

jeebika

WESTERN ORISSA RURAL LIVELIHOODS PROJECT

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ମତ୍ସ୍ୟ ବିଭାଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା
ONE STOP AQUA SHOP
PATNA GARH
ONE WINDOW DELIVERY ON AQUACULTURE
WESTERN ORISSA RURAL LIVELIHOOD PROJECT
AND
DEPT. OF FISHERIES, ORISSA



One Stop Aquashop (OAS)

As part of its aquaculture development strategy, WORLP has collaborated with the Department of Fisheries, Government of Orissa (GoO), national and international resource agencies, and NGOs, to establish One Stop Aquashops (OAS), which will provide the community with aquaculture-related services, including information, inputs and infrastructure.

Sri Kanak Vardhan Singhdeo, Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development and Public Enterprises, GoO, inaugurated the first One Stop Aquashop (OAS) in Patnagarh block. This is one of the four OAS that are being established and operated through the Department of Fisheries. A further two OAS are being run in collaboration with Sahbhagi Vikas Abhiyan (SVA), which is a PIA for WORLP.

The inauguration was attended by Smt Sangeeta Singhdeo, Hon'ble MP of Bolangir district, the District Collector, Bolangir, the Panchayat Samiti Chairperson, the Project Director - Watersheds Bolangir, the Additional Director, Fisheries, Bolangir and the Block Development Officer, Patnagarh. Hundreds of members of self-help groups and user groups from Patnagarh and Khaprakhol blocks also witnessed the inauguration.

DEVELOPMENTS

Starting a local *haat*

In order to sell their produce, the villagers of Kurlubhata, a village situated 15 km from Bongomunda and 25 km from Titilagarh, had to travel 8 kilometres to the Sindhekela *haat*. Since their fields are not productive and the villagers themselves have a low level of skill and knowledge, their produce is not of high value. Therefore, after they had paid to transport their produce to the Sindhekela *haat*, their profits were very slim.

This problem was discussed during one of the meetings in the watershed. Sri Rashmi Ranjan Dash, the micro-enterprise specialist on the Livelihood Support Team (LST) had an idea. "Why don't we have our own *haat*?" he asked, "It will ensure that our own people get a space to market their produce; it will reduce their transportation cost and will also encourage entrepreneurs from nearby villages to bring their produce to this *haat*."

The idea was enthusiastically received and a *Haat* Development Committee (HDC) was formed. It was agreed that the *haat* would be held in Kurlubhata village every Tuesday. The HDC invited fourteen neighbouring villages to join the *haat*, and on 16 August 2005, the *haat* was inaugurated.



No more walking for miles to get to the *haat*
- Dipti Ranjan Behera

In the first week there were about 25 villagers at the *haat* selling vegetables, cereals and pulses. By the fifth week there were 70 traders and villagers selling their products in this *haat*.

The villagers are already seeing the benefits of having their own *haat*. Smt Karna Chura says, "It was very difficult for me to walk 8 km to sell my vegetables, and if I was sick I earned nothing. Now I can sell in my own *haat* even when I am ill."

Smt Sindra Matiyali says, "I have increased my profits by cutting down my transport costs."

The HDC has decided to plant a few mango and jackfruit trees that will not only provide shade to the sellers but will also fetch revenue for *haat* development in the future. The HDC has also planned to collect contributions from the sellers, but only after three or four months.





Experience sharing and orientation of Community Link Workers - Dipti Ranjan Behera

Villagers flocking to the Kuriubhata haat - Dipti Ranjan Behera

Experience Sharing and Orientation of Community Link Workers

Sharing of experience is often a very effective method of capacity building, says Mr Dipti Ranjan Behera, Capacity Building Team, Bolangir.

On 25 August 2005, Sahbhagi Vikas Abhiyan, (SVA), the Project Implementing Agency (PIA) of Sainitala block, and Ms Sarita Chaudhary, member LST, invited 17 Community Link Workers from the Agriculture, Natural Resource Management, Self-Help Group and Veterinary sectors from six watersheds of Sainitala block to attend a day-long Experience Sharing and Orientation programme. The purpose was to develop a common understanding on watershed management and livelihood improvement; and to help participants to learn from the best practices of other watersheds in the block.

The LST and Watershed Development Team (WDT) members also shared their field experiences. The CLWs developed a plan of action for the next month which will enable better coordination of inputs at the village and block levels.

It was decided that these programmes will henceforth be a regular feature. In future, a theme or topic from the Government of India's 2001 Revised Watershed Guidelines and the project's Livelihood Guidelines will be included in these programmes. This is to help build the all-round perspective of CLWs on watershed and livelihood programmes.



COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Live life on your own terms

Shyama and her husband, Baidi Patel, live in Babebir village in Boden block. Their only son moved away from their home when his wife died, leaving behind his daughter, Dukhia, to be brought up by them.

The couple who are well into their fifties own 0.3 acres of land. They cultivated paddy on this land, but the produce was just enough to feed them for 7 to 8 months. Their only income was from selling the *dal-bari* which Shyama made at home.

On their land they have a well which is 30 feet deep. Since the water level drops in summer, the water has to be drawn from the well. Traditionally, a *tenda*, is used for this, but it is hard work. Neither had the strength to operate the *tenda*. Life was not easy, but they were determined to make their grand-daughter happy and provide her with a secure future.

In 2004, Lutheran World Service (LWS), the Project Implementing Agency for WORLP started working in this area. Shyama, who is a member of a self-help group, and her husband, were trained by LWS (L) in agriculture and vegetable cultivation. Their land was used as a demonstration plot by IDE-I, a WORLP partner, and a surface treadle pump was installed in their well. Operating the treadle pump is easy for both Shyama and Baidi. Even seven-year-old Dukhia can operate it. They started cultivating vegetables such as cucumber, tomato, beans, bitter gourd, ladies finger and leafy vegetables, and made a profit of Rs. 3,000 in one season.

Their plot of land was also used to demonstrate 'vermi-wash', a farmer-friendly technology. They are now using the vermi-wash for the organic control of pests and to provide micronutrients to the plants.

Today Shyama and Baidi are able to live more comfortably on their income from selling their produce. They are able to feed and educate Dukhia and are putting away some money for her future. They are proud of their farm and of the fact that they can now live life on their own terms.



Baidi and Shyama Patel - IDE (I)

A farmer demonstrates the surface treadle pump - Bishnu Das Pradhan

EVENTS AND NEWS

Meeting with Commissioner cum Secretary, Fisheries and Animal Resource Department

On 1 September 2005 a delegation from the Orissa Watershed Development Mission (OWDM) and WORLP met the Commissioner cum Secretary, Fisheries and Animal Resource Department and apprised him in detail of the work in aquaculture development being done by the project. Dr Graham Haylor from STREAM presented the details of the work and also spoke about the collaboration with the Department of Fisheries. Dr Rajeev Sharma, Project Support Unit (PSU) coordinator made a presentation on WORLP in general and the livestock development initiatives in particular. The Secretary appreciated the work and encouraged the project to strengthen the collaborative efforts, both with government and private agencies.

Mid-year review

A mid-year desk review of WORLP was conducted by DFID-I from 18 to 20 August. The PSU, Project Support Team (PST) and the Project Directors made presentations on progress and plans to Mr Virinder Sharma and Ms Anuradha Maharishi of DFID-I, who conducted the review.

Sir Gordon Conway visits the project

The DFID Chief Scientific Adviser, Sir Gordon Conway, and colleagues from the UK and Delhi visited Nuapada district from 25 to 27 August. The team saw examples of the application of science and innovation in WORLP. They were particularly interested in aspects of participatory technology development, participatory mapping, crop research initiatives, links with other DFID-funded research projects on aquaculture, partnerships with regional and national scientific institutions and village drought mitigation plans. Sir Gordon noted that WORLP is adding value to pro-poor watershed development programmes in the district through the application of science and innovation in development; he promised that this would be reflected in an emerging DFID Science and Innovation strategy that he is leading.

Preparation of exit plan for 26 MWS

WORLP will start phasing out the first batch of 26 micro-watersheds (MWS) over the next year. Mr P R Choudhury has been appointed to prepare a plan for the withdrawal, based on a participatory assessment of the current progress. The plan will address the need to monitor progress and impact, while attempting to ensure sustainability.

Expansion of livelihood activities into non-WORLP areas

The Agriculture Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Limited (APICOL) has completed a study to examine the possibility of extending the livelihood approaches of WORLP into non-WORLP watersheds. A workshop was held on 15 September to discuss the report.

Action plan for aquaculture revised

The aquaculture plan has been reviewed and revised with help from STREAM. A five-year strategy and plan will now be developed to take forward successful aquaculture initiatives.

Preparation of process guidelines for watersheds in Orissa

A three-day workshop was conducted by the OWDM at the Xavier Institute of Business Management (XIMB) in Bhubaneswar to discuss the framework for the Process Guidelines for the watersheds in the State. A three-member team from WASSAN Hydersbad is facilitating the development of these Process Guidelines.

M&E workshop

WORLP has outsourced the development and implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation system to Catalyst Management Services (CMS), Bangalore. A two-day workshop was held to take stock of the pilot work



Orientation programme for LST members - sub-group discussions - David Gandhi

Dr Tripathi of STREAM explains hatchery operation to Sir Gordon - David Gandhi

Discussion with women in non-WORLP watersheds during Sir Gordon's visit - David Gandhi

Inauguration of the One Stop Aquashop - Dipti Ranjan Behera

carried out in the previous year and to develop frameworks and plans for establishing an M&E system. The Monitoring Core Group at the state level was reconstituted and core groups were established at district levels. CMS is recruiting personnel to roll out and manage the system in coordination with the PSU.

Micro-finance vision building

In order to consolidate and provide direction to the micro-finance aspects of the project, a one-day Vision Building workshop was organised at Bolangir. The workshop which was attended by government agencies and NGOs was facilitated by BASIX of Hyderabad. The workshop benefited immensely from the interest and involvement of the District Collector, Mr N C Jena.

Orientation programme

A three-day orientation programme was held from 25 to 27 July at XIMB-CENDERET for the newly appointed Livelihood Support Teams in Kalahandi and Bargarh districts. The objective was to familiarise the new entrants with all the aspects of the project in general and their roles and responsibilities in particular.

Additional Director and P.D Nuapada in the Philippines

Mr Raghu Prasad, the Additional Director, OWDM, and Dr Sarat Behera, the Project Director - Watersheds, Nuapada, attended a three-week training programme on Participatory Action Research for Community Based Natural Resource Management at the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) in the Philippines.

Participation in national workshop on Migration and Social Security

Mr Lingaraj Ota, the Project Director - Watersheds, Bolangir, participated in a two-day National Consultation on Social Security for Migrant Workers in the Informal Sector held at the India International Centre, New Delhi. The workshop discussed the problems faced by migrant workers and workers in the unorganised sector and discussed strategies to provide social security measures for them.

Telecast of short films on DD

WORLP has supported the telecast of five-minute films in Oriya on Doordarshan's regional channel. In these films the people speak about the various efforts of the project and the difference they are making to their lives. The films are being telecast on Fridays at 5:05 pm as part of the programme titled "Odlaha Katha".

Project Director, Kalahandi

Mr Santosh Khatua has been appointed the Project Director - Watersheds in Kalahandi from September. He is on deputation from the Soil and Water Conservation Department. He is no stranger to the project as he used to be the Assistant Project Director at Bolangir. We welcome Mr Khatua to WORLP and wish him all the best.

He has taken over from Mr Shailendra Kumar Naik, who was holding the charge of Project Director. We thank Mr Naik for carrying the additional responsibility.



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