year, she earned ₹52,000/-. She is confident that she will earn even more from next year onwards.

Kishnamma said, "Now I am able to earn income from wage labour and also from my Horticulture plot. I had put all efforts and took care of Horticulture garden, now it is taking care of me. I have developed a good asset for my son. The watershed project has changed my fortune. Thanks to IWMP and implementing agency Accion Fraternal Ecology Centre."



Success Stories

Photo credit
AF-EC



2 A check dam gives new life for 30 farmers!

Before IWMP Project

In Kuderu IWMP area, 100 years ago, a tank was built near Basapuram Anjaneyaswamy temple in Kuderu village.

The tank was breached 30 years ago, due to heavy rains. As the tank could not store any water the ground water, in the down stream area has gradually decreased and 30 bore wells dried up. The repair and renovation work of the tank could not be taken up as the farmers having patta lands in the fore shore area were opposing fearing inundation. Thus about 25 farmers in downstream area of tank having 60-70 acres of land could not sow crops in rabbi season. As the water discharge from bore wells had reduced drastically some of the farmers did not cultivate the crops even in Kharif season. All the farmers suffered and resorted to work as farm labour.

After IWMP Project

Accion Fraterna staff working in Kuderu IWMP conducted several meetings of Watershed Development Committee (WDC) to resolve the issue of the old tank. After several rounds of discussions, the WDC and all the farmers agreed for construction of a new check dam in downstream area of the breached tank. A check dam was constructed in the year 2017 at the selected site. Luckily in the same year, the water from Hundri-Neeva canal was released for filling the tanks and check dams in the *mandal*. So the newly constructed check dam was filled within 60 days of its construction. Since then the check dam gets filled atleast twice, once during rainy season and once with canal water. Thus the water was stored for more than 8 months in a year. Consequently, the ground water level increased and more than 30 bore wells were recharged. It has benefitted 30 farmer families who are now cultivating two crops in a year in about 60 to 70 acres of land. Their incomes have increased many folds and many are able to repay their debts. More than 100 women get wage labour for 10 months in a year. Thus the check dam had revived agriculture and livelihoods in the village.

"A small but critical investment constructing a check dam in a right place has changed the landscape and lives of farmers" says Mrs. Fathima a bore well owner under the check dam.

8 NABARD Post Watershed Projects Sustainable Development Plan



Photo credit
AF-EC

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre has been implementing two NABARD SDP (Sustainable Development Plan) Projects at Gubanapalli and Mallipalli in Kalyanadurg mandal, Ananthapuramuamu dist with support from NABARD.

Gubanapalli SDP covered a landscape of 2,375 acres with a project cost of ₹9.56 lakhs. And Mallipalli covered a landscape 2,700 acres with a project cost of ₹9.56 lakhs. The tow year SDP's began in 2017 and would be end in 2019.

Major Objectives

The major objectives of sustainable development plan is to train a) The Village Watershed Development Committee b) Watershed MACS Board of Directors and c) farmers, so that post watershed activities are managed on sustainable basis. The measures include:

- ▶ Strength in the Village Watershed Development Committee (VWMC) and Watershed Mutually Aided Cooperative Society (MACS) by training the members of VWDC and Board of Directors, so that they can function effectively and manage post watershed activities.
- ▶ Train and educate the farmers on the purpose and function of VWDC & WMACS and various schemes of Government and Banks, so that they access them effectively.
- ▶ Create awareness on climate change and its impacts on agriculture and farmers and train the farmers on climate smart agriculture technologies, including ZBNF, Organic farming etc. including organising demonstrations, Exposure visits etc.
- ▶ Promote off-farm livelihood like poultry, livestock and dairying by linking them to WMACS and banks for credit support.

Major Achievements

- ▶ 30 VWDC members, from both watersheds have been trained on SDPs including its objectives, activities, financial allocations etc and their role in planning and implementation of the SDPs.
- ▶ Totally 18 acres of uncultivable lands turned to cultivable lands as a result of land reclamation of problem soils benefitting 18 SC farmers in Gubanapalli & Mallipalli SDP villages.



- ▶ Deep ploughing was done in 20 acres benefitting 15 SC farmers in Gubanapalli and Mallipalli SDP villages.
- ▶ Alternative high yielding seed varieties of red gram (LRG-52, Ujwala) castor and green gram were demonstrated 307 acres benefitting 155 farmers in Gubanapalli and Mallipalli SDP villages.
- ▶ Animal Health camps were conducted in Gubanapalli & Mallipalli villages, covering 425 cattle's including sheep's and goats, benefitting 98 farmers.
- ▶ Financial Inclusion and Financial Literacy trainings were conducted village level for farmer's motivation in Gubanapalli and Mallipalli villages. Totally 58 farmers have opened their savings account and 25 of them are using digital banking technologies.
- ▶ Soil testing were done for 92 farmers in 128 acres and promoted soil test based fertilizers application.

Major Impacts

- ▶ The VWDC and Watershed MACS are functioning democratically and effectively managing Maintenance Fund and Livelihood Development Fund towards their desired objectives.
- ▶ Totally 150 farmers have adopted for alternative crops, improved varieties seeds and changed their cropping pattern in approximately 600 acres.
- ▶ More farmers are trying new type of crops like fruits cultivation, flower cultivation and vegetable cultivation.
- ▶ All farmers opened saving bank accounts and they also made life insurance and machinery insurance.
- ▶ Reduced use of agro-chemicals due to soil test based fertilizer application and organic farming.
- ▶ Crop diversity & crop rotation and improved seeds are practiced widely by the farmers.
- ▶ Climate change risks are minimised as a cumulative impact of Watershed Development and Soil project.

Please visit: www.nabard.org

8a NABARD Post Watershed Projects Soil Projects



Photo credit
AF-EC

Accion Fratema Ecology Centre has been implementing two of NABARD KfW Soil Projects Garudapuram and Battuvanipalli. Garudapuram Soil project covered an area of 3,000 acres

with a project cost of ₹47.02 lakhs and Battuvanipalli covered 2,375 acres with a project cost of ₹45.97 lakhs. The project duration is 3 years, i.e 2017-2020.

Photo credit
AF-EC



Major objectives

The major objective of soil project is improve soil productivity and train the farmers on climate smart and agriculture and drought mitigation. The measures include:

- ▶ Improve productivity of soils through soil and water conservation.
- ▶ Capacity building of farmers on drought mitigation and climate smart agriculture practices.
- ▶ Educate the farmers about the adverse impacts of climate change, and strengthen their adaptive capacity and reduce their vulnerability to climate change; encourage them to practice adaptation measures and minimise risks of Climate change.
- ▶ To encourage soil type based cropping systems and farming practices including cultivation of fodder in poor soils for cattle.
- ▶ To conserve the existing vegetation and promote farm forestry in the watershed area.
- ▶ Ensure supply of clean and sufficient drinking water for people and cattle in the village.

Achievements (2018-19)

- ▶ Trainings were organised for 45 members of Board of Directors on Watershed MACS Governance and management of livelihood fund, Maintenance fund, managing Custom Hiring Centre, credit support for women for non-farm & off-farm livelihoods.
- ▶ Training were organised for 1398 farmers covering ZBNF practices, managing dairy, livestock and poultry, Financial Literacy, Market linkage, and sustainable agriculture. Very Competent resource persons were involved in trainings the farmers. Farmer to farmer learning was also facilitated with in the watershed village.
- ▶ Exposure visits to were organised for 193 farmers to BAIF project in Tipputuru, Mandya for Organic farming, Bhakrapet for MACS functioning, KVK's Reddipalli & Kalyandurg for Sustainable Agriculture, Tractor Nangar for new implements and advanced farming practices.
- ▶ Totally 308 crop demonstrations were organised on the practices of ZBNF and application of NPM inputs, land reclamation



of problem soils, alternative crops like jowar, foxtail, bajra and millets, improved varieties of red gram (LRG-52 and Ujwala), black gram and etc.

- ▶ Soil testing were done for 127 farmers covering 169 acres and recommended soil test based fertilizers application.
- ▶ Deep ploughing was done in 310.50 acres benefitting 160 farmers in Garudapuram & Battuvanipalli soil projects.
- ▶ Inter cropping or mixed cropping were done in 327 acres benefitting 167 farmers in Garudapuram & Battuvanipalli soil projects.
- ▶ Crop rotation with millets & pulses was done in 146 acres benefitting 70 farmers in Garudapuram & Battuvanipalli soil projects.
- ▶ Tank silt application of 1901 tractor trips/ 2,182 cum. (each 1 farmer to be 10 trips per 1 acre) in 420 acres, benefitting 420 farmers in Garudapuram & Battuvanipalli soil projects.
- ▶ Land reclamation of problem soils was done in 38 acres benefitting 23 farmers in Garudapuram soil project.
- ▶ Organic farming was done in 24.8 acres benefitting 12 farmers in Garudapuram soil project.
- ▶ Stone outlets were done in 120 acres benefitting 24 farmers in Garudapuram soil project.
- ▶ Fodder cultivation in poor soils was done in 5 acres benefitting 3 farmers in Garudapuram and Battuvanipalli soil projects.

Major Impacts

- ▶ Village Watershed Development Committee (VWDC) is functioning effectively and managing their livelihood funds with excellent results. The VWDC are managing effectively participating in implementing soil projects and sustainable development plans.
- ▶ As a result of rain water harvesting bore wells were recharged benefitting 31 farmers and 55 acres.
- ▶ More farmers are adopting inter cropping and crop diversification with millets, pulses, flowers etc.
- ▶ More farmers are adopting contingency cropping when main crop could not be grown.
- ▶ High yielding varieties of seeds are widely adopted by many farmers with better yields.
- ▶ Totally 121 farmers were opened their bank saving account and 58 above farmers using digital banking technologies.
- ▶ Plantation and seed dibbling on hillocks and trenches were done to enhance the vegetation at Garudapuram and Battuvanipalli Soil Project villages in Kalyanadurg Mandal.
- ▶ Deep ploughing and summer ploughing was done in 22 acres of virgin and lands converted to cultivable lands in both projects.
- ▶ Tank silt Application was done in 35 acre of shallow lands and converted to cultivable lands.
- ▶ Financial Inclusion and Financial Literacy trainings were conducted village level for farmer's motivation.

Please visit: www.nabard.org



Photo credit
AF-EC

Success Stories

1

Today it is a changed landscape

See the impact of only SMC measures in one such small catchment of 122 acres:

The Village Watershed Development Committee of Battuvanipalli village of Kalyanadurgam village has been playing key role in implementation of its watershed development project under NABARD watershed programme. A village watershed area consists of 10 to 15 small drainages / catchments of 100 to 150 acres. Soil and Moisture Conservation (SMC), and gully control measures are an important activity taken up in these catchments following the ridge to valley approach. The other measures include rain water harvesting, horticulture, farm forestry, afforestation in commons etc.

This is a 122 acres catchment and only 25 acres were cultivated and the rest uncultivated because it was occupied with boulders, rock out crops, stones etc. As it was not so productive, the market value of the land was also very low at ₹30,000 or so. This land belonged to 42 small and marginal farmers, who lived on wage employment. Out of the 42 farmers, 24 belonged to SC and 12 were from BC communities. Under Soil and Moisture Conservation and gully control measures like stone bunding, NFB, 35 Stone Outlets (60), 18 Stone Gully Plugs were built in the catchment from ridge to valley in 122 acres.

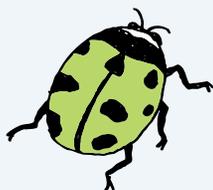
With the construction of SOs, SGPs and Stone Bunding the land was also cleared of boulders, stones, rock out crops etc., for cultivation, soil erosion drastically reduced and the top soil was conserved. Consequently the land was fit for cultivation. AF-FC encouraged the farmers to go for rainfed farming and to adopt low cost Sustainable Agriculture practices by avoiding chemical fertilizers and promoting bio-fertilisers to improve the fertility of the soil. All these



efforts proved to be fruitful after 4 years. The lands turned more fertile with increased soil organic matter and conserved top soil.

During the year 2018, the farmers cultivated 118 acres with crops like groundnut, castor, sorghum, cow pea, red gram etc. The 42 farmers proudly revealed that the landscape turned productive and green with the crops and structures from ridge to valley. The land value raised to ₹2 to 3 lakhs an acre! "Earlier I hardly felt I own 4 acres of land, as I had never believed that I can cultivate my land as it was filled with stones and boulders! I am now thrilled to see the groundnut crop" Says **Pathanna**. The farmers and the Village Watershed Development Committee members expressed their happiness over bringing wasted land in the ridge into productive cultivation with watershed development activities.

"There are 5 such drains / catchments in our village boundary. We have treated all the 5 of them and further we have built check dams for rain water harvesting, promoted horticulture, farm forestry etc. Total village landscape is now under crops both rainfed and irrigated. The bore wells are full with water. We cultivate all types of vegetables and some fruit crops like mango. Today it is a changed landscape" says Ramanjaneyulu, President of Village Watershed Development Committee. The entire village thanked NABARD and AF-EC for the support extended.



2

Mango orchards to beat the droughts

Battuvanipalli is a typical village in drought prone Ananthapuramu district, with 2,500 acres expanse of rainfed farming and very little area was irrigated under bore wells prior to 2010. The village is located at 12 km from the *mandal* headquarters Kalyanadurg.

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre initiated participatory watershed development project in the village with financial assistance from NABARD. The Village Watershed Development Committee (IWDC) played key role in planning & implementation of the NABARD watershed project. As part of Capacity Building Phase (CBP), AF-EC started to sensitise farmers on the benefits of watershed development. Drought tolerant mango plantations is an important activity to secure reliable income for farmers as an antidote to droughts and fast depleting ground water. Initially the farmers showed no interest in taking up fruit tree crops. AF-EC's continued efforts and changed the mind set of one rain fed farmer called **Mr. Thimmarayadu**, who came forward to take up mango plantation on 6 acres of land.

He convinced his father and brother and planted 450 mango plants on 6 acres with support from watershed project. All the members of his family put in a lot of efforts in watering and protecting the plants from June 2011. They used their bullock cart to carry water in drums for watering the plants. They followed the suggestions of AF-EC on mango crop management. Inspired by the example

of Thimmarayadu, 75 more farmers of the village had planted fruit plants covering 172 acres in two years between 2011 and 2013 with support from watershed project.

Mr. Thimmarayadu earned about ₹1,36,000/- from the first harvest of mango in 2016 season. He also gained from intercrops of groundnut, red gram and horse gram during the five years. *"I spent about ₹50,000/- on mango crop management and got a net income of ₹86,000/- with the first harvest. In future the expenditure would come down to ₹10,000 to ₹15,000/- and the yield would increase further which assures me of more income"* revealed the elated farmer. He also thanked NABARD and AF-EC for supporting throughout, otherwise it would be very difficult to make a living during droughts which were quite frequent in Ananthapuramu district.

The impact grew further with 102 more small & marginal farmers shifted to mango orchards on 92 acres in the year 2014.

All the farmers of the village expressed their happiness over finding suitable drought resistant farming systems through watershed development programmes. The Village Watershed Development Committee members proudly said that the watershed activities started to yield returns and the much desired livelihood security is assured even in drought years. The drought tolerant tree crops like mango are not only providing assured incomes but also positively contributing to greening the landscape and reversing the desertification.



Photo credit
M. Shaikshavali



9 Accelerating Value Chain Benefits for Improved Income for Farmers and Nutrition for Consumers

Photo credit
M. Shaikshavali



Project has commenced from July 01, 2018

In the project, ICRISAT is the project holder, Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre is the field implementation partner and Walmart Foundation is the backbone donor of the project.

The project area is 8 *mandals* namely Dharmavaram, Rappthadu, Atmakur, Kudair, Beluguppa, Kalyandurg, Kundurpi and Settur.

Project Goal

Increasing farmer's share in consumer price.

Objectives

- ▶ Improve farm based livelihood income for 6,000 farmers through introduction of improved agricultural technologies, processing and value addition.
- ▶ Establish entrepreneurial ventures in the rural areas for 500 women and youth in the value chains.
- ▶ Improve nutritional status of 300 rural household through increased nutrition awareness and access to affordable nutritious food.

Achievements

- ▶ Value Chain Manager (VCM), Eight Value Chain Leaders (VCL), twenty-four Value Chain Organisers (VCO) and an Accountant, total of 33 staff have been recruited for the project. Baseline study was conducted for 600 household farmers as part of the project to understand the socio-economic condition of the farm households and to identify constraints and opportunities in crop production, marketing and value chains.
- ▶ An apex federation formation of 9 farmer producer organisations (Mandal MACS) from eight mandals of project area has been initiated. Board members of 9 FPOs numbering
- ▶ 129 members were trained and sensitized on project objectives, FPO governance and management, the project management and expected benefits to the FPO and its members. Out of four planned, three primary processing
- ▶ centres for groundnut and pigeon pea have been established in 3 project *mandals* in Maruru village (*Rapthadu mandal*), Jallipalli village (*Kuderu mandal*) and Pothukunta village (*Dharmavaram mandal*) by renting the defunct groundnut primary processing centre.

Plan for Next Year

- ▶ Training for 6,000 beneficiary farmers and 32 field staff on best practices in enhancing crop production, soil health and water management; technology transfer sessions and field visits.
- ▶ Training programs for 129 board members of 9 FPO's & 32 field staff on food processing and value addition, on-farm entrepreneurship activities.
- ▶ Operationalisation of 4 Primary Processing Centres.
- ▶ Registration of an Apex Farmer Producer Company (FPC).
- ▶ Setting up of fourth primary processing centre at Atmakur.
- ▶ Location identification and establishment of secondary processing Centre.
- ▶ 8 Custom hiring centres will be established in the target region of 9 MACS/FPO's to provide cost effective and labour saving equipment and machineries (pre and post-harvest and value addition) for beneficiary farmers.
- ▶ Identification of business opportunities for 500 rural women and youth in specific agricultural value chain by renting the defunct groundnut primary processing centre.

Please visit: www.icrisat.org





10

Accion Fraterna Biogas CDM Project

Photo credit
M. Shaikshavali



Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre has registered a Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Project with the UNFCCC and Gold Standard in order to help 15,000 rural women adapt

the Climate Change (the dwindling of and even non-availability of biomass) and mitigate the problem (reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions).



Photo credit
Nagappa

Under this a project for establishing 3,000 biogas units has been financed through the advance sale of yet-to-be-generated 66,523 GS CERs to the Fair Climate Network for a total of ₹8.5 crore, which we mutually agreed upon as the actual-cost-of-generation under an Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA). These CERs will not be traded in the international Carbon Market; they will be retired in the UNFCCC Retirement Registry and handed over to IndiGo, India's largest domestic airline, for them to demonstrate their commitment to maintain climate integrity.

In 51 months from January 2015 to 31 March 2019, we had completed building 3,051 domestic biogas units. Of them, 2,849 had been commissioned—construction completed, gobar filled, stoves fixed and end user women ready to use biogas instead of non-renewable cooking fuel. Another 202 units were still under construction.

However, during 2018-19, functionality dropped to 74% — only 2,108 of the 2,849 Biogas units were working without any major problems. Drought and the lack of fodder caused cattle to be sold by 523 families, many didn't have water to mix what little dung they had, 38 families

migrated, domes got cracked due to disuse, and 168 families inexplicably demolished their units. Minor problems like changing nozzles, gate valves, gas pipes and stoves were attended to by the same team of 7 case workers who had built the units.

In spite of this, overall functionality (from the start of the project till 31 March 2019) was maintained at 87%. End User women had avoided 23,705 tonnes of greenhouse gases from being released into the atmosphere by not using firewood, kerosene or LPG for a total of 22.92 lakh usage days.

After the March 2017, verification by a UNFCCC accredited Carbon Auditor and next verification was to be conducted, to certify the additional tonnes generated from April 2017 till July 2019. We are waiting for the process to be completed and get issuance of another 18,925 GS CERs worth ₹2.42 crore by July 2019.

As on 31 March 2019, we had received a total of ₹5.75 crore and repaid ₹99.8 lakh worth of GS CERs (17%) to the Fair Climate Network.

Please visit <https://fairclimate.com/projects/af/>



giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



11 GIZ + MGNREGS

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre partnered with GIZ and Government of Andhra Pradesh for a) demonstrating on the ground the processes/ protocols/ technologies for enhancing the
a) environmental benefits and
b) enhancing women's participation in planning of MGNREGS.
c) drought mitigation interventions to benefit rainfed farmers on rainfed farm lands.

The Action Research has been implemented in Bukkapatnam *gram panchayat* in Ananthapuramu District. During year, the focus of the action research was on natural regeneration of commons/barren hillocks and effective conservation of rainwater in lined farm ponds. These experiments were well organised and were well documented. Government of Andhra Pradesh and Government of India are keen to create favourable policies based on the Action Research in order to out scale the good practices across the state of Andhra Pradesh and the country.

During 2018-19 the research focussed on micro farm models for drought mitigation.

Highlights

Achievements during 2018-19

During this year the project focused on private farm lands and experiment on how MGNREGS could be aligned with rainfed farming particularly for drought mitigation.

- ▶ In Cherlopalli village of Rapthadu *mandal* a micro-farm model is experimented with the objective of drought mitigation.
- ▶ The four beneficiaries identified belong to SC community. A DRP was prepared in consultation with farmers for 20 acres as a block unit with permissible works from MGNREGS, PMKSY and other sources.
- ▶ The Micro Farm model experiment involved converging MGNREGS, PMKSY for holistic land development in a block of 20 acres as a unit. The measures included a) furrowing in situ rain harvesting b) construction of a farm pond for harvesting & storage of rain water, row water sowing for timely sowing and life saving irrigation during long dry spells to save the crop from droughts.



- ▶ Micro Farm models experiment gave a package of practices that are effective for drought mitigation. They could be taken up under MGNREGS.
 - ▶ Based on the very positive results of the integrated package of measures for greening of hillocks by the project, Government of India introduced the policy for “Greening of barren hillocks”.
 - ▶ Consequently afforestation of barren hillocks in highly drought-prone areas has been enlarged to 10,150 hectares.
 - ▶ Similarly Government of Andhra Pradesh and India have accepted to bring in another policy to take up lining of the farm ponds in order to store the rain water, which can be used for protective irrigation to save the crop from droughts/long dry-spells. At present the farm ponds were not lined and were meant for recharging the ground water.
- Earlier Achievements:**
- ▶ A Model was developed to raise 3 meter tall seedling in nursery within a period of eleven months useful for plantations under MGNREGS for avenue, institutional and other areas. This model was already adopted by Government of Andhra Pradesh and over 1 crore plantations were raised during 2018-19 with this technology across the state.
 - ▶ Andhra Pradesh Space Application Centre under the bilateral project developed a decision support system tool for Bukkapatnam *mandal* for indemnification of suitable areas for afforestation of hillocks. The model helped APSAC to develop district level maps for Rayalaseema region for suitability classification for greening of hillocks. This was presented by APSAC to AP Forest Department and PMKSY-IWMP.
 - ▶ Ministry of Rural Development had documented one such successful implementation of Greening of Hillocks under MGNREGS-ISMP at Prakasham district in the year 2018.
 - ▶ Women awareness and participation in decision-making, planning and implementation was enhanced substantially in Bukkapatnam, Agraharam and Cherlopalli *Grama Panchayaths* where the research project was implemented.

Please visit: giz.de

Photo credit
Nagappa





Policy Advocacy

Favourable policy environment is necessary for scaling up and creating wider impacts of proven models, technologies and practices. Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre has been involved in policy advocacy for over 3 decades. Best results in policy advocacy have been achieved, when we worked together with like-minded civil society organisations, NGOs, opinion builders, technical experts, elected representatives, community based organisations of farmers & women, universities, research bodies, banks etc., who are all the stake holders in farmers welfare.

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre is working in cooperation and collaboration with all stake holders, particularly with a various government agencies. It provided wider scope and forums for policy advocacy and lobbying. The sectors of AF-EC policy advocacy included on farmers welfare, ecological farming, sustainable natural resource management, drought mitigation, alternative livelihoods people's institutions, gender and social equity. AF-EC organised mega strategic events to show case the impact of its interventions and persuade the government to scale up such interventions with an enabling policy environment.

As a result of our policy advocacy in collaboration and networking with various stakeholders the following policy changes have come about in the last 2-3 years.

- ▶ A policy for greening of hillocks by Government of India under MGNREGS as a result of AF-EC-GIZ MGNREGS Research project.
- ▶ A policy for lining of Farm Ponds to harvest and store the rain water on-farm and use it for protective irrigation, as a result of demonstrating on the ground the impact by AF-EC and also exposing the same at Government of AP level under SADL Project.
- ▶ A policy for protective irrigation as a result of AFEC demonstrating on the farm, repeatedly for 3 years to the honourable Chief Minister and other important policy makers under SADL project. As a result the Government of Andhra Pradesh has already come up with a policy and scaled up protective irrigation, row water sowing, lining of farm pond etc in its Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project (APDMP) and Climate Resilient Zero Budget Natural Farming (CRZBNF).



- ▶ A policy for Community Managed Seed System (CMSS) is now being regular reviewed every year by involving AF-EC, WASSAN and other stake holders, particularly FPOs and changes have been made to make it more farmer-friendly.
- ▶ A policy for crop intensification and diversification with multiple crops including tree crops like mango, custard apple in order to break the mono-cropping of groundnut and create resilience to drought as a result of demonstrating with thousands of farmers by AF-EC under SADL project and lobbying by AF-EC WASSAN and other NGOs.
- ▶ A policy providing water rights for rainfed farmers, in order to provide protective irrigation from common water bodies like village water tanks, canals etc., has come about as a result of SADL project having exposed to policy makers at Andhra Pradesh Government level.

Many a time when Government makes a policy that apparently sounds very good and progressive. However, there are some conditions and procedures in implementation that become obstacles for people to access its benefits. So our advocacy also focuses on bringing such obstacles to the notice of Government and lobby removal of such obstacles. We encourage farmers groups and their federations to identify such obstacles and they also lobby vigorously for removing such obstacles along with AF-EC.

Long term policy issues being lobbied currently,

1. Speedy implementation of *Handri Neeva Sujala Sravanthi* (HNSS) irrigation project and the traditional water bodies to be filled with the water under the project.
2. Revisit the Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme to make it more farmer friendly.
3. Revisit the Andhra Pradesh Water Land and Trees Act (APWALTA) to make it more effective in terms of regulating ground water usage and make the usage more equitable.
4. The paradigm of agriculture to be more agro-ecological, climate smart and economically viable to the farmers in contrast to the chemical intensive High External Input Destructive Agriculture (HEIDA)
5. Policy for promotion of rainfed food crops, particularly minor millets and pulses with an end-to-end approach from production to consumption, including food and nutritional security for all particularly for women and children.

We acknowledge that several NGOs, GIZ, like-minded government functionaries social activists, peoples representatives have lent their support in policy advocacy.



Human Resources

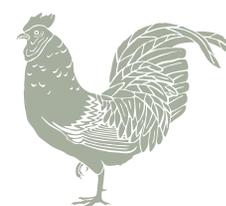
The organisation is a repository of values, systems, culture and practices, acquired through decades of functioning and working with people of Ananthapuramu District. Personnel participation, Gender & Social equity, team work and inclusive culture acquired through decades of accumulated experience, make it a system that functions effectively and efficiently in a good working environment.

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre believes that Human Resources are the most precious resource for the organisation. The human resources at organisation leadership level consists of qualified multi-disciplinary professionals with a very long hands-on experience in the sectors of leadership and management, agriculture, animal husbandry, natural resources management, institutional development, community organisation, gender, human resources management, PME, Financial management, ICT etc. The middle level consists of hands on field level experience in project management, agriculture, horticulture, watershed development, gender facilitators, institutional development, accounts & financial management etc. The grass root level staffs are mostly young graduates with rural back ground.

This year there is 95% growth in the personnel of Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre due to new projects like APDMP, Value Chain Development etc. The new projects called for relocation of old staff, recruitment of new staff, training and retraining of all personnel. There are total 200 personnel by March 31, 2019. Among them 60 are women. Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre is an equal opportunity employer with an equitable opportunity for women persons with disabilities etc, at all levels.

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre had initiated an Organisation Development (OD) process this year. The objective of the OD process was to revisit the Human Resources policy and to reinforce the organisational vision, mission, culture, values etc. The process was facilitated by AUGEO, an OD consulting group from Bangalore.

The process involved consultations and workshops with all levels of personnel and reference groups also. The final outcome was an updated HR policy and reinforced vision, mission, culture and values. This process enabled new persons to integrate themselves into the organisation.



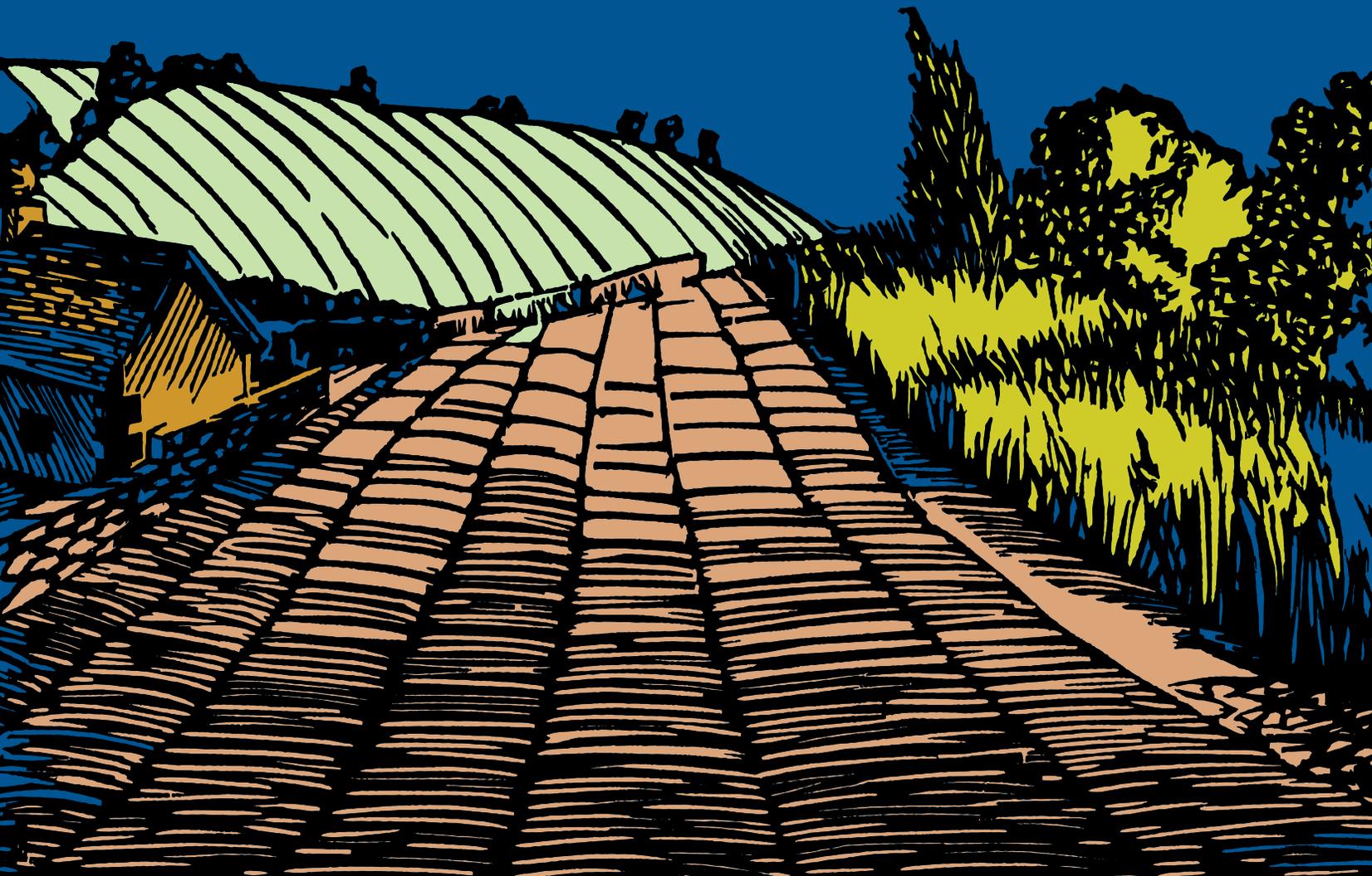
Dr. Durgabhai Deshmukh Award for Excellency in Voluntary Sector

Dr.Y.V.Malla Reddy, Director has won the Dr. Durgabhai Deshmukh Award for Excellence in Voluntary Sector. The Award was given by All India Council for Mass Education and Development. The award carried a medal, certificate and a citation.

The Award was presented on 21, April, 2019 in Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupathi, Andhra Pradesh.



Annexures



Candidates trained and employed/self employed
at Ananthapuramu and Kalyandurg centres
for the year 2018–2019

S. No	Institution	Centre	Candidates Trained			Total Trained	Total Employed	Total Self-employed
			SC	ST	Others			
1	AF Driving School (LMV)	Ananthapuramu	41	7	34	82	15	5
2	AF Driving School (LMV)	Kalyandurg	67	7	24	98	35	10
3	AF Driving School (HMV)	Ananthapuramu	20	5	25	50	25	5
4	Two Wheeler Mechanism	Ananthapuramu	9	4	13	26	10	3
5	Two Wheeler Mechanism	Kalyandurg	11	—	22	33	20	5
6	Mobile Phone Mechanism	Kalyandurg	13	1	30	44	25	5
7	Auto Driving (Women)	Ananthapuramu	44	4	33	81	10	5
Total			205	28	181	414	140	38

Candidates trained and employed / self employed at
Ananthapuramu and Kalyandurg centres along with
caste composition, as on march 2019

S. No	Institution	Centre	Year Estd.	Candidates Trained			Total Trained	Total Employed	Total Self-employed	Total Percentage
				SC	ST	Others				
1	AF Driving School (LMV)	Ananthapuramu	2008	396	62	565	1,023	590	27	60%
2	AF Driving School (LMV)	Kalyandurg	2008	504	51	433	988	630	35	68%
3	AF Driving School (HMV)	Ananthapuramu	2011	70	19	129	218	135	10	66%
4	Two Wheeler Mechanism	Ananthapuramu	2017	27	4	24	55	25	7	58%
5	Two Wheeler Mechanism	Kalyandurg	2017	25	0	29	54	29	8	68%
6	Mobile Phone Mechanism	Kalyandurg	2017	22	5	42	69	40	10	72%
7	Auto Driving (Women)	Ananthapuramu	2015	50	5	46	101	12	13	24%
Total				1,094	146	1,268	2,508	1,461	110	62%

Climate Resilient Zero Budget
Natural Farming Project (CRZBNF)
Achievements during 2018-19

**1. Physical achievements
in 4 Resource Villages during 2018-19**

S. No	Component / Activity	Units covered	Farmers covered
1	Dry land Five Layer Models established	16 acres	16 farmers
2	Farm ponds with Lining established	12 Farms	12 Farmers
3	Dry Sowing taken up	20 plots	47 Farmers
4	Row Water Sowing demonstrated	22.5 acres	21 Farmers
5	Contingency crops sown with Horse gram & Jowar	341 acres	166 Farmers
6	Five Layer vegetable models established	1.5 acres	3 Farmers
7	36X36 crop models established	5 models	5 Farmers
8	Back Yard Poultry units established	500 chickens	100 families
9	Kitchen Gardens established	21 kitchen gardens	21 families
10	Grass land Development for fodder production	67 acres	33 farmers

**2. Farmer's conversion to CRZBNF
in 4 Resource Villages**

S. No	Village Name	Total Farmers	Seed to seed Farmers	Partial Farmers
1	Cherlopalli	252	35	107
2	Bandameedhapalli	396	111	172
3	Kairevu	252	57	94
4	Thammaiahdoddi	55	48	7
	Total	955	251	380



Climate Resilient Zero Budget
Natural Farming Project (CRZBNF)
Achievements during 2018-19

**3. Physical achievements
in Chintharlapalli Cluster – FNGO**

S. No	Component / Activity	Units covered	Farmers covered
1	Dry land Five Layer Models established	10.5 acres	14
2	Farm ponds with Lining established	7 numbers	7
3	Dry Sowing taken up	14.5 acres	12
4	Row Water Sowing demonstrated	22.5 acres	23
5	Contingency crops sown with Horse gram & Jowar	140 acres	66
6	Five Layer vegetable models established	7.5 acres	11
7	Back Yard Poultry (birds)	96 chicks	19
8	Navadhanya cropping with millet and pulses	1,700 kits	626
9	Protective Irrigation	48 acres	48
10	Regeneration of degraded pastures	17.5 acres	8

**4. Farmer's conversion to CRZBNF
in Chintharlapalli cluster of 10 villages**

S. No	Village Name	Total Farmers	S2S Farmers	Partial Farmers	ICRP's	% of Adoption
1	Chintharlapalli cluster	2,000	169	517	7	686



Andhra Pradesh Drought
Mitigation Project

Lead Facilitating Agency-Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre, Ananthapuramu

**Strengthening of Farmer
Producer Organisations:**

Target and achievement during 2018-19

S. No	Activity	Units	Total Target		Total Achievement	
			Physical	Finance	Physical	Finance
1	FPO formation	No	12	—	12	—
2	CLiC centre establishment	No	12	180,000.00	12	35,800.00
3	CLiC & FPO staff	No	60	5,760,000.00	60	2,500,000.00
4	Procurement of Furniture for FPO	No	12	840,000.00	12	552,746.00
5	Maintenance of Books and Records in FPO	No	12	—	12	—
6	FPO Membership @ Rs 100 per member	No	6000	600,000.00	5814	581,400.00
7	FPO Share capital @ Rs 1000 per member	Rs.	6000	6,000,000.00	5814	5,814,000.00
8	Set up Custom Hiring Centres	No	12	12,000,000.00	12	7,200,000.00
9	Purchase Sprinklers & Diesel Engines @ 10 set per FPO	No	45	—	45	—
10	Training to FPO BoD members	No	20	120,000.00	20	81,150.00
11	FPO BOD (Meetings)	No	144	—	144	—
12	Exposure visits	No	12	240,000.00	2	54,588.00

Andhra Pradesh Drought
Mitigation Project

Lead Facilitating Agency-Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre, Ananthapuramu

Agriculture

Target and achievements during 2018-19

S.No	Activity	Units	2018-19			
			Physical	Finance	Physical	Finance
1	Kharif 18-Procurement and distribution of breeder and foundation seed	Quintals	60	—	15	—
2	Kharif 18-Formation and orientation of CMSS committees	No	12	—	12	—
3	Rabi 18-19 Seed production for distribution in Kharif 2019	Quintals	0	—	0	—
4	FFS - Sessions conducted	No	168	6,76,560.00	156	3,50,916.00
5	FFS - Farmers trained	No	360	2,31,000.00	360	1,95,184.00
6	Field days conducted	No	24	5,25,000.00	20	2,50,000.00
7	Bio Resource centres	No	12	13,50,002.00	7	5,25,000.00
8	Seed Licence obtained	No	12	24,000.00	11	22,000.00
9	Row water sowing	Acres	600	13,50,115.00	363	7,17,750.00
10	Protective irrigation	Acres	600	1,079,835.00	1342	7,81,584.00
11	Foliar spray	Acres	600	1,80,150.00	0	30,000.00
12	Training and workshop on crop production	No	1	3,00,000.00	1	31,375.00

Livestock

Target and achievements during 2018-19

1	Situation analysis of RLU's	No	12	—	12	—
2	Rearer Field Schools	No	3	—	3	—
3	Formation of CIGs	No	325	—	25	—
4	No of GP accessing schedules seasonal vaccination		9	3,75,003.00	0	—
5	Establishing of BYP breed farm (entrepreneur level)	No	12	18,75,003.00	0	3,75,000.00
6	Exposure cum training visit on back yard poultry	No	12	—	11	—
7	Trained para workers	No	36	—	36	—
8	Informal Group of small ruminant rearers	No	12	—	0	—

Andhra Pradesh Drought
Mitigation Project

Lead Facilitating Agency-Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre, Ananthapuramu

Natural Resources Management

Target and achievements during 2018-19

S. No	Activity	Units	2018-19			
			Physical	Finance	Physical	Finance
1	Identification of Learning sites	No	12	-	12	-
2	PRA and DPR preparation of Learning sites	No	12		12	
3	Earthen bunding (MGNREGA)	m ³	1,200	-	0	-
4	Farm ponds with Lining	No	72	3,456,000.00	0	-
5	Lining of existing Farm ponds	No	12	-	0	-
6	Dry Land Horticulture (MGNREGA)	Acres	600	-	0	-
7	Silt application (MGNREGA)	Acres	70	3,00,000.00	70	3,00,000.00
8	Deep ploughing (MGNREGA)	Acres	1,200	-	0	-
9	Workshop and training on groundwater collectivisation	No	1	2,00,000.00	1	19,110.00
10	Process monitoring	No	4	1,52,396.00	1	2,816.00

Annexure 1

Bandameedapalli and Kudair IWMP Watershed Projects Physical Achievements 2011-19

Cumulative Achievements in terms involvement, coverage, families, land finance etc. From 01.04.2011 to 31.03.2019

S. No	Activity	Cumulative Expenditure		No. of Families	Coverage Land in Acres	Man days Generated
		Physical	Finance			
1	Boulder removal with machinery	13	0.87	13	18	64
2	Rock Fill Dams (RFDs)	186	102.98	56	116	7,723
3	Loose Boulder Structure	1	0.63	1	3	47
4	Gabion Structures	6	5.5	6	12	412
5	Check Walls (CWs)	14	14.55	24	70	1293
6	Check Dams (CDs)	52	209.2	274	910	16,736
7	Repairs to Existing Check Dam	34	69.53	236	476	7,946
8	Percolation Tanks (PTs)	4	10.92	26	80	1,942
9	Repairs to Existing Percolation Tank	4	12.61	28	80	1,442
10	Desilting and Deepening of existing check dam	1	1.05	24	40	525
11	Farm Ponds (FPs)	912	595.4	912	2,952	2,64,622
12	Dugout Ponds (DPs)	307	125.81	1022	2,727	6,290
13	Staggered Trenches	6	58.81	37	150	29,405
14	Water Absorption Trench at Foot Hills	6	5.27	39	60	2,635
15	Greening of Hillocks	187.5	24.09	Community lands	187.5	12,045
16	Avenue Plantation	13	32.96	Community lands	13 km	4,395
17	Barren Hill Afforestation	10	1.64	Community lands	10	745
18	Block Plantation in CPR Lands	60	29.78	Community lands	60	13,536
19	Seed Dibbling	50	0.06	Community lands	50 kgs	25
20	Primary Bed and Bag Culture Nursery	4	6.33	Community lands	60,000 nos.	1,688
21	Dry Land Horticulture (Under EGS)	2,532	679.94	603	2,532	1,01,991
22	Raising of Perennial Fodder	18	1.37	18	9	274
23	NADEP Compost pit	228	23.3	228	1,256	1,554
24	Threshing Floor in community lands	10	13.32	Community lands	1,100	999
25	Cattle Troughs	9	2.64	Community lands	NA	302
26	Worksite Facilities	3	0.47	Community lands	NA	NA
	Total		2,053.11	3,457	72,893.5	4,78,636

Annexure 2

Major Achievements during 2018-19 (IWMP)

S. No	Activity	Physical Achievement Nos	Finance in lakhs	Number of farmers	Coverage land in acres	Man days Generated
1	Boulder removal with machinery	9	0.59	9	13	42
2	Rock fill dams (RFDs)	3	0.41	3	5	15
3	Gabion Structures	6	2.96	6	12	212
4	Check Walls (CWs)	7	7.10	7	35	115
5	Check Dams (CDs)	14	51.50	14	17	4,754
6	Repairs to existing check dams	7	6.23	7	21	12.75
7	Farm Ponds(FPs)	292	72.57	292	1,198	29,304
8	Staggered Trenches	3 Blocks	35.76	Community lands	75	16,410
9	Greening of Hillocks (Kammuru & Antharaganga)	3 blocks	11.76	Community lands	75	5,576
10	Dry land horticulture	173	10.10	35	173	2,415
11	NADEP compost units	25	1.15	25	62.50	25
12	Threshing Floor in community lands	8	8.93	Community lands	550	2,250
13	Cattle troughs	4	1.37	Community lands	NA	24
	Total		210.43	398	2,263.5	61,154.75

Annexure 3

Micro Watershed wise farmers benefitted with groundwater recharge (IWMP)

S. No	Name of the Project Area	Micro watershed Area	No. of families benefitted	Increased Irrigated land in acres	No. of Bore wells
1	Kuderu	Kuderu	432	1,080	907
		Kadaddarakunta	346	1,038	865
		Kammuru	297	594	742
		Aravakur	268	670	330
		Antharaganga	158	474	189
2	Bandameedapalli	Bandameedapalli	476	1,666	1,047
		Yerragunta	357	1,071	428
		Varimadugu	212	742	318
		Total	2,546	7,335	4,826

NABARD

Sustainable Development Plan – Mallipalli

01 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

S. No	Activities Sanctioned	Finance (in ₹)	Area covered (Acres)	Farmers Benefited
1	Trainings and Capacity Building programmes	2,78,009	0	381
2	Demonstrations	2,53,470	153	127
3	Exposure visits	1,25,518	—	193
	Total	6,56,997	153	701

NABARD

Sustainable Development Plan - Gubanapalli

01 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

S. No	Activities Sanctioned	Finance (in ₹)	Area covered (Acres)	Farmers Benefited
1	Trainings and Capacity Building programmes	2,78,724	0	350
2	Demonstrations	2,50,905	154	131
3	Exposure visits	1,25,593	0	216
	Total	6,55,222	154	697

The implementation of activities started in 2018-19 only

NABARD
Soil Project
Battuvanipalli – Soil Project from April 2017 to March 2019

S.No	Activity	2017-2018			2018-2019			2017-2019 (Cumulative)		
		Fin. (in ₹)	Area covered (Acres)	Farmers Benefited	Fin. (in ₹)	Area covered (Acres)	Farmers Benefited	Fin. (in ₹)	Area covered (Acres)	Farmers Benefited
1	Addl. Soil & Water Conservation Measures (hectares)	2,75,724	165	85	29,034	70	51	3,04,758	235	136
2	Soil improvement and productivity enhancement measures	1,09,050	258	156	6,69,647	406	291	7,78,697	664	447
3	Promotion of sustainable NRM and CCA farming practices for enhancement of crop resilience, livelihood and food security measures.	1,27,472	444	230	1,97,362	359	177	3,24,834	802	407
4	Measures to mitigate Climate change risks Installation of Weather Station	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Additional cost of capacity building and institutional strengthening measures	1,22,059	—	144	34,000	67	—	1,56,059	67	144
6	Watershed Level Knowledge Management	—	—	—	—	-	—	—	—	—
	Total		867	615		902	519		1,768	1,134

NABARD
Soil Project
Garudapuram – Soil Project from April 2017 to March 2019

S.No	Activity	2017-2018			2018-2019			2017-2019 (Cumulative)		
		Fin. (in ₹)	Area covered (Acres)	Farmers Benefited	Fin. (in ₹)	Area covered (Acres)	Farmers Benefited	Fin. (in ₹)	Area covered (Acres)	Farmers Benefited
1	Additional Soil & Water Conservation Measures (hectares)	4,31,124	292	154	232,715	137	36	663,839	429	190
2	Soil improvement and productivity enhancement measures	—	—	—	702,884	1,324	1,151	702,884	1,324	1,151
3	Promotion of sustainable NRM and CCA farming practices for enhancement of crop resilience, livelihood and food security measures.	1,02,962	530	327	229,728	558	314	332,690	1,088	641
4	Measures to mitigate Climate change risks Installation of Weather Station	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Additional cost of capacity building and institutional strengthening measures	95,101	—	101	61,455	122	—	156,556	122	101
	Total	6,29,187	822	582	1,226,782	2,141	1,501	1,855,969	2,963	2,083

Audit Report



Photo credit
M. Shaikshavali



MAHESH, VIRENDER & SRIRAM

Chartered Accountants

“Badhe House”, 6-3-788/36&37A, Ameerpet, Hyderabad - 500 016.

Tel: 040 – 23401738 Fax : 040 – 23401739 Email :mvshyd@yahoo.com

AUDIT REPORT

We have audited the attached Receipts and Payment account, Income & Expenditure account and Balance sheet as at 31st March 2019 of Accion Fraterna, Ananthapuramu, Andhra Pradesh. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, test basis evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the Trust, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Further, we report that:

1) We have obtained all the information and explanation, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.

2) In our opinion, books of accounts as required by law applicable to Charitable Trusts have been kept by the Trust so far, as appears from our examination of such books.

3) The Balance sheet, Receipts and Payments Account and Income and Expenditure Account referred to in the report are in agreement with the books of accounts.

4) In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the Balance Sheet, Receipts and Payments Account and Income and Expenditure Account together with the annexures thereon give the information required as per the law applicable to the Charitable Trusts in the manner so required and give a true and fair view of:

- In the case of Balance sheet, the state of affairs of the Trust as at 31st March 2019.
- In the case of Receipts and Payments account of total receipts and payments for the year ended on that date, and
- In the case of Income and Expenditure account of the surplus for the year ended on that date.

5) In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said Receipts and Payments, Income & Expenditure Account and Balance sheet comply with the Accounting principles generally accepted in India and notified Indian Accounting Standards.

Place : Ananthapuramu

Date : 25.10.2019

For Mahesh, Virender & Sriram

Chartered Accountants

Reg. No. 001939 S



(B.R. MAHESH)

Partner , M.No. 018628

Consolidated Receipts and Payments Account for the period from 01.04.2018 to 31.03.2019

(A) Receipts	Total (₹)	Grand Total (₹)	(A) PAYMENTS	TOTAL (₹)	GRAND TOTAL (₹)
Opening balance					
Cash		3,000.00	1. Programme expenditure		
Bank		8,328,722.56	(a) Promotion of Sust. Agri. and diversified livelihoods	2,832,827.00	
			Capacity building of CBOs	260,468.00	
			Sustainable Agricultural Practices	1,535,540.00	
			Contingency Crops	1,277,492.00	
			Drought mitigation technologies	3,189,689.00	
			Non farm/ Off-farm livelihoods	734,981.00	
			Rainfed Farmers Cooperatives	10,934,259.00	
			Salaries for program staff	1,230,193.00	
			Rent for SA program vehicles & FTA to Field staff	1,149,439.00	
			Maintenance cost of Field offices	1,516,078.00	
			Policy advocacy on Sustainable Agriculture	693,998.00	
			Expenditure on AGEEWA Program	693,998.00	24,660,966.00
(b) Government/Local grants					
DWMA, IWMP Watershed Program	1,050,445.00		(b) Expenditure on Government / Local Projects :		
ICRISAT, AP Primary Sector Mission	8,179,248.00	11,344,393.00	Integrated Watershed Management Program	2,706,791.00	
NABARD Watershed Program	2,114,700.00		ICRISAT, Value Chain Project	4,303,302.00	8,607,654.00
			NABARD Watershed Program	1,597,561.00	
			(c) CRZBNF- APPI Program & RySS Program	8,882,750.00	8,882,750.00
			(d) Expenditure On MGNREGS-EB Consultancy Activities:	914,319.00	914,319.00
			(e) Expenditure on		
			1. APDMP Program - LFA	9,548,215.00	9,548,215.00
			2. APDMP Program - FA 1	2,643,850.00	2,643,850.00
			3. APDMP Program - FA 2	2,934,280.00	2,934,280.00
			2. Administration		9,998,230.83
			3. Capital Expenditure		6,106,664.00

(A) Receipts	Total (₹)	Grand Total (₹)	(A) PAYMENTS	TOTAL (₹)	GRAND TOTAL (₹)
Beneficiary Contributions		1,964,156.00			
Interest/Income/Capital gains		5,157,201.00	Revenue Expenditure - Other Liabilities :		3,472,551.00
Other Receipts (EMD/Health Subsidy/Gratuity & welfare)		3,484,260.00	Advances (Program/Salary/TDS)		41,279,012.00
Advances (Other Programs)		39,484,601.00	Fixed Deposits/Investments		76,108,893.00
Fixed Deposits/Investments		71,744,888.00			
			Closing Balances :		
			Cash		—
			Bank		22,947,262.73
TOTAL (A) in ₹		218,798,645.56	TOTAL (A) in ₹		218,798,645.56

Program costs directly transferred to Village Watershed Committees by NABARD and IWMP Watershed projects facilitated by Accion Fraterna for the period from 01.04.2018 to 31.03.2019

(B) Receipts	Total (₹)	Grand Total (₹)	(B) PAYMENTS	TOTAL (₹)	GRAND TOTAL (₹)
Funds released directly to Watershed Development Committees to meet watershed program expenses			Expenditure incurred by Village Watershed Development Committees towards watershed program activities		
IWMP watersheds	2,47,48,000.00	28,489,000.00	Watershed activities (IWMP)	2,47,48,000.00	28,489,000.00
NABARD watersheds	37,41,600.00		Watershed activities (NABARD)	37,41,600.00	
TOTAL (B) in ₹		28,489,000.00	TOTAL (B) in ₹		28,489,000.00
GRAND TOTAL (A+B) IN ₹		247,287,645.56	GRAND TOTAL (A+B) IN ₹		247,287,645.56

Note: As for the NABARD and IWMP watershed projects, only Administration Costs related to Accion Fraterna are reflected in Accion Fraterna books of accounts.

Whereas the Program costs of the funds are released directly to the Village Watershed Committees/beneficiaries for spending on program activities which are being facilitated by Accion Fraterna.


A. Srinivasulu
Finance Manager
Accion Fraterna, Ananthapuram


J. Murali Krishna
Chief Operating Officer
Accion Fraterna, Ananthapuram


Dr. Y V Malla Reddy
Chief Functionary and Director
Accion Fraterna, Ananthapuram




B.R. Mahesh
Partner
For Mahesh, Virender & Sriram
Chartered Accountants
Reg. No. 001939 S
Hyderabad

Statutory Auditors : M/s Mahesh, Virender & Sriram , Chartered Accountants, Hyderabad
Income Tax Consultants : M/s. P.Sivaramakrishna & Co., Chartered Accountants,

Balance Sheet as at 31.03.2019

Liabilities	Amount (₹)	Assets	Amount (₹)
General & Capital Fund Account		Current Assets	
General Fund	56,219,429.14	Closing balance	
Capital Fund	40,702,392.00	Cash	—
Driving School Fund	3,478,735.00	Bank	22,947,262.73
Gratuity & Health Fund Account		Deposits/Investments	
Gratuity & Welfare Fund:	6,999,883.81	General Deposits	42,065,148.00
Staff Health Subsidy Fund:	10,310,551.00	Gratuity Fund Investments	6,421,064.81
Staff Performance Incentive Fund:	746,880.00	Health Subsidy Deposits	7,886,216.00
		Driving School Deposits	2,876,977.00
Current Liabilities/Advances		Other Security Deposits	129,832.00
Advances from Other programs	8,669,752.00		
Unspent Specific Grants	15,206,198.60	Specific Government Grants Receivable	6,093,184.30
Advances		Advances	
Advances to Other Programmes		Advances to Other Programs	10,150,000.00
Accounts Receivable - TDS		Accounts Receivable - TDS	1,631,997.71
Accounts Receivable - Provident Fund	26,988.00	Accounts Receivable - Provident Fund	—
Program Advances		Program Advances	1,422,292.00
Salary Advances		Salary Advances	34,443.00
		Fixed Assets	40,702,392.00
TOTAL in ₹	142,360,809.55		142,360,809.55



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Accion Fraterna is exempted from Income Tax under 12A of Income Tax Act.
Accion Fraterna is exempted for donations under section 80G of Income Tax.
FCRA Registration is renewed with Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
FCRA Registration No. 010120029 dated 23.03.1985 is renewed up to 31.10.2021.

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We acknowledge with gratitude our partnership
with Bread for the World for Sustainable Agriculture
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