

FINAL REPORT

On

“Coordinated Network Project on Development of Scheduled Caste Communities through Resource Management, Technology Transfer and Empowerment in East India”

Project Title: Socio-economic upliftment of SC community in identified villages of Sagar Island, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal through skill enhancement and livelihood intervention

(Period : March, 2013 to March, 2014)

Implemented by

PARIBESH UNNAYAN PARISHAD
8/1B Raipur Road East, Kolkata 700 032

Rural Unit

AMARGRAM
Village- Phulbari, P.O.- Sagar Phulbari
Sagar Island, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal

Supported by

Science for Equity, Empowerment and Development Division (SEED)
Department of Science & Technology

A. SUMMARY SHEET

1. TITLE OF THE PROJECT: Socio-economic upliftment of SC community in identified villages of Sagar Island, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal through skill enhancement and livelihood intervention
2. REFERENCE NO. OF SANCTION LETTER WITH DATE :
SSD/SCSP/037/2011, 4th December, 2012
3. PI NAME & ORGANISATION:
(COMPLETE ADDRESS WITH TELEPHONE NO. FAX & EMAIL DETAILS)
Dr. Amales Misra, PI
Paribesh Unnayan Parishad
City address: 8/1B, Raipur Road (East), Kolkata 700 032
Rural Address: Vill.- Phulbari, P.O.Sagar Phulbari
Sagar Island, South 24 Parganas
Mobile No. 91 9002497090
E-Mail ID: amargram.pupa@gmail.com,amargram_pupa@rediffmail.com
4. DATE OF START: **1st March, 2013**
5. DATE OF COMPLETION: (SCHEDULED AND LIKELY)
February, 2016 (likely to be completed within target date)
6. TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT: SANCTIONED AND NOW ESTIMATED
Rs.23, 14,247.00
7. STAFF SANCTIONED & IN POSITION: Four; In position : four
8. TOTAL EXPENDITURE: **Rs. 7,38,330.00**
9. ASSETS DEVELOPED OR EQUIPMENTS ACQUIRED, IF ANY: **One Camera**
10. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS AGAINST APPROVED WORK-PLAN/TIME
SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES IN THE PROJECT:
 - i) **Community Mobilisation (in all the 3 villages):**
 - 129 Members (women) under 11 Groups involved through 87 meetings;
 - ii) **Developing capacities of the staff & community members:**
 - PRA training (3 days for all the staff, Volunteers (2), selected community members (4) & talented girls (5);
 - Trainings on resource mapping, fishery, poultry, kitchen garden development, organic manure & vermicompost preparation, Integrated farming system;
 - Vocational training for income generation: tailoring)

- Training for members of SHG and project staff on group formation, group dynamics, group savings and external accounts and subsequent loan cycles

iii) Livelihood support Activities (Demonstration)

- Supported 66 HHs for pond fishery, 39 HHs for poultry keeping, 116 HHs for Kitchen Gardening, 12 HHs for vermicomposting, more than 20 HHs for liquid manure preparation & use;
- Supported 4 families for Integrated Farming
- **Rain water harvesting** (one model established); use of waste water in the kitchen garden started.
- **Small scale clothes business started** by opening a local outlet at nearby market place.

iv) Improving the quality of Life & community's access to basic social services

- Educational support to boys & girls (45) attending school and particularly to Backward (15) SC students
- Awareness camp on health, hygiene and malnutrition and Social & Cultural awareness for motivation to increase happiness among the SC women

11. ISSUES NEEDING ATTENTION OF GOVERNMENT/LOCAL BODIES:

- **Sanitation support under the Govt. Scheme of Bharat Nirmal Avijan**
- **SC Certificates for all those who have not yet received**
- **Any other Govt. support specified for SC**

B. DETAILED REPORT

(For the period from March,13 to March,14

1. INTRODUCTION (NEED ASSESSMENT FOR S & T INTERVENTION IN PROJECT AREA):

Agriculture is the major source of livelihood but most of the farmers being illiterate and untrained have not been successful in cultivating their land for better production. They are in habit of following age old practices mixed with indiscriminate use of chemical input guided by the local markets. Therefore, **low cost agricultural technology** with bio-fertilisers, bio-pesticides, vermicompost, liquid manure, green manure along with crop rotation. Mixed farming is considered as an insurance against natural calamities, while supporting food security and nutrient recycling, which is not in practice, will be introduced.

Soil testing facility is not available locally. However, the farmers feel that it is required. Livestock is an important source of supplementary income and also complementary to agricultural production. **Poor Livestock management** is another problem area, which will be taken care of in the 2nd year.

Rainfall is the main source of water for agricultural production. However, in the absence of adequate **water conservation practices**, maximum rainwater runs off causing scarcity during dry season. Moreover, farmers have a tendency to use excessive water. In the absence of adequate training and demonstration, they believe that excess water can enhance their crop yields.

Another problem area is lacking of **proper sanitation**, because the beneficiaries could not afford for the same. Local Panchayat being declared as NIRMAL GRAM PANCHAYAT, could not have any fund for the same. NIRMAL BHARAT AVIJAN SCHEME is yet to reach the Island.

Quality education is another dark area, for which we have started Village level Community Learning Centres.

2. APPROVED OBJECTIVES OF THE PROEJCT

- i). Establishing a strong baseline, exploring avenues for increasing social participation, gender and financial equality etc.
- ii). **Developing capacities of the community members (Capacity Building)**
Through education, campaign, intensive training, demonstration and enhancing **the Production & productivity of croplands** and allied sectors, with focus on creation of Employment opportunities and alleviation of poverty;
- iii) Improving the **nutritional security & safety** of the community through education and improvement in consumption pattern;
- iv) Improving the community's access **to basic social services** offered by local bodies with emphasis on the services relating to health, education, water supply and sanitation;
- v) Promoting **Small and micro-enterprises (SMEs)** with bank linkages and networking with business & consumer partners.

3. PROJECT AREA (BLOCK, VILLAGE, TOTAL AREA COVERED):

Block : Sagar									
Village	Total HH	Population			SC HH	Population			Area (Acre)
		Total	Male	Female		Total	Male	Female	
Kashtala	345	1631	849	782	51	239	118	121	448.46
Phulbari	267	1256	661	595	29	148	76	72	247.22
Sibpur	157	660	337	323	65	296	156	140	116.18
	769	3547	1847	1700	145	683	350	333	811.86
					18.9%	19.25%	51.24%	48.75%	

4. COMMUNITY BACKGROUND AND KNOWLEDGE LEVEL (CASTE, OCCUPATION, INCLUDING TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE & PRACTICES FOLLOWED)

Continuous community mobilization, covering 145 SC HHs with a population of **683** out of total population of **3547** and household **769** at three target villages, results in identification of 9 SC dominated groups excluding formation of 2 new groups with all SC members. Next to SGH, Farmers Clubs, Eco Clubs, talented group of boys & girls, individual farmers were also identified. Nearly 19% HHs & 19.25% population belong to SC communities. Most of them are poor with less than one acre land. Primary income is from agriculture or as agriculture labour. Owing lack of proper education the farmers are not trained for adopting new technology for better production. They have no idea about **Low cost agricultural technology** with bio-fertilisers, bio-pesticides, vermicompost, liquid manure, green manure along with crop rotation and mixed farming which are now considered as an insurance against natural calamities. Betel vine cultivation is being practised by nearly 15% SC HHs which is largely maintained with chemical input & mustard cake.

The standard of education is very low in case of students of the SC families; accordingly drop-out rate is high, particularly for girl students. Knowledge level for personal hygiene & health, sanitation is also not up to the standard.

S.No	Traditional knowledge & practices	Sibpur	Phulbari	Kashtala
1.	Fish net weaving	10	9	12
2.	Poultry Keeping	39	14hh	22
3.	Goat rearing	24	12	21
4.	Pond fish culture	29	18	29
5.	Prawn seed catching	Nil	3	11
6.	Fish & crab collection from the river	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	Pickles (mango, tamarind, lemon, etc)	40	25	37
8.	Use of medicinal plant	30	25	32
9.	Local quack doctor	2(SC) 2(Gen.)	1(SC) 1(Gen.)	1(SC) 2(Gen.)

Village	Occupation	
Phulbari (SC HH-27)	Agriculture	15HH
	Fish farming	18HH
	Poultry	14HH
	Betel vine	13HH
	Catching prawn seed	3HH
	Daily labour	19HH
	Business	5HH
	Agriculture & poultry	10HH
	Betel vine & kitchen Garden	17HH
	Service	1HH
	Agriculture, kitchen Garden, poultry	21HH
	Kashtala(SC HH-47)	Agriculture
Fish farming		29HH
Poultry		22HH
Betel vine		19HH
Catching prawn seed		Nil
Daily labour		37HH
Business		5HH
Agriculture & poultry		16HH
Betel vine & kitchen Garden		14HH
Service		5HH
Agriculture, kitchen Garden, poultry		16HH
Sibpur (SC HH-65) (Total HH-157)		Agriculture
	Fish farming	29HH
	Poultry	39HH
	Betel vine	23HH
	Catching prawn seed	Nil
	Daily labour	41HH
	Business	10HH
	Agriculture & poultry	15HH
	Betel vine & kitchen Garden	30HH
	Service ,kitchen Garden & poultry	6HH
	Agriculture, kitchen Garden, poultry	15HH

5. METHODOLOGY & SYSTEMS APPROACH (SURVEY/ PRA EXERCISE; COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION & SOCIAL ENGINEERING; TECHNOLOGY IDENTIFICATION, MODULATION & DIFFUSION & TRAINING COMPONENT, ETC.):

The following process was followed:

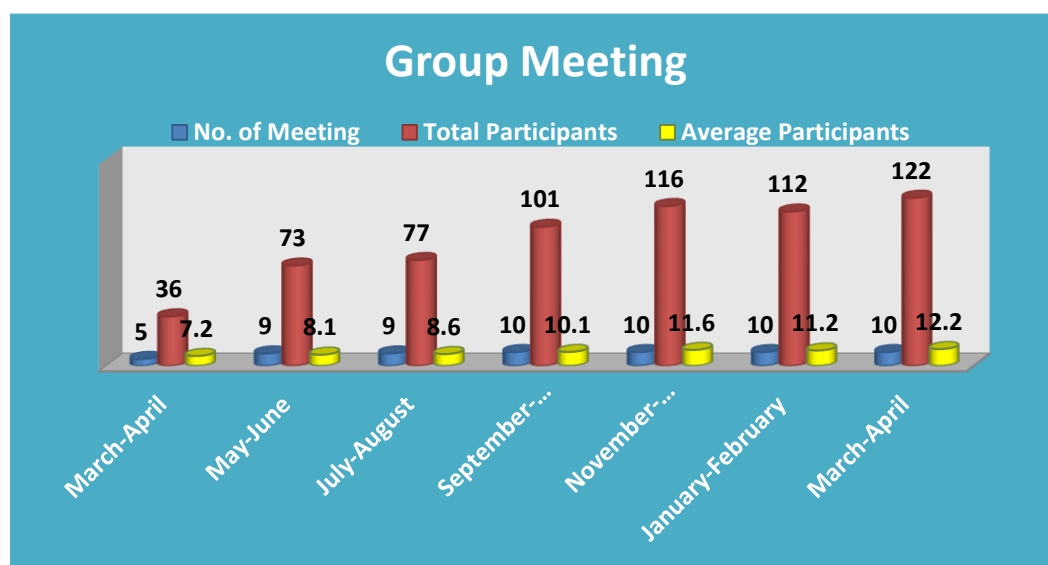
- i) Selection of major stakeholders, and identification of SC dominated groups & formation of new groups (only with SC);
- ii) PRA training followed by village mapping & resource survey; house to house visits, meetings with groups members & individual families for need & resource survey;
- iii) Extensive community mobilization programmes were arranged gradual Consensus building, formation of viable groups (farmers clubs & village level groups), revival of

inactive groups, selection of young village coordinators, general awareness creation, better understanding of the local issues etc., and also for gathering baseline information, developing village work plan and also for establishing a belief on the **benefit sharing mechanism** within the group so that the SHG would become potentially viable MCG (mutually cooperative group). The objective was to develop community ownership by involving the members of the SHGs in decision making, sharing up cost and roles and responsibilities. Initially, SHGs were confused with the sharing system put forward, however, with time they realized and gradually joined the SGP activities.

Community mobilisation Programme

Meetings/Programme	Sibpur	Phulbari	Kashtala
Formal meeting	12	8	5
PRA meeting	3	2	2
Group meeting	8	7	6
Awareness programme on Kitchen Garden	1	1	Nil
Community mobilization Meeting	1	1	Nil
Meeting with Farmers club	4	2	3
Meeting with Eco club	5	5	3
Awareness programme on personal hygiene & women empowerment	1	1	1
Programme for children of CLC	1	3	1

Group meeting during project period



Month	Number of meeting	Present members	Average present
March- April,2013	5	36	7.2
May- June, 2013	9	73	8.1
July- Aug, 2013	9	77	8.5
Sept- Oct, 2013	10	101	10.1
Nov- Dec, 2013	10	116	11.6
Jan-Feb,2014	10	112	11.2
March- April, 2014	10	122	12.2

- iv) It is imperative that technologies relating to natural resource-use and conservation mainly in agricultural sector developed by various research institutions, like, VIB & KVK, Nimpith; KVK, Narendrapur; Agriculture Dept., CU require an effective extension to the farmers of the target area to ensure their feedback regarding social acceptability, financial viability, replicability and region-specific modifications. It has already started.
- v) Training support was given for capacity building of the community members, as mentioned in the next column (column No. 6).

6. TECHNICAL BACK-UP SUPPORT (NAMES OF SCIENTISTS INVOLVED AND SUPPORT RECEIVED & LINKAGES ESTABLISHED WITH S&T INSTITUTIONS):

Name of the institution & scientist in	Training Support received
1.Dr.Arun Das (Central Institute for research On Goats)	Awareness on firsthand knowledge on goat cultivation.
2.Dr.Bhabananda Chaterjee (Retired Fishery Officer, Govt. of W.B.)	Technical knowledge on pond fish cultivation
3.Dr.Archana Sinha, Fishery Scientist, CIFRI, Kolkata centre	Impart knowledge on cat fish farming.
4.Dr.Sudipta Triparti, Manager, Horticulture farm, Institute of Agriculture, CU	Provide technical knowledge on SRI.
5.DRCSC (Service Centre), Kolkata	Provides training on PRA tools.
6.SPADE, Kolkata	Training received by the staff & SHG leaders on Group strengthening and IEP
7.Local Pranibandhu	Provide knowledge on immunization & Vaccination.
8. Vivekananda Institute of Biotechnology, Nimpith	Training on Integrated Farming

7. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY COMPONENT (TECHNOLOGY PACKAGE DEVELOPMENT/ NEW INNOVATIONS/ OBSERVATIONS):

Technology package development	New innovation	Observation
1. Organic paddy cultivation Package (Azophous, Trichodarma viridi, liquid manure: Jibammrurtha, Fish tonic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional paddy & vegetable cultivation without giving any chemical input, with the following manures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Liquid manure prepared from Cow dung, cow urine, fish Wastes, by decomposing various weeds, molasses, bason, etc. found to be effective for nutrient management of fruit trees, kitchen garden, paddy field, etc. • Use of turmeric powder & dry neem leaves, mixed it properly and apply it in body with oil to improve the skin in low cost 	<p>It was observed to be Effective in small scale. These are to be verified in scale.</p> <p>There is a demand in Kolkata within friends Circle.</p>

8. PEOPLE’S PARTICIPATION FROM PLANNING TO IMPLEMENTATION STAGE (WITH EMPHASIS ON THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN TECHNOLOGY GENERATION/ MODULATION/ TRANSFER/ ADOPTION; CO-OPERATIVE FORMATIONS/ SELF HELP GROUPS: GENDER PERSPECTIVE):

Technology generation	Modulation	Transfer	Adoption
Liquid Manure		22 SC families are Supplied with mud pots for making liquid manure.	Used by all.
Fish tonic		23 SC families are engaged to do fish tonic for which mud pots are supplied they were taught how to prepare it.	Used by all. More are interested
Local production of poultry feed supplement		NGO does it experimentally.	
Rain water harvesting		One model was established.	4 SC HHs are identified to initiate Rain Water Harvesting in rainy season .
Mango grafting		Staff members along with volunteers, community participants (4), and talented girl (5) trained on fruit plant propagation by grafting technique.	Promote to the Community

9. INDICATORS APPLIED FOR MONITORING (QUALITATIVE & QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS/ STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS):

- Monthly report of the staff (target assigned and target achieved)
- Visit to SC family’s house for physical verification of action taken
- Physical verification of Sanitary units supplied
- Number of SGH members attended their monthly meeting
- Interest to attend the training programme

10. OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED SO FAR:

Objective	Objective achieved so far
1. Establishing a strong baseline, exploring avenues for increasing social participation, gender and financial equality etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive survey was done. Baseline data recorded
2. Developing capacities of the community members (Capacity Building) through education, campaign, training, demonstration and enhancing the production &	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial training on IFS was given by expert from Service Centre and finally at VIB during 28 Feb.,14 to 2 March, 14 (25 community members including staff attended) • Two months training on Herbal Care for Skin & Hair Therapy;

<p>productivity of croplands and allied sectors, with focus on creation of Employment opportunities and alleviation of poverty;</p>	<p>Tailoring training was done by some local expert. 10 SC women are trained in Herbal Therapy & 6 SC women are trained in tailoring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRA training-- All the staff members along with volunteers (2), community participants (4), talented boy (1) & talented girls (5) were trained on different tools of PRA by Sri S.K DAS Project Coordinator DRCSC, Kolkata.
<p>3. Improving the nutritional security & safety of the community through education and improvement in consumption pattern.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish fingerlings (Size 3 to 4 inches,) are distributed among 48 SC HHs. Each of the family get 500 gram. • Poultry chicks are distributed among 39 SC HH. Each of the family received 6 chicks. • 10 SC families supported with vermin compost pit & 400 earth worms. • 22 families received mud pot for on farm liquid manure and fish tonic to promote organic farming. • 2 new SC group formation containing 10 members (Alor dishari & Ganesh) of Phulbari & Kashtala. The bank account opened. Regular monitoring done by staff. They received a training on group dynamics & on group strengthening along with 7 old SC and SC dominated group. • 3 community learning center are opened in three villages, different activity besides providing quality education, training and practices on drawing, cultural activity are continued regularly. (Sibpur-10, Kashtala-12 students, Phulbari-10 students) • Participation in scientific project of SC student. (Young leader for change –Hasi Patra; National Children Science Congress-Rakhi Mondal) • Solar lights are distributed to student of Phulbari study center.
<p>4. Improving the community's access to basic social services offered by local bodies with emphasis on the services relating to health, education, water supply and sanitation;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 Community members supported with low cost sanitation to improve personal health & hygiene • 16 sources of drinking water from 3 villages are tested from Sagarmangal. (Tubewell-9, Tap-3, Pond water --3) : Report is matching mostly with the standard.
<p>5. Promoting Small and micro-enterprises (SMEs) with bank linkages and networking with business & consumer partners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One local outlet opens for business. One SC women (Alor Dishari) are supported by providing 20 sharees & 20 dress material to initiate business activity. At the time of Gangasagar Mela She opened a stall of fast food and got profit of Rs.1200.00 within 4 days.

11. WORK REMAINING TO BE DONE UNDER THE PROJECT:

- Technology identified to be adopted in large scale
- Scaling up of the Integrated Farms

- Large scale production of vegetables, poultry, for business
- Scaling up of the clothes business, so far initiated

12. AGENCIES/ INSTITUTIONS/ DEPT.'S LIKELY TO BE INTERESTED IN THE PROBLEM, METHODOLOGY, RESULTS, ETC.

- Local Agriculture Department;
- Local Panchayat & Block office

13. CONSTRAINTS, IF ANY:

- We are trying to improvement of SSK & ICDS house for running the CLC at Sibpur Village. Initially, local socio-political problems prevented us to do so. Though the problems remain still now, we are progressing in alternative way.
- The existing sanitary units needs to be improved as it's condition is very poor, local awareness level is very low even on the importance of washing well before taking any food.
- Overall pond management system is not known to the community members. Thereby, production is very low, for which extensive training with follow-up visits is necessary. Community members are busy with betel vine cultivation, so more than 2 days training at a stretch is not viable.
- Farmers are less organized & lazy and political minded.

14. INTERVENTION OF DST REQUESTED FOR

Arrangement of exposure visit for the staff & interested community members to the area where progress of work is satisfactory.

15. DATE WHEN THIS REPORT WAS DISCUSSED WITH PROJECT TEAM/TARGET GROUP AND BRIEF OUTCOME:

The present report was discussed with the staff members on 30th April,14

Anales Misra

DATE: 30.05.14

SIGNATURE OF PI & CO-PI