

Project Title: Reversing Environmental Degradation and Rural Poverty through Adaptation to Climate Change in Drought stricken areas in Southern India: A Hydrological Unit Pilot Project Approach



One Day Seminar on Groundwater Management in India: Issues and Challenges, Organized by National Law University, Delhi on 21st June 2014.

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Strategic Pilot on Adaptation to Climate Change (SPACC) Project

Project's Development Objective

Strengthen the knowledge and capacities of communities to respond to climate variability and change impacts in pilot hydrological units (HUs) in seven drought-prone districts of Andhra Pradesh





Strategic Pilot on Adaptation to Climate Change

Project Details (SPACC) Project

GEF Project ID : 3885

FAO Project ID: 604144

FAO Project Symbol : GCP/IND/181/GEF

GEF Agency : Food And Agriculture Organization of United nations

Other Executing Partners : Bharathi Integrated Rural Development Society

GEF focal Area : Climate Change

GEF Strategic program : Strategic Pilot on Adaptation

Duration : Three years

Estimated Starting Date : December 2010

Estimated Completion : June 2014

Role in the Project

- Prepare [Base document](#)
- Implement project activities
- Monitor progress and manage finances
- Submit half yearly progress and financial reports ([HPR](#))
- Form Climate Change Adaptation Committees (CCACs)
- Assist CCACs in daily weather monitoring and data collection
- Build CCACs capacities to adopt sustainable land and water adaptation options
- Disseminate project learning to district-level functionaries



Activities Undertaken

- Reconfigured [APFAMGS](#) GMCs into CCACs
- Established Participatory Climate Monitoring (PCM) stations for daily weather data collection
- Trained volunteers on weather data collection and recording
- Maintained weather database
- Organized Farmers Climate Schools(FCS) to improve awareness on climate variability, its impacts, and the need to adapt
- Promoted sustainable land and water management practices



Results and Achievements

- Established 25 PCM stations in 7 districts
- 286 trained PCM volunteers collect and record PCM data
- 143 Display boards established in 9 Pilot HUs to disseminate the weather data to larger community
- 200 thousand families have access to local weather data
- 45 FCS were organized; 1214 FCS graduates (715 female and 499 male farmers)
- Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWM) practices were field tested in 7 districts with 160 direct and 800 indirect farmers



Expected mid- and long-term Impacts on Environment

- Sustainable land and water management practices reduce land degradation
- Climate Change Adaptation Plans reduce losses in crop yields
- Adoption of NPM practices:
 - reduce soil and water pollution, and
 - improve soil organic carbon content and soil water holding capacity.



Conclusions and General Recommendations

- Increased awareness on climate change / variability and its impact on agriculture
- SLWM practices reduced risks in land and water management
- Capacities of CCACs were built to monitor and maintain PCM stations and SLWM pilots after withdrawal of the Project
- At least one year extension of the project could have helped farmers for proper data analysis and informed decision making



Lessons Learnt

- Socio-Cultural practices should determine intervention strategies
- Bottom-up approach increases people's participation and involvement
- Strong Linkages from project inception result in sustainability of interventions
- Farmers as 'barefoot climatologists'
- Climate Change Adaptation Plans help community reduce risks in crop production
- Implementing women exclusive FCS improves Female farmers participation





Thank you

For more details visit: <http://www.birds-spacc.org>

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