



Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR)

Annual Report 2010-2011

List of Abbreviations

AHB	AndheriHilfe, Bonn
BMZ	German Ministry for Economic Cooperation
CASDAAT	The Climate Adaptive Sustainable Development Assessment and Adjustment Tool
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CBP	Capacity Building Phase
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
DTC	Darewadi Training Centre
ECOs	Ecological Community Organisers
GoM	Government of Maharashtra
GP	Gram Panchayat
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
IGWDP	Indo-German Watershed Development Programme
IRHA	International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
IT	Information Technology
KfW	German Development Bank
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MPs	Mahila Pravartaks
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHWDP	NABARD supported Holistic Watershed Development Program
NREGS	National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
NRM	Natural Resources Management
PIAs	Project Implementing Agencies
PPCP	Public Private Civil Society Partnership
PRIs	Panchayat Raj Institutions
RSO	Resource Support Organisation
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SHGs	Self-Help Groups
SIED	Sanjeevani Institute for Empowerment and Development
SMS	Samyukta Mahila Samiti
SPS	School of Public Service
SRTT	Sir Ratan Tata Trust
SSLL	School for Sustainable Living and Livelihoods
ST	Sampada Trust
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
VDC	Village Development Committee
VPM	VidarbhaPanlot Mission
VSHGs	Village Self-Help Groups
VWCs	Village Watershed Committees
WASUNDHARA	WOTR Attentive to Social Unity for Nature, Development and Humanity in Rural Areas

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SECTION 1



WOTR receives the Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Ratna Award

About WOTR

The Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR) is one of the premier NGOs tackling water scarcity, rural poverty, and food insecurity in the dry-lands of India today.

In all, WOTR has worked in 1,508 villages in 33 districts of the five states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand. In its 17 years it has organized 1,062 watershed development and climate change adaptation projects, covering over 642,488 hectares and impacting 904,000 people. Its women's SHG promotion, micro-finance, trainings and other initiatives extend to even more villages. It has promoted almost 5,039 self-help groups, which use micro-financing to empower villagers with a desire to work but no resources to get started. Over 65,723 women have improved their lives through these ground-level organizations. This is either by direct implementation or by handholding NGOs and village committees in implementation. WOTR has 184 NGOs and government Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs), which are vital partners in WOTR's extensive development network.

WOTR aims to promote watershed development not only in India but anywhere it can be implemented. The aim of this project is to empower agrarian communities to rejuvenate their environment as a basis for improving their livelihoods. Our guidance in establishing political and institutional bodies and micro-loan programs adds to the sustainability of villagers' livelihoods. Efficiency is high, as our time-tested expertise combines with villagers' local labour and knowledge of their land; little outside help is needed.

WOTR's specific objectives are to regenerate the natural eco-system with a strong Participatory, People-centric approach that will simultaneously repair the torn social-fabric of community; to address the severe water-scarcity, recurring drought, low-agricultural productivity resulting in starvation, chronic hunger and severe under-nutrition in the communities; create alternative, diversified livelihood opportunities that can bring the communities out of poverty; through partnerships between diverse groups: villages, NGOs, Government within India and across countries especially South-South Co-operation.

WOTR is:

- a Capacity Building and Support Agency
- a Direct Project Implementer
- a Service Provider
- involved in Networking and Advocacy

Philosophy

WOTR believes that land degradation and water scarcity are the most intense and commonly felt needs of a village community that can bring different groups of people together to begin their development process. Community restoration of the natural environment makes sustainability happen. Such community-led efforts help combat challenges and adapt to climate change and mitigate its impacts.

Vision

Communities, especially the poor within, are empowered to live in dignity and secure their livelihood in sustainable eco-systems.

Mission

To provide committed development support that motivates, energizes and empowers individuals, groups, communities and other organizations to undertake integrated ecosystems development for enhancement of well-being on a sustainable basis.



Board of Trustees

Fr. Hermann Bacher
Founder Chairman

Mr. Crispino Lobo
Co-Founder & Managing Trustee

Members

Mr. Asoke Basak
IAS (Retired)

Dr. G.G. Parikh
Chairman (Yusuf Meherally Centre)

Mr. Anand Sharma
CEO and Co-Founder (Time-Based Management Consulting Group)

We are pleased to present to you a Report of the work done by WOTR this past year, 2010-2011. And it has indeed been a fast-paced and gratifying year.

The singular service provided by WOTR was recognised by the Government of Maharashtra who conferred upon us the state's highest agricultural award, the "Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Ratna" at the hands of the Chief Minister in September. In the same month, Vankute, a project village of WOTR was awarded the "JSW-TOI Earth Care Award, 2010" under the category "Community Based Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change" which carried with it a prize of Rs. 300,000. WOTR also received a "Commendation" under the same category.

The climate change adaptation project that we had launched in 2009-2010 has gathered momentum. A key challenge was to re-orient activities from the perspective of building up local resilience and capacities of rural communities to mitigate risk and cope with weather variability. This involved significant "re-tooling" of systemic, cognitive, technical, thematic and procedural processes and has resulted in a reinvigorated and re-positioned WOTR. This has resulted in greater focus on specific thematic: agro-meteorology informed agricultural advisories, organics-focussed adaptive sustainable agriculture, integrated water-nutrient-pest management, biodiversity, disaster risk reduction and community-led disaster management, knowledge capture and management (action research), capacity building, best practices dissemination and development of IT enabled web-based systems to facilitate management of complex projects, generate advisories, capture best practices and enable concurrent mid-course corrections.

Towards this end, WOTR has entered into MOUs with 4 prestigious institutions: CRIDA (Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture), ICRAF (International Council for Research in Agroforestry), IMD (India Meteorological Department) and the MPKV (Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth) for technology development and transfer as well as sharing of experiences and practices. These collaborations will facilitate the mainstreaming of learnings and successful practices into national programs as well as contribute towards shaping policies and frameworks that promote climate smart adaptive behaviour in rural India. As part of its policy outreach engagement, WOTR organised a national workshop on "Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Development" in February 2011 which was well attended by over 100 delegates from various local and international institutions. Several field oriented research studies undertaken by WOTR were released on this occasion.

As the following report will show, WOTR is now active in 5 states and is engaged in a range of thematic areas such as women's promotion, drudgery reduction, drinking water and sanitation, health, child growth and nutrition monitoring, renewable energy and community based rural tourism. Details of progress in these areas are indicated in the following pages.

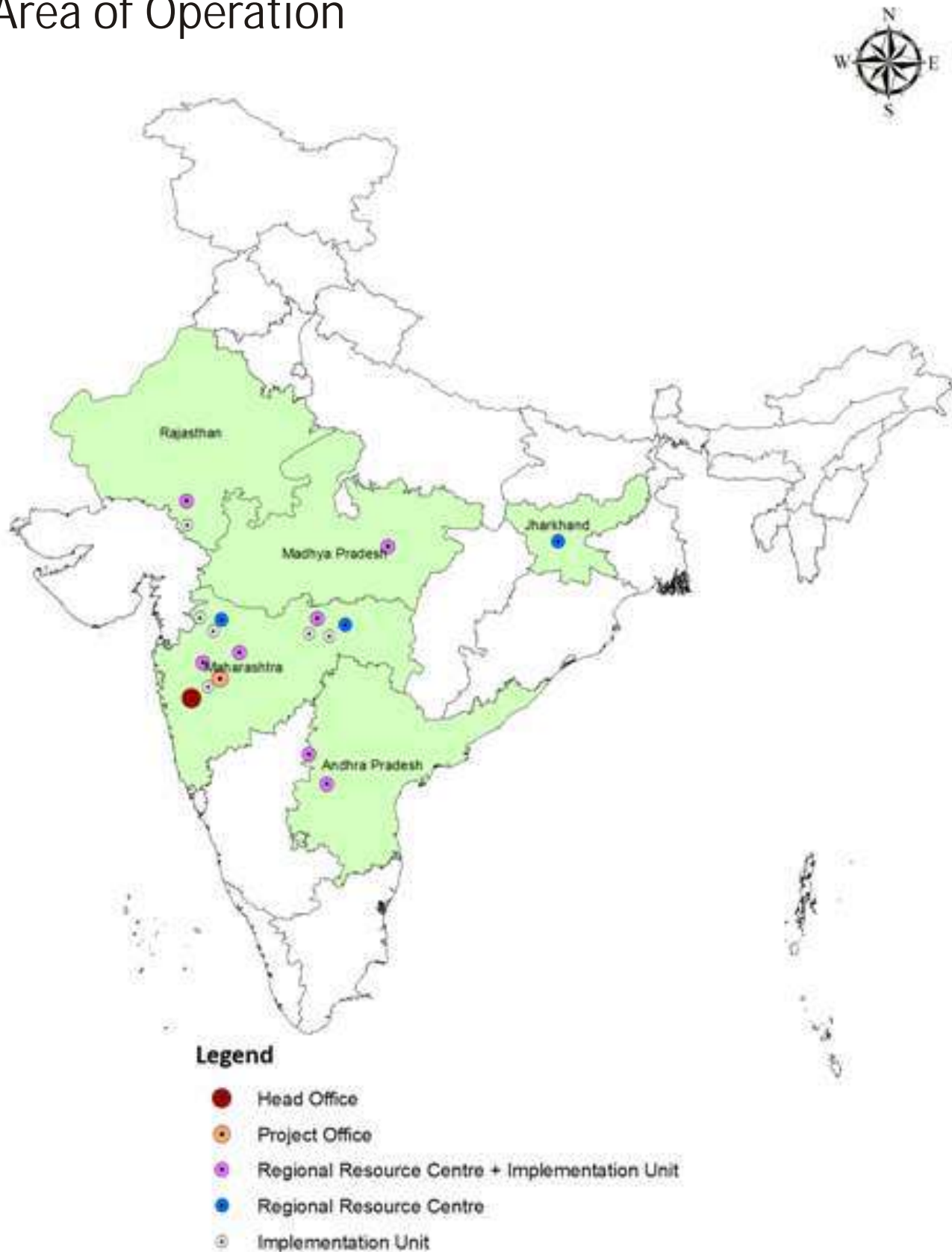
WOTR would like to place on record our gratitude to the Embassy of Switzerland and the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), NABARD and various other donors for their generous financial support and technical accompaniment that has made possible our multi-dimensional engagement with community based climate change adaptation.

And finally, to all our dear benefactors, friends and supporters, we would like to express our gratitude and indebtedness to you without your generosity and unstinting trust in us, we would not have been able to reach out and make a difference to so many of our needy children, women, men and communities in rural India. They join us in saying an unreserved "Thank You!"

Dr. Marcella D'Souza,
Executive Director

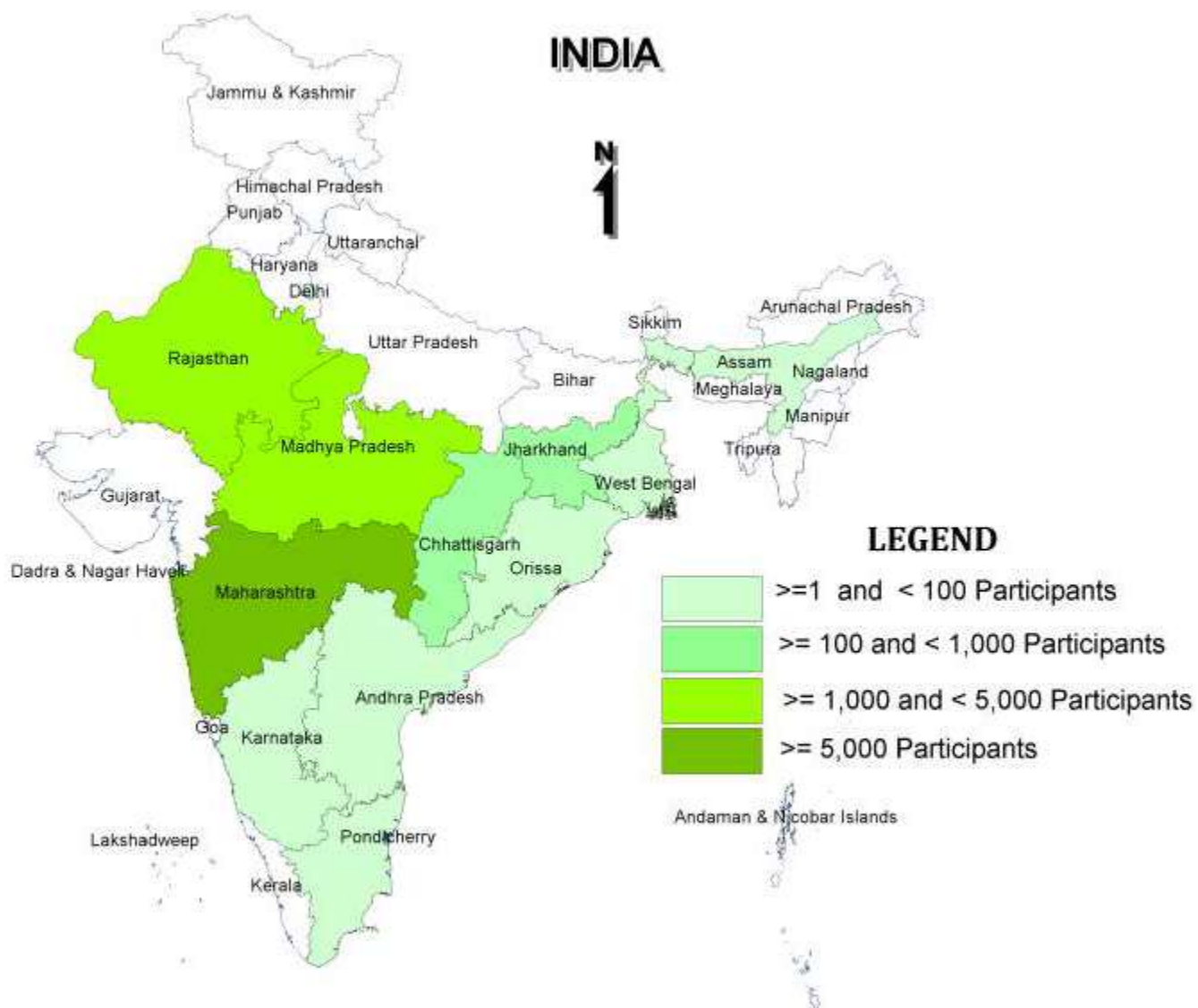
Mr. Crispino Lobo,
Managing Trustee

Area of Operation



Training Outreach

(April' 10-March' 11)



Consultancy Services and Products Offered

With competencies in Watershed Development and Natural Resource Management, Integrated Water Resources Management, Rural Development, Community Mobilization, Gender and Women's Empowerment, Systems Development and Capacity Building, WOTR offers a variety of consultancy services to various stakeholders such as forest departments, corporate houses, government departments and NGOs.

Trainings and Exposure Dialogue: Designing and conducting need and demand-based trainings in natural resource management, participatory and integrated watershed development, community mobilization, application of IT to project management and entrepreneurship development.

Capacity Building and Institutional Development: Upgrading the financial, managerial, technical, social, organizational, team building and communication skills of developmental agencies and primary stakeholders through custom- made, systems- based and outcome- oriented pedagogies, with hand- holding and on- site accompaniment.

Project Proposal Preparation and Advisory: Project design, proposal formulation, feasibility studies and project proposal preparation.

Project Supervision, monitoring & evaluations: Supervision, monitoring, review and evaluations studies.

Programme Management : Management of projects and funds on behalf of donors involving multi-stakeholders such as civil society actors, NGOs, corporates and government agencies.

Development Communication and Documentation such as audio, video and photographic documentation of the process and project works, as well as preparation of thematic documentaries.

IT-Enabled Learning and Monitoring Systems: Development of processes, instruments and mechanisms that help individuals and organisations to capture, archive and process data and information in a manner that promotes and facilitates learning, insight, adaptation and behavior change, increasing efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability and makes the organisation into a learning and knowledge entity.

Corporate Consultancy: Designing of survey and estimates, project formulation, soil and water conservation measures, supervision and monitoring. The local communities, NGOs and corporate team are capacitated to promote the development process in their area.

Capacity Building and Support

WOTR is/was supporting the following programmes

1. Indo-German Watershed Development Programme (IGWDP), Maharashtra
2. Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP)
3. Resource Support Organisation for Vidarbha Distress Development Program in Maharashtra (PM/NABARD)
4. Resource Organisation for Rural Development Interventions in South-East Madhya Pradesh
5. Resource Support Agency in Tribal Belt of South Rajasthan
6. a. State Resource Organisations for IWMP Projects in Maharashtra
b. District Resource Organisation for Ahmednagar District IWMP Projects in Maharashtra
7. Support Training Institute for Hariyali Programme (GoM) in Dhule and Amravati District

Direct Project Implementation

Projects directly implemented by WOTR

1. Integrated Watershed Development projects in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan
2. Water Harvesting and participatory Water Budgeting
3. Sustainable Agriculture and Livelihoods
4. Health, Water and Sanitation Promotion
5. Women's Empowerment
6. Micro-Finance (taken over by Sampada Trust a sister institution)
7. Information Technology and Management Information Systems (IT-MIS)
8. GIS-based, MIS-linked database and other IT related developmental products
9. Renewable Energy
10. Community Based Rural Tourism
11. Rural Education and Supplemental pre-primary school education

Services Provided

1. Capacity Building/Trainings provided to local partners, national and international participants
2. IT based Services (Applied Information Technology)
3. Program and Project Management (including Feasibility Studies and Proposal Formulation)
4. Research and Knowledge Management
5. Training support on "Lean Management" (Kaizen Methodology) for productivity enhancement
6. Consultancy services.
7. Policy Engagement and Dialogue, Networking and Linkage Building.

Networking and Advocacy

WOTR is/has

1. A network of 184 NGOs/Govt. PIAs
2. Supported over 400 NGOs across India and 200,897 persons from 35 countries in training/capacity building
3. Co-founder and member IRHA (International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance, Geneva)
4. Accredited observer status to the UNCCD as CSO.
5. Close cooperative arrangement with the Govt. of India, Govt. of Maharashtra, Govt. of Rajasthan, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.

New Approaches and Initiatives

- WOTR has developed and is implementing a comprehensive and participatory strategy for Climate Change Adaptation in a cluster approach.
- The WASUNDHARA Approach organizes villages beginning from the habitation level and building upwards such that the 30% at the bottom (the poor) are included in decision making processes as well as are able to secure a livelihood source. This approach empowers Village Panchayats, making them more responsive and accountable to the villagers. The Village Envisioning Process sensitizes villagers to causal relationships and enables them to envisage and act to realize their best achievable goals.
- Supporting groups from Africa (Malawi and Sudan) by way of training and consultancy support.
- Community based Eco-Tourism which is community centric and manages sustainable tourism that enables them to earn a livelihood while incentivizing the protection and preservation of their culture, traditions and their environment.
- Renewable Energy: WOTR has initiated renewable and alternate energy initiatives, to make available renewable sources of energy to address the domestic energy requirements (for cooking and lighting) of rural households.
- School for Sustainable Living and Livelihood which provides “skills-for-life” training for rural youth and equips them to be local “climate change adaptation promoters” while securing for themselves sustainable livelihoods locally.
- Development of multimedia games for community mobilization A game for Water Budgeting and for Rural Transformations have been developed.
- Development of web-based IT-enabled tools for project planning, monitoring, documentation and reporting supported by GIS and GPS formats.
- The PPCP approach under MREGS-NREGA has been expanded in two more districts of Maharashtra with the support of NABARD and ITC-RDT.
- WOTR has hosted two international Exposure Dialogue programs for the DePaul University, Chicago, USA, Africa. And one training programme for IRHA
- WOTR 2020: During this year, widespread consultations across WOTR and its sister organisations (SIED and ST) were undertaken to formulate a vision document for the coming decade covering the entire group. An analysis of the previous strategic Vision Document was conducted and we were pleased to note that several key result areas had indeed been achieved. The new Vision document called “WOTR 2020” lays out the thrust areas and roadmaps for the WOTR Group in the coming decade.

Overview of Activities

(cumulative upto March 2011)

Sr. No.	Activities	Cumulative upto 31 st Mar 2011
	<u>Scale of Operation :</u>	1062 Villages 148 NGOs / Govt. PIAs 33 Districts (25 dist. Maharashtra, 3 in Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan & 2 in Andhra Pradesh) 642,488 hectares 904,385 people benefitted
1. Capacity Building Support (community management of natural and other resources)		
i.	IGWDP, Maharashtra / Other Funding	396 Villages 25 Districts 89 NGOs 212,360 ha. Benefitting 261,655 people
ii.	Resource Support Organisation (RSO) for Vidarbha Distress Development Program in Maharashtra (PM / NABARD)	106 Villages (24 clusters) 2 Districts 11 NGOs 59,337 ha. Benefitting 70,631 people
iii.	Govt. of Maharashtra DPAP, Hariyali, IWDP, VPM	279 Villages 4 Districts 46 NGOs / PIAs 173,903 ha. Benefitting 262,837 people
iv.	Resource Organisation for Rural Development Interventions in South-East Madhya Pradesh	8 Villages 3 Districts 4 NGOs / PIAs 5,027 hectares benefitting 4281 people
v.	Resource Support Agency in Tribal Belt of South Rajasthan	6 Villages 2 Districts 3 NGOs / PIAs 3,282 ha. Benefitting 9105 people
	Total	795 Villages 453,908 ha. 30 Districts (25 Maharashtra, 3 Madhya Pradesh and 2 Rajasthan) over 608,509 people benefitted
2. Direct Implementation of Projects		
2.1	Watershed Development & Natural Resources Management	
	<u>Maharashtra</u> (IGWDP, WOTR-WASUNDHARA,)	110 Villages 11 Districts 64,418 ha. - benefitting 78,885 people
	PPCP - MREGS	89 Villages 3 Districts / 4 blocks 74,642 total area ha. 106,191 people benefitting
	ii. Andhra Pradesh (APRLP, IWMP and NABARD-WDF)	37 Villages 2 Districts 28,984 ha., 76,200 people benefitting
	iii. Madhya Pradesh	4 villages 1 District 1151 ha., 2007 people

Overview of Activities

(cumulative upto March 2011) Contd.

	iv. Rajasthan	8 villages 2 District 3,533 ha., 9,321 people
2.2	WOTR - Promotion Of Climate Change Adaptation In Maharashtra	29 Villages 21,660 ha. 28,213 people
Expansion to Jharkhand_WOTR has started its operation in Jharkhand from Jun-2010		
	TOTAL	272 Villages 192,017 ha. 16 Districts (11 in Maharashtra, 2 in Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh and 1 in Madhya Pradesh) Benefitting 298,706 people <u>Note:</u> Some of these villages have been excluded from the total figure in (1) above to avoid double counting.
2.3	Drinking Water Activities	Total 115 villages / hamlets. Benefitting over 42000 villagers
2.4	Renewable Energy for Rural Development	RE unit of WOTR has electrified 2906 households using solar home lighting systems 3,563 Biomass stoves installed 35 Biogas Plants attached to toilets & 30 Biogas Lamps
2.5	Women's Self-Help Promotion and Developmental activities	5039 savings and credit groups promoted 65,723 women members
2.6	Health Promotion	42 villages 83 Mahila Pravartaks(Women Promoters)trained
2.7	Child care and growth monitoring (0 – 5 age group) (Implemented through Sampada Trust – A Sister Organisation)	Completed in 130 villages from 3 districts, 7,087 children benefited
2.8	School Environment and Sanitation Projects	Toilet and drinking water system in 119 villages / 168 schools
2.9	The School for Sustainable Living and Livelihoods	69 (19 female) candidates have successfully completed their course 38 (7 female) candidates are being trained A total of 107 (26 female) rural youth are benefitting from this initiative.
2.10	Community Managed Rural Tourism	This venture has been initiated in March 2006 with a view of making the regenerated watersheds a source of livelihoods. It is being carried out in 3 WOTR project villages from Akole Taluka of Ahmednagar District
2.11	School Strengthening Programme (SSP) Connection Between Education & Child's Life Activities Training to Teachers Base Line Test (BLT) Maze Pustak Program (Marathi Reading / Writing Program)	SSP is started in 2 clusters / 9 villages Sangamner and Akole region in Ahmednagar district.

Overview of Activities

(cumulative upto March 2011)

	Digital Classroom Program School Readiness Program School Monitoring Meeting with villagers and Village Education Committee	
3.	Advisory Services Advisory services taken up for Watershed development Natural Resources Management, Monitoring & Evaluation Project Evaluation	<u>International</u> Somaliland, Kenya , Tanzania , Malawi, Bhutan, Sudan <u>India (in 7 States)</u> 7 Govt. Institutions 7 Non Govt. Institutions 10 Corporate Sectors
4.	Training Programs : For Implementing Partners National Level Programs International Level Programs Total:	5,650 programs / 181,142 participants 679 programs / 19,303 participants 34 programs / 452 participants 6,363 programs / 200,897 participants
5.	Research and Knowledge Management	Socio-economic Baseline Studies of several Watershed Villages and 58 Research Studies on various topics have been done
6.	Communication & Documentation	- 28 books on various topics has been published - 38 films have been produced and are available on various aspects of Watershed Development, Women's Empowerment, Renewable Energy and case studies of completed watershed
7.	Information Technology	WOTR has developed various software systems for in-house use as also for development agencies in general, such as MIS, DSS, separate module on PNP and Muster preparation, etc. Work is on-going for web-based systems.

Some Highlights

- Network of collaborating partners : 184 NGOs / Govt. PIAs
- Developmental work in : 1508 villages
- Operating in State : 5
- No. of additional NGOs who have availed of Trainings and Extension Support : Over 400 NGOs / PIAs
- No. of women's SHGs supported : 5039 SHGs
- Total no. of persons who have availed of trainings and exposures : 200,897 persons from 27 states of India and 35 Countries.

Countries (Germany, Azarbaijan, France, Japan, Ethiopia, Nepal, Bhutan, Jordan, Brazil, Mexico, Kenya, Srilanka. Kazakhstan, Bulgaria, Canada, Australia, Zimbabwe, Vietnam, United Kingdom, United State of America, China, Sudan, Nicaragua, Switzerland, Tanzania, Bangladesh, Somaliland, Malawi, Afghanistan, Rwanda, Indonesia, Burundi, Yemen and Djibouti)

SECTION 2



1

Capacity Building Support for Watershed Development and Dry Land Natural Resources Management

WOTR's primary focus, since its inception in 1993, has been capacity building of and support to NGOs and CBOs in Watershed Management. This has been done through enhancing capabilities of NGOs, other implementing agencies for rural communities to regenerate and manage the watersheds they live in.

WOTR's objective is to mobilise the self-help capacities of individuals and communities to regenerate the eco-spaces or watersheds they live in, harvest rainwater wherever it falls, use it productively and undertake sustainable livelihoods which takes them out of poverty.

Program Management and Resource Organisation for large-scale projects in Watershed Development NGOs and Village Self-Help Groups (VSHGs) are guided by WOTR to undertake environmental regeneration through trainings and handholding support. During the year, 42 NGOs and Govt. PIAs of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan were accompanied in bilateral, government and other donor funded projects, with the objective of increasing capacities of NGOs and of the local communities, especially vulnerable groups, to adapt to climate change and to undertake adoptive measures that mitigate them.

Program Management and Resource Organisation for large-scale projects

Programme	Extent of operation
Resource Support Organisation (RSO) for IGWDP, Maharashtra (KfW-NABARD)	56 villages (29 WS Projects) covering an area of 32,568 ha..
Resource Support Organisation (RSO) for Vidarbha Distress villages in Maharashtra (NHWDP)	106 villages (24 WS Clusters) 59,337 ha. 2 districts
Support Training Institute for DPAP Hariyali Programme in Dhule and Amravati District of Maharashtra	67 villages 43,114 ha., 2 districts
Resource Organisation for Rural Development Interventions in South-East Madhya Pradesh (AHB-BMZ)	8 villages, 5,027 ha. 4 NGOs / PIAs
Resource Support Agency in Tribal Belt of South Rajasthan (Concern India Foundation and AHB-BMZ)	6 Villages, 3,282 ha. 3 NGOs
Total	243 WS villages, 143,339 ha.

2.1

Watershed Development Projects

WOTR believes that one's own experience is the best vehicle for understanding ground reality and for designing and developing project models. Hence, WOTR also directly implements projects.

In Maharashtra, WOTR implements projects together with its sister organization the Sanjeevani Institute of Empowerment and Development (SIED).

The 'Wasundhara' approach has been implemented in over 287 villages since 2005 with far-reaching impacts. The process continues beyond the project period. These guidelines are followed in all the 270 villages that WOTR and SIED jointly and individually implement, across funding lines. WOTR continues to improve on these guidelines to make it more effective.

Programme	Extent
MAHARASHTRA	
■ WOTR-Wasundhara (KKS-BMZ,AHB-BMZ, Gramodaya, SBI, Sunhara Kal-ITC)	35 villages, 18,738 ha
■ PPCP-MNREGS (ITC and NABARD)	67 villages, 59,233 ha. 3 Districts and 4 Blocks
ANDHRA PRADESH	
WOTR-WASUNDHRA ■ IWMP Andhra	15 villages, 17,554 ha. 2 districts
■ NABARD-WDF	6 villages / 3 WS Projects , 3001 ha area
RAJASTHAN	
■ WOTR-WASUNDHRA (AHB-BMZ, CIF, RWPL)	8 villages, 4,076 ha.
MADHYA PRADESH	
■ WOTR-WASUNDHRA (RBS Foundation)	4 villages, 1151 ha. Area
Total	135 villages, 103,753 ha.

2.2

Promotion of Climate Change Adaptation in Maharashtra

Climate change and variability can no longer be denied. Especially as this has been a significant experience in the recent years. We are uncertain as to how it will baffle us next. The vulnerability of natural and human systems to climatic changes and the necessity to adapt to such changes has been recognized as a global need and obligation by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992. Since then, however, the international dialogue on ways to meet this challenge has been held hostage to vested political, economic and commercial interests, which has resulted in further increasing vulnerability, especially of poor communities and nations in tropical climes.

Besides watershed development, WOTR is introducing new elements such as agro-meteorology for tracking weather patterns at the village level leading to generation of advisories to farmers on what steps to take in emergency conditions. This is also linked to water budgeting, crop planning, agronomic practices and irrigation management. Overlaying these initiatives is a native focus on securing sustainable livelihood opportunities together with market linkages for people in these areas. Advanced project management and GIS-based systems are also being deployed so as to track progress, capture results and identify impacts.

The project titled 'Promotion of Climate Change Adaptation in Semi-Arid and Rainfed Regions of Maharashtra' is being implemented in 29 villages of Sangamner and Akole blocks of Ahmednagar District of Maharashtra covering an area of 21,660ha., directly benefitting 28,213 people. The intervention seeks to develop the knowledge, strategies, approaches, measures and processes that enable vulnerable communities to cope with and adapt to the impending impacts of Climate Change in a manner which can be widely adoptable, replicable and scalable

The objective is to improve the adaptive capacities of rural communities to respond to the effects of emerging climate changes by regenerating the eco-systems they live in, diversifying livelihood sources in order to reduce risks, and adopting new agricultural and renewable energy technologies.

This project is supported by the Embassy of Switzerland and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Feasibility Study is under preparation for implementation support through the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

Several approaches and activities have been taken up under the CCA project:

2.2.1

Promotion and Implementation of Adaptive Sustainable Agricultural practices

Along with the soil and water conservation programmes, promotion of agricultural techniques and practices is equally important in sustaining the livelihoods of the people in the long term. All too often, market considerations exert undue pressure on the agricultural practices, which in turn affect the production base and cause irreversible imbalances in the eco system.

WOTR has been extensively putting in sustainable agriculture practices into the development activities in its project villages. The objective is to promote low external inputs, increase land productivity, indigenous seeds, and reduce cost of cultivation.

Agricultural demonstration plots, vermin-compost pits and beds have been developed. Selected farmers from were given training inputs on transplantation, spacing, soil preparation, manure preparation, tillage operations, seed treatment, cultivation practices, spacing, sowing method etc. They are responsible for monitoring and implementation of all demonstrations at village level.

A major impact of these demonstrations has been that many myths regarding sowing systems have been cleared. Now farmers are aware that more seed does not necessarily mean more production which depends on line sowing and nutrition given to the crop.

Localized Meteorological information

Localized Met-advisories and Agri-met advisories are in demand and they can be very much useful in giving timely information to farmers so that they can plan their agricultural activities accordingly.

Field visits of scientists and officials from various Government institutions such as Indian Meteorological Department, Dy. Director- Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra, Agro Meteorology Expert from MPKV Agriculture University, Rahuri, a scientist from Ground Water Survey Agency, CDAC and NIC, were organized for further collaboration to provide expert guidance.

Collaboration process with the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) to provide guidance for weather station installation, weather predictions as well as to provide agro advisory, was initiated. At the same time, one automated weather station (AWS) was installed at IMD's observatory for verification of AWS data output with actual observations by IMD.

Automated Weather Stations were also installed in all the 28 villages and they are functioning now. Display boards, that display daily weather information, have been installed at prominent places so that people would be able to get to know these.

Requirement analysis of agri-meteorology software is in process. The Content Management System (using Drupal framework) was designed to store crop related general information, weather conditions affecting crops for major pest and disease incidences, cultural control of pest and diseases, general management practices, crop calendar, other crop details update is in progress.

2.2.2

Integrating Biodiversity concerns

Biodiversity plays a crucial but often underestimated role in the mitigation of climate change. Biological diversity of ecosystems is a key factor in ensuring the natural processes undertaken by ecosystems. Maintaining local biodiversity and increasing green space, in particular forest areas, therefore are significant and effective contributions towards protecting the global climate.

WOTR works with the communities to better understand and document the biodiversity in their surroundings, in a hope to help to arrest the worldwide trend of declining ecosystem health. WOTR strongly believes that conservation of biodiversity must be incorporated into development policies and strategies that bring social and economic benefits to the communities and help them adapt to Climate Change.

WOTR also is involved in setting up of People's Biodiversity Registers to address the biodiversity concerns in WSD and other developmental activities; to create an awareness in the community about the importance of promoting, conserving and protecting local biodiversity; to keep a record of the local biodiversity through participatory mapping and recording of the biodiversity, and to capacitate the community to address the biodiversity concerns in the decisions taken by the local bodies.

Three PBR (People's Biodiversity Register) Contact Sessions of 4 days each were held as part of capacity building of WOTR field staff for integration of Biodiversity concerns into their activities. 10 studies emerged out of these contact sessions on crops, storage systems, traditional recipes, forest edibles, traditional songs, and how children adapt to weather variations in summer.

Four CBR (Children's Biodiversity Register) Contact Sessions were held in 6 Zilla Parishad schools to integrate Biodiversity concerns in school-level education and build awareness in the teachers. These were held in the villages of Purushwadi, Khadki Budruk, Wankute, Malegaon Pathar, Warudi Pathar and Khangedara reaching approximately 300 children. This led to documentation from a children's perspective of village history, flora and fauna, and identifying a bird/animal village mascot. The information collected also served as a verification of information stemming out of PBR and activities and served the mobilisation purpose.

Integrating and addressing Biodiversity Concerns in Soil and Water Conservation work is being carried out in various villages.

Documentation was initiated in Shiswad and Purushwadi through paintings and establishing PBR. Similarly, WOTR initiated exploration of linkages between eco-system services, livelihoods, poverty, adaptation, protection and preservation of traditional practices that promote adaptation and local knowledge, local economies, local money multiplier and identification of hazards.

2.2.3

Disaster Risk Reduction and Community-based Disaster Management

Climate change and globalization bring uncertainty and risk to many communities across the world especially those who rely heavily on the availability of local resource and infrastructure. When disaster strikes, a stable empowered community responds with resilience and recovers quickly. Community-based disaster management (CBDM) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) programs are essential components of sustainable development.

As part of integrating these approaches into our programs, we have started out by mapping hazards in Shiswad village, Akole Taluka. An initial workshop was held on DRR, where community members in the workshop identified hazard hotspots in their area. These included landslide/rockfall hotspots, infrastructural damage or instability, and areas prone to lightning strike. These locations were recorded using GPS, and further information gathering and observation was carried out by our staff. These were then transferred onto a series of maps.

The report, translated into Marathi, once ratified and amended by the community, is expected to serve as a planning tool for the continuation of CBDM in the village. The hope is that through representing hazards spatially, the community can better assess its own vulnerability, and identify other non-physical aspects of vulnerability to eventually form a mitigation plan to minimize risk.



Women's Promotion, Drudgery Reduction and Addressing Basic Amenities

Women being an important stakeholder in any natural resource management project are one of WOTR's priority focus areas. WOTR has a clear focus on and gives emphasis to building up their social capital and management capabilities. WOTR facilitates their empowerment by organising them into solidarity groups (SHGs), building capacity to address their and their children's concerns through health services and providing personal care advisories, and literacy, numeracy and personality development training. It also actively engages men in assisting women to secure their entitlements as well as creating avenues for effective representation in the decision-making bodies of the village.

Additionally, associated institutions of WOTR help them acquire livelihood and life skills. This is done by providing them with financial and business development support to start and successfully manage micro-enterprises, creating avenues of access to micro-insurance and providing efficient 'green' cooking and home lighting systems and provisioning drinking water and sanitation that address women's concerns.

The project initiates and implements various development activities that not only enhance their economic status but also reduces drudgery and burden. The Samyukta Mahila Samiti (SMS), the federation of all SHGs at the village level, gives them a space and voice at the village level. The Village Development Committees (VDCs) have an active representation of women (40-45%).

In most of the project villages, the SMS utilize the women's development funds allotted to the project and use it for the women's development activities especially for group and individual income generation or livelihood activities through revolving funds. Similarly, in most of the project villages, financial support is provided for livelihood and income generation activities through VDCs under the separate revolving fund. In all villages the utilization and operation/functioning of the activity is monitored by the VDC and SMS on regular basis.

In 2010-2011, WOTR promoted 149 new SHGs with 1392 women.

4

Drinking water, Sanitation and School Environment

WOTR implemented drinking water and total sanitation activities in nine villages / hamlets under the project 'Integrated Domestic Water Management in Maharashtra', supported by Arghyam. Drinking and sanitation projects have also been implemented in other 6 villages / hamlets and supported by the Blue Planet Run and Ammada Trust.

The project included activities such as construction of new wells, repairs of existing drinking water schemes, laying of pipeline, hand pump installation, tap connections, and trainings and capacity building of Pani Samiti (water committee).

The "School Water and Sanitation Project" addresses the core need as well the issues of drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion in primary and the Pre-primary schools.

The "School Water and Sanitation Project" is being implemented in 47 schools and 16 Kindergartens (Anganwadis) in (24 villages) in two blocks of Sangamner and Akole blocks of Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra. The project is supported by Andheri-Hilfe, Bonn.

Pre-primary and primary schools have been selected and the students of these schools are imbibed with messages of importance and practices of health and hygiene, which they in turn disseminate these to their homes and communities. The school children are also taught to get involved in the activities like regular cleaning toilet units, watering the plants/trees and school garden, cleaning of the school campus etc. This has developed a sense of ownership among the students. The schools authorities have appreciated the coordinated efforts of WOTR, involving the schools, Gram Panchayat, Village Development Committees, Village Education Committees, parents and community as a whole.

The other activities conducted under the project were construction of water supply system to the school, drainage of waste water, solid waste management (vermi and organic composting), construction of sanitation blocks, water management and sanitation education, awareness campaigns and workshops for all the villages and schools / Anganwadis, and cluster level workshops for school teachers and community members.



Health Promotion & Child Growth Monitoring Program

The health project is being implemented in 20 villages of four districts in Maharashtra. 40 women health workers (Mahila Pravartaks) are being trained to reach out to the women of the 20 villages, addressing issues of Gender & Sexuality, nutritional status of children and women, hygiene sanitary practices and safe drinking water. WOTR also works towards building adequate awareness on HIV AIDS with subsequent guidance on adoption of preventive measures against the syndrome. WOTR facilitates building the capacities of Mahila Pravartaks and create a link between the health and anganwadi centers and the village. WOTR also promotes health and life insurance cover for the women.

The HB test camps create awareness among the villagers of their nutritional status. Simultaneously WOTR disseminates information of low cost nutritious recipes. People and specially women use home remedies for common ailments and approach the Primary Health Center only in case of severity of malnutrition and disease. The motivation and work has led to a reduction in anemia. The financial support for the project comes from Becker Cordes Stiftung, Germany.

The Child Care and Growth Monitoring (0-5 years age group) activity is being carried out in all WOTR and SIED implemented projects in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. It addresses monitoring growth and nutrition, especially of children in the 0-5 years age-group hygiene in the family and village. The nutritional status of children has improved by 45-50%.

Some of the Mahila Pravartaks are accommodated in Government programme and work as 'ASHA' workers. (ASHA is a health activist in the community who creates awareness on health, its social determinants and mobilizes the community towards local health planning)

A Great Opportunity for Men

I am Suresh Tukaram Bodake of Mhaswandi village in Sangamner Block, Ahmdnagar district. Today in my village we have the 'Annapurana Health Committee' of which I am a member. There are women and men in the committee. We did not have a health committee earlier. In fact, we did not even think it was needed.

As part of WOTR's health project, we began receiving health education. In my 50 years of life I never had an opportunity to learn about my physical health and even the functioning of my body. I cannot even express my feelings in words! Before this, I was generally indifferent to trainings. People from the health department would come in and talk and we barely understood what they said. But today, WOTR has helped us understand important aspects of our life: child care, growing up (training for adolescents to understand themselves), a training on sex and gender, providing a balanced diet, especially for young children and mothers, issues such as, HIVAIDSs and Family Planning. We have had competitions for women on preparing a balance diet. Our village has won many awards at the state level and the health program was always put up as an activity we have done.

At first, when WOTR's health Team gave sex education to our wives and daughters, we men opposed it. We were afraid that our women would become promiscuous. We feared that this new knowledge gained on sexuality would make others think of our wives as promiscuous. And this would bring shame on our families. It was training on Sex Education and Gender which was given to us members of the Health Committee that made me understand the importance of the project in our village. The trainings have been very informative and helpful in improving our health. We men have now begun to understand the importance of sex education it helps us understand ourselves and our bodies. We did not know this before! Thank you for providing us this opportunity.



सागरबाई भाऊसाहेब नारळे
आम्बाबाई सुर्यभान नारळे
सखाराम टोनाजी नारळे

४) अर्चनाबाई नारायण नारळे	सदस्य
५) सागरबाई भाऊसाहेब नारळे	"
६) शोभाबाई रामनाथ नारळे	"

6

Renewable Energy

The Renewable Energy project promotes use of clean renewable energy through Solar Home Lighting Systems using LEDs, biogas plants and clean energy stoves. It has had a positive impact on health and has helped in reducing drudgery of rural women by addressing cooking fuel and energy needs which in turn benefits conserving the trees planted in the watershed.

Solar Parabolic Cookers were installed in two Zilla parishad schools of Shiswad and Veldari in Sangamner and Akole Talukas. These provide clean cooking solutions to schools for mid-day meal schemes, reduce fuel-wood consumption, mitigate carbon emissions and reduce tree cutting. These cookers can provide energy to cook food for 35 adults. They work by reflecting sunrays and concentrating them at one place where the cooking takes place. Installations of all these cookers have been done with the help of local village people thereby building their capacities in assembling and opening up possibilities for diversification of livelihoods.

Solar home lighting systems : 547

Hot water chullahs : 476



Community Managed Rural Tourism

This venture has been initiated with an idea of making the regenerated watersheds a source of livelihoods for the people in the community. The once barren areas now regenerated become excellent and interesting places to visit for enjoyment as well as developing an understanding of the issues. At the same time, it also becomes a means for local people to earn a livelihood by managing tourism while protecting and preserving their culture, tradition, and environment.

The uniqueness about this initiative is that this is a community driven enterprise and the tribal and other rural communities entirely take care of the hospitality.

WOTR imparts training to villagers to help them with development of skills and knowledge necessary for this purpose. The project has been implemented in two tribal villages - Purushwadi and Shiswad. All these villages are located amidst beautiful surroundings with hills, waterfalls and small ponds making the landscape attractive from the tourism point of view. The tourist, apart from feeling close to nature, also experiences the rural lifestyle, enjoys the simple homemade delicious food and 'feels at home' by the hospitality provided by village hosts.

Till date about 850 tourists have visited these villages.



8

Knowledge Management

The Knowledge Management Unit functions through three subunits:

- (a) *Information Technology*
- (b) *Research and studies and*
- (c) *Documentation and Communications.*

8.1

Information Technology

IT & GIS

During past decade, WOTR has developed various software systems for managing large scale projects like Management Information Systems, analysis of Socio-Economic data, Technical and Financial plans for Watershed Management and Muster Analysis, which provide complete details of financial and physical progress - project-wise, landuse-wise and gat (survey) number-wise. Software developed by WOTR is widely used by NGOs all over the state and also outside Maharashtra.

There is constant demand for enhancing software functionalities from desktop to web-enabled systems using cutting edge technologies. WOTR has developed an Integrated Geographic Information Systems (GIS) based platform. This platform enables the user to update and analyze watershed related activity details, as well as put each household's details on the map. Having geo-referenced details published on web-enabled maps would help to bring in transparency and accountability at all levels. Following systems are currently in beta testing phase. These systems will be in full-fledge operation from April 2012 .

GIS based Net-plan

As user collects net-plan attribute details using desk-top based system, GIS based Net-plan system provides facility to integrate attributes with geo-referenced cadastral map (at plot level). System imports attribute details of net-plan database updated and links it to cadastral maps.

The GIS-Net planning system serves majorly in database querying for identifying and displaying required identifiable locations. User can have land slope, erosion status, present land-use, land classification, proposed land-use, physical and financial grouping of plots according to implementation phase, etc.

The utility of this software lies in analyzing more than one village's database at a time.

The main source of work-done data is Muster (fortnightly work payment sheet). Muster data is collected using 'GPS enabled Mobile'. After collection of muster data from field, geometry and attribute data is transferred to web.

While collecting muster data, user will have pre-loaded geo referenced map of the village. On reaching work done location, GPS instrument is enabled to collect attribute data, GPS data and geo-referenced photographs.

According to survey number treated, various attributes of user collects work done during specific muster period (as described in 1.2). While collecting attributes details, GPS system collects real time coordinates of the treatment executed. The treatment in line feature will be marked to collect geo referenced locations. In addition to this, user can make a photo using camera associated with mobile and store a geo-tagged photo of the treatment executed.

User can view geo referenced data collected using GPS could be viewed on village map loaded on Mobile unit. This validates the work location and respective details automatically.

After muster data collection, user can transfer work done data from GPS enabled mobile to web (through desktop interface, to overcome connectivity speed), and vice-a-versa. Once work-done data resides on web-server, system provides options to generate reports. These reports could be muster payment report, MB book report etc.

Integrating Net-plan with work-done and representation onto a map:

On combining net-plan with work-done, user could generate report on - what was planned and what is implemented in field. While generating the report, the system will fetch survey number-wise planned measures from net-plan and work executed from muster details. The same details will also get represented on map. System provides options to view map with planned activities, against a map representing activities implemented during specific period / consolidated. Same theme could be extended to view other parameters, like, treatments planned and executed, expenses planned and actual, etc.

This feature enables decision makers to compare plan and work-done represented on map, provides easy access to reach till plot level to dig required details. The functionality could extend to a plot/ village level, or could be consolidated for group of villages / cluster level.

GIS based households' analysis

The socio-economic database consists of each household's details in attribute form. These data items are processed and analyzed using desktop-based tool. However, a web enabled tool is designed and developed to show each household's details on map. Each household from respective village is marked on cadastral map (using GPS locations or digitized manually). The household is given same ID as of given in socio-economic database. Identical household ID links geometry with attribute details and enables user to access various themes on cadastral map like existing gross land holding of the families, estimate of existing and post development agriculture production (for the major cropping sequence) of families, livestock resources available with the family, energy requirements of the family, family income from agriculture and allied services, family income from non-agriculture services, and plots belonging to which family (and vice-versa).

The customized query generation tool helps user to analyze existing socio-economic data in any manner and represent the analysis on cadastral map.

This feature could enable user to analyze family to cluster level socio-economic data as required.

HR-Admin system:

HR-Admin system is designed for managing information about each employee working with WOTR and its sister organizations. The system is developed to manage all HR related information as well to provide various 'Search Results' to the User according to specific requirement. The system has major modules like master records maintenance, staff works report and analysis, calculating travel and dearness allowance (TADA), and staff attendance and leave maintenance. Related reports could be generated by the HR department/ Unit In-charges using the system.

Several studies have been completed and some are in progress.

8.2

Researches and Studies Published

A book published on 'What are we in for ? - A look at rural Ahmednagar district in the context of Climate Change' that is a compilation of a set of studies that emerged as an attempt to understand the Climate Change Adaptation in rural communities of Ahmednagar district.

- *Analysing challenges in Agricultural Production System: A case study of Darewadi village*
- *Community Response to Seasonal Variation Learnings from a Watershed Village*
- *Livelihood and Mobility Challenges for Watershed Development*
- *Protect Trees: Understand the Villager's Need for Wood*
- *Estimating Local Money Multiplier of Rural Enterprises of a tribal village in Akole, Ahmednagar District*
- *Potential Sites Selection for Inland Aquaculture in Semi-arid Region*
- *Women in Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs): Development Preferences, Desired Role, and Constraints*
- *Incidental learning in school going children during the Watershed Development Process in two villages of Maharashtra*

Besides above, other research paper / studies carried out were:

- Research paper on PRIs and Women
- A Study Report on Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Women
- A Comparative Study on the Energy Efficiency of the Smokeless Hot Water Chullah and the Traditional Chullahs been published.
- A book titled "Watershed Development and Health" has been published
- Study on climate change and coping strategy conceptualization in process.

Workshops and trainings conducted/ arranged/participated

- National Workshop on 'Practical Climate Change Actions in Semi Arid Areas', Pune 1-2 July, 2010
- Rapid Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge System workshop held from 14 July- 19 July 2010
- Four Research Methodology workshops were conducted for the WOTR staff during the period May - October 2010.
- Vulnerability workshop was conducted from 31 May- 3 June 2010
- Conference: National conference on Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Development held at Pune, Feb 2011.

8.3

Documentation and Communications

Print: Regular publications of newsletters, reports of research studies, development of audio-visual material and training tools for watershed development and SHG promotion were carried out by this unit. WOTR's Annual Report for the year 2009-2010 has also been published.

Audio-visual Documentation: Audio-visual process documentation work of watershed projects in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Sangamner regions have been completed. Also national workshops, films and , interviews have been documented.



Training, Skill Imparting and Capacity Building

Trainings and exposure visits for program partners, community based organizations (CBOs), students, NGOs, professionals and government agencies constitute a major component of the services offered by WOTR.

WOTR also conducts regular training programs and workshops for decision makers, implementers, farmers and interested organizations, in the fields of natural resources management, watershed development and self-help promotion. International groups also avail of these services. The training programs are amalgamated with extensive exposure visits to give the participants a first-hand field level experience, which help them understand the impacts and ground reality of a watershed program.

WOTR has a clear and strong mandate to build the capacities of villagers and developmental agencies (from all sectors) so that rapid up scaling and replication of successful models and interventions that sustainably impact poverty can take place.

As part of its mission to build up practice oriented capacities amongst development practitioners, WOTR provides support by way of on-site accompaniment and advisory services. Various consultancy assignments have been taken up during the year, which included evaluation missions and for taking up watershed related works for the forest departments, corporate houses, government departments and NGOs.

During the period, trainings conducted were on Technical issues in watershed Management, Watershed Development Exposure - Orientation Program Village Experience and Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation in watershed management. Technical and managerial support was provided on-site to SaciWaters-Bhutan, CRS-Wala-Malawi program and Western Sudan Resource Management Programme (WSRMP), Sudan.

Trainings conducted

Category	No. of Trainings	No. of Participants
INTERNATIONAL		
■ EDPs	2	27
■ Trainings	3	39
NATIONAL LEVEL		
Exposure Visits	6	113
Kaizen Workshops (NABARD-WDF)	6	145
Trainings for Govt. Officials, NGOs, Corporates and Other Institutions	50	1737
TRAINING AS TO PARTNER		
■ CBOs / NGOs / Villagers	273	10,761
TOTAL	340	12,822

Darewadi Training Centre (DTC)

The Watershed Training Centre is nestled in a watershed in Darewadi village in the Sangamner block, Ahmednagar district. Darewadi is a web of activity since 2002.

A wide variety of training programs are conducted by WOTR that include design and implementation of demand-based training modules in watershed-based natural resource management, community mobilisation, application of IT to project management, entrepreneurship development, etc. The trainings conducted are structured to meet specific needs of requesting organizations.

As the Training Centre is located in a watershed itself, it provides a greater opportunity for practical on-site learning, skill acquisition and absorption. It has become an active hub for aspirants who seek a first-hand experience of watershed development, interact with the local community to understand the enabling processes and learn from their varied experiences.

The School of Sustainable Living and Livelihood (SSLL)

The SSLL has been promoting and building up of competencies of young rural youth to provide income-generating, adaptation-related services to vulnerable communities as well as initiated and to manage own sustainable livelihoods. Also skill development, personal growth and inner self integration and building capacities of the rural youth.

The SSLL offers the following courses: (a) Eco community organisers (ECO); (b) Rural Chroniclers; (c) Women Health Promoters and; (d) The School Strengthening Program (for anganwadi workers and primary school teachers). The ECOs are equipped with comprehensive abilities to diagnose various issues, identify existing livelihoods and create new livelihoods, develop strategies to adapt to climate change, mobilize communities, provide feedback to SSLL to develop courses and processes to address the felt needs of the communities and bring them back to the communities. The students have gained a systemic understanding of climate change and now prepare their communities to adapt to the same by managing and promoting local resources and building their capacities.

During these contact sessions, subjects such as Ecology, Climate Change, Biodiversity, and CASDAAT were taught to the students. The students also worked in the field to understand ecosystem services its importance and significance to the humans. During the course, exhibitions were carried out in two villages so as to build awareness in the villages about the Climate Change issue and the Climate Change Adaptation project.

The School Strengthening Program (SSP is undertaken through the School of Sustainable Living and Livelihoods) and is being carried out in 8 Zilla Parishad schools in 2 clusters in the Sangamner and Akole regions in Ahmednagar district.

ECO-Course

3 Contact Sessions of 20 days each were held under the ECO-Course. 9 students (7 male and 2 female) passed out of the ECO-Course.

Capacity Building of Wasundhara Sevaks

1 Contact Session of 4 days was held for Wasundhara Sevaks.

Initiated the process of recording weather through Automated Weather Stations and dissemination of the information through the village board.

10

Networking and Linkages

Besides its network of partner NGOs for the implementation of watershed projects in the different states, WOTR is a founder member of International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance (IRHA) Geneva. WOTR is also the Key Player in organizing an informal network of stakeholders for fodder and livestock related issues in the district of Ahmednagar. WOTR is a core committee member of the NHWDP that consists of leading bankers, and representatives of all development departments of the Government of Maharashtra (GoM).

WOTR has been accredited CSO (Civil Society Organisation) observer status to the UNCCD (United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification) and will participate in the sessions of the Conference of Parties (COP) and the meetings of its Subsidiary Bodies.

Besides the above, Crispino Lobo, Managing Trustee of WOTR is the Member of the following Committees:

- Member of the Expert Group set up by the Ministry of Rural Development for implementation of NREGA on a watershed platform under the MGNREGA under the Chairmanship of the CEO, National Rainfed Areas Authority (NRAA).
- Member of the Study Group of the Maharashtra State Minorities Commission, Government of Maharashtra (since 2008).
- Member of the Maharashtra Chief Minister's State Advisory Council on Watershed Development and is a member of the Executive Committee (since 2006).

SECTION 3



- WOTR at United Nations, New York : Crispino Lobo was invited to make a presentation at a Workshop on "The Green Economy in Practice" held at the United Nations, New York. The event was organised by the World Resources Institute and chaired by the Ambassadors to the UN of Switzerland and South Korea. Crispino was one of four speakers, the other three being from Africa, Mexico and South Korea respectively.
- WOTR is now on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and Youtube. WOTR has also revamped its website. Do visit us at www.wotr.org, www.facebook.com/watersheds.
- A newsletter called "Ecologic" is also being published that brings the activities, thinking and stories from the field and within the organization. (<http://ecologic.wotr.org>)
- WOTR presented its recommendations for the agriculture sector to the Finance Minister in his Pre-budget consultations. The core highlight of the recommendation was on Combating Climate Change and Poverty through sustainable development, Going from 'GREEN' to evergreen agriculture revolution and agriculture related rural infrastructure.
- WOTR was awarded the "Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Ratna" (Gem of Agriculture) by the Government of Maharashtra; state's highest award in agriculture in September 2010.
- Wankute, a watershed village, that was mobilised by WOTR, was awarded the "JSW-TOI Earth Care Award, 2010" under the category "Community Based Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change" in September 2010.
- WOTR also received a "Commendation" with a Memento under the same category - "Community Based Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change" of "JSW-TOI Earth Care Award, 2010".
- WOTR co-hosted the National Seminar organized by the Centre for Studies in Rural Development Institute of Social Work and Research titled 'Issues and Current Trends in Rural Development: Challenges for Professional social workers' held from the 24-26 Feb 2011 at Ahmednagar. WOTR presented a paper on 'Climate Change and its Challenges to Rural Development'. A stall of WOTR's publication material (print and CDs) was put and many visited the stall wherein information of WOTR was shared.
- Vision 2020 WOTR started a process of drafting a Vision 2020, that emerges through a series of workshops with various team members. The process distils a vision for the organisation by putting together individual visions, dreams and ambitions that successfully shows a way forward for the next decade.

What Visitors say...

Thank you ! We have received here not only knowledge about unknown subject but also peace of mind and relaxation. We wish to come to WOTR once again.
IWMP Agriculture team, Vidarbha

We guests from Afghanistan are happy and thankful for the hospitality and all efforts taken to make the training a memorable one.

We hope to meet you sometime again in future.

*Aman, Senior Project officer
CRA, Afghanistan*

The stay was great, the food was great, hospitality was perfect. Wish we could have stayed longer. Will come back for a training

Kasturi, GTZ, Delhi

Job well done, WOTR team! You have been fabulous hosts !

Lauren Dillon, DePaul University, Chicago

"VIVA WOTR !"

Lourdes MPA, international Management candidate, DePaul University, Chicago

Thanks for having us these past few days. WOTR's work is very impressive, especially in regard to the successful community mobilization practices. We are certain that we will leave here very inspired and hope to employ many of the concepts in our projects in Afghanistan.

John Varrieur

CRS Program Manager, Afghanistan

Dear WOTR Team,

A thousand thanks for the great hospitality

We look forward to come again

Mario Rohrer Meteodat

UrsSteinegger, Zurich, Switzerland

We are thankful to all the officials and field staff of WOTR for sparing their valuable time and showing the various activities taken up under various programmes over a period of time. We could see very highly appreciable change in land use, cropping pattern, production and productivity. This has impacted the living standards and improved livelihoods of various sections of the society. The soil and water conservation works are of very high standards while there is still scope for productivity enhancement. Once again we appreciate the staff of WOTR for their hard work and look forward for meaningful collaboration.

Thanks,

Dr. Mohammed Osman, P Vijaya Kumar

JVNS Prasad, CRIDA

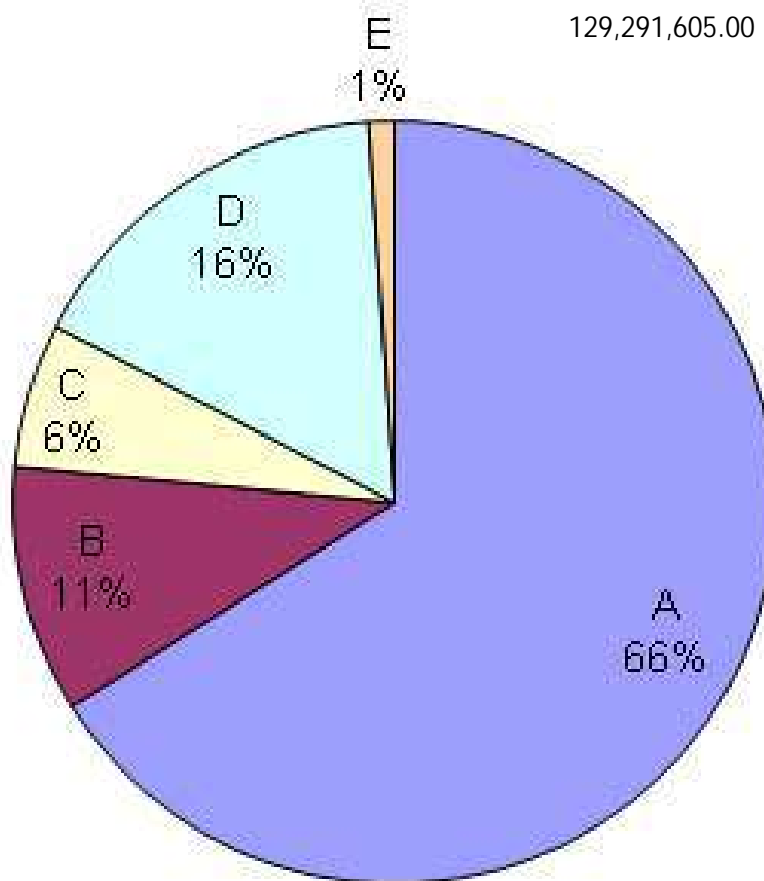
We could see the classical implementation of watershed in true spirit i.e. ridge to valley. The goals set forth for further resource in terms of water etc. are really worth pursuing.

K V Rao, Ravikant Adake, CRIDA

Financial Statement

Expenditure Profile

Sr. No.	Particulars	Amount (Rs.)
A	Rural Development	85,370,872.00
B	Trainings/Workshops	13,540,277.00
C	Extension Support / Information & Publicity Material/ Networking	7,926,544.00
D	Running Costs	210,68,504.00
E	Fixed Assets	1,385,408.00
Total		129,291,605.00



A Project Exp. -Rural Development

B Project Exp. - Trainings Workshops

C Training Extension Support / Information & Publicity Material, Networking

D Running Costs

E Fixed Assets

Our Donors and Enablers

WOTR is greatly appreciative of our principal donors, Embassy of Switzerland and National Bank for Rural Development (NABARD), who have not only supported our programs but have partnered us in our journey.

WOTR would like to place on record our gratitude and thanks to our other donors (in alphabetical order)

1. Ammada Trust
2. AndheriHilfe
3. Arghyam
4. Becker Cordes Stiftung
5. Blue Planet Run
6. Concern India Foundation
7. DePaul University
8. Church Development Service (EvangelischerEntwicklungsdienst - EED)
9. Freundeskreis, Bonn
10. German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ)
11. German Development Bank (KfW)
12. German Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ)
13. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)
14. Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)
15. International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
16. International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
17. ITC Limited
18. Japan Water Forum
19. Jamsetji Tata Trust
20. JSW Foundation
21. Karl Kübel Stiftung
22. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
23. Raj West Power Ltd (JSW Group)
24. RBS Foundation
25. Rotary Club, Hagan
26. STI
27. Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT)
28. Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
29. Swiss RE
30. Wassan

... and the many other individuals who have supported us in so many ways.

Stories from the villages....

Old debts repaid

Gulabrao Shamrao Bhumkar (45 yrs old) of Rastal village earned ₹ 6,000 by digging about 208 cubic metre of soil for 57 days under PPCP. He owns merely 2 acres of rain-fed land. Since previous 2 years have been drought years, he was unable to repay the loans from moneylender and was also facing problem in purchasing daily grocery from local shop where he had outstanding debt to repay. Now he is happy to get rid of this vicious cycle due to PPCP earnings.

From process point of view, workers know the piece rate, how measurement is taken, the exact amount of work they completed, how much is the due, how many days they have worked in a muster and so on, which is a remarkable aspect compared to other places where MREGS is being implemented. Perceivably, there was substantial decline in corruption due to bank/post office payment.

"We do not have to go searching for employment from one place

to other as work is available within village through this scheme."

Kailas Jadhav(Age 36)

landless worker of Sindhi village of Jaffrabad Block.

Water levels go up

Sanjay Rustum Vayal, a farmer in Sawarkheda village of Jaffrabad block has 4 and half acres of rain-fed land. Soil from his land used to flow away every year with rains as his land was situated on the bank of stream. When compartment bunds were constructed under the scheme on his land, he always remained present on the site to ensure better quality and results. According to him, the bunds have stopped soil erosion from his farm and enhanced soil moisture within. Stopping of water within his land also resulted in increased water level in the well. He was able to take cotton and Soya bin crops this year with adequate water availability.

Perceivably all this resulted in wide ranging impacts: soil and water conservation, increased soil fertility, water availability, area under production, agricultural productivity, reduced expenditure on fertilisers, increased agricultural income and cash-flow, capacity to repay loans, created food security and ultimately increased standard of living in the area.

"Water in my well increased almost by five feet after construction of compartment bunds."

Dnyaneshvar Pawar,

Farmer beneficiary, Borgaon Math

Empowering women

Padmabai Pandurang Kawale (42 yrs) is an illiterate and landless woman of village Bharadkheda. She is the only bread winner in the family as her husband is bed ridden due to massive paralysis and her son no more lives with her. She worked for 52 days in the project and earned ₹ 7,061. This money helped her to provide timely and adequate medication to her husband. Padmabai was particularly happy that she could avoid taking loan from moneylenders at exorbitant interest rates. Availability of employment under the scheme within the village enabled her to look

after her husband and earn wages simultaneously. Women see reduction in annual debt as an impact of the project as the earnings became available at appropriate time. Further, women were able to repay their loans taken from SHGs or banks under micro-finance schemes. This has made them eligible for loans in future. Indirectly these incomes have further strengthened the SHGs too, with both increased savings and timely repayment from members.

The women also point out that as they received payment through banks, it was used mostly for productive and useful purposes. The women think that the wages received in the cash form are more likely to be wasted on addictions.

"When MREGS work is ongoing in the village, the shop owners give grocery on credit as they are sure that person will receive wages sooner or later and pay their dues"

Kamal Wagh(Age 42)

A labourer of village Hiwarakabli of Jaffrabad Taluka

Water brought home...

In Hiwarakabli, Gajanan Tukaram Mhaske (34 yrs, 7th pass) has 2 acres of rainfed farm to support his family of 3 children. He used to work as agricultural labour to supplement his meagre farm income. He worked for about 60 days in PPCP and could earn ₹ 7,068 himself. His wife Mainabai also worked with him for 48 days and earned ₹ 3,223. This family spent this total earning of ₹ 10,291 along with their earlier savings to dig a new well for irrigating their farm. Fortunately, they got water in the well even in drought-ridden summer. Besides, they have also constructed 200 metres of farm bunds on their own land, expecting an increase in the land productivity. Thus, the family was able to reap twin benefits of both employment and availability of natural resources through the PPCP initiative.

Back to the Villages...

One of the important objectives of NREGA is to curb rural-urban migration. There are ample cases in PPCP villages that suggest not only reduced migration but also reversed migration where people from the village working outside returned back to their villages due to availability of employment.

Rahul Sukhdeo Jadhav of Pimpalgaonbarav was working as technician in a factory at Aurangabad. His parents are living in the village. He is the only son of his parents. When he came to know that now the work is available in the village, he left the job and started working in the PPCP project. He was earning ₹ 4,000 per month as factory worker in Aurangabad. Now he earns an equivalent amount within his own village and stays with his parents.

Similarly, in Malkheda village Sunil Keshav Jogdande left his job in Sillod town and joined his wife in PPCP work. He came back from Sillod town when he learnt that his wife is earning about ₹ 1,500 a fortnight which was equivalent what he was earning. Now both of them are working on PPCP and earning their living.

"Owing to work under this project, many families have earned about ₹ 15,000/- as wages in my village which is equivalent to half the money required by a poor farmer to marry off his daughter"

Mr. Shelke,

Sarpanch, Kolegaon Village in Jaffrabad Taluka

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