



National Agricultural Innovations Project
Indian Council of Agricultural Research



Shri. B.G. Deshmukh visits SRLS Project area in Yeotmal

Shri. B.G. Deshmukh, IAS (Retd.) Trustee of BAIF recently visited the NAIP Project area in Yeotmal. At the onset, a discussion was arranged in community centre at Raveri in Ralegaon cluster.

Interventions aiming at sustainable livelihood comprise of improved agricultural practices, livestock development and water resource development. Seed production is also taken up to make available quality seed at local level.

He visited a few sites including water resource development and improved agricultural plots. After visit to few a sites, a meeting with



Village committees was arranged. Farmers expressed their satisfaction on increase in crop yield. They also want to focus on livestock development. One of the farmers



came with a newly born crossbred calf. Farmers are also taking care of backward linkages such as fodder cultivation. Overall feedback from participants was encouraging. At the end of the day; during the

discussion with the project team; Shri. Deshmukh appreciated the work done so far and advised them to continue with same zeal.

Events in Third Quarter

- CIC Meeting for SRLS 3
- CIC Meeting for Linseed Value Chain Project (Component 2)
- CMU field visits



Events for Fourth Quarter

- CAC Meeting for SRLS 3
- CAC Meeting for Linseed Value Chain Project (Component 2)
- Cluster Incharge Meeting



Community Centre at Mandane



The BAIF led consortium has been implementing 'Sustainable Rural Livelihood Project' under NAIP in backward districts of Maharashtra. Nandurbar is one of the backward and tribal dominated districts where the project interventions started in 2008-09. Mandane cluster is located at a distance of 60 km from the district headquarter. The area has 85% population of scheduled tribes and most of the families had income in the range of `15000-20000/- Dry land agriculture was the only source of livelihood. Since NAIP

interventions reached farmer families, people responded very well. Interventions are focused on development of resources mainly agriculture, water and livestock. Approach is of creating strong people's institutions for post project sustenance of the development process. Along with family level interventions, creation of facilities such as training/resource centre was one of the important tasks. The Cluster committee liked the idea and initiated meeting with village committees to discuss the need of such a facility and land available for it. The BAIF staff and village committee members started searching for a place which would be centrally located and convenient for the community. Manmode village committee informed about a piece of barren land located on the banks of Jamathi River. It was surveyed and approved considering the availability of water. But one of the villagers came forward to claim the land. It was a result of local level dynamics. To resolve the issue, a common meeting was organised with the respected people in village along with Government functionaries, village leaders and the claimant of the land. There was extensive discussion about future benefits of such facility and finally the villager was convinced. With proper documentation, construction activity began. Village committee of Manmode was involved in every phase of work. The work was completed in March 2009 with the construction of one training hall and office.



The next challenge was development of the centre as a training, resource and demonstration center. It was decided that the Manmode village committee will take care of development activities at the campus. The project office was also shifted to the centre. For live hedge, forestry plantation was completed on the fence of the campus. They worked on creating demonstration of Vermicompost pits, Azolla culture pits as well as bio-pesticides such as *Jeevamrit* and *Dashparni Ark*. From sustainability point of view, a few facilities such as feed mix unit and shed net have been created. These have become regular activities for income generation. The centre is very well used by people. It is the venue of all the meetings of cluster committee. It is also made available for outside trainings on rent basis. Various trainings are conducted in the community centre on regular basis. Therefore the committee decided to provide necessary toilet facility in the campus itself. Recently it was constructed. Expenditure is met from the income generated from sources of the community campus. Even expenses on fencing of campus, honorarium of a person for maintenance are met from the income of community centre. The Village committee of Manmode along with the cluster committee has developed ownership for these development activities and they are moving towards sustainability through optimum use of facilities created through BAIF-NAIP initiative.



Contributors: Mr. R.K. Ingle, Mr. Anand Jadhav, Mr. Yogesh Bhamare, Ms. Mayura Mandalkar
Design and Content Editing: Ms. Preeti Karmarkar



BAIF Development Research Foundation
Dr. Manibhai Desai Nagar, Warje, Pune 411058



Indian Council of Agricultural Research
II, PUSA Campus, New Delhi 110012