
Proposal Wise Status, Future Plan, Results and Constraints

WASSAN – RRA Comprehensive Pilots
(RRA – CP)

2013 – 2014



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PROPOSAL – 1: ESTABLISHING SEED BANKS FOR A CLUSTER OF VILLAGES

Progress made up to November, 2013

- One seed bank has been established in Timareddipally in May, 2013
- Paddy seed production to the tune of 1.4 quintals was undertaken in Kharif 2012 which was distributed to farmers through the seed bank in Rabi 2012 and Kharif 2013.
- 20 Quintals of Ground nut foundation seed worth Rs. 1, 00,000 was received by the seed bank from ATMA. This has been used in the form of a corpus by the seed bank.
- 30 quintals of ground nut seed under seed village program was also accessed by the seed bank for taking up seed production in Ground Nut.
- The 20 quintals of ground nut foundation seed under ATMA was taken up for seed production in summer 2013.
- 2 trainings on seed production in groundnut were also carried out.
- A total of 39.44 quintals of seed was transacted through the seed bank in Timareddipally in 2013 which included varieties of Paddy, Ground nut, Castor, Cowpea, Green Gram, Red Gram, Finger Millet, Little Millet, Sorghum and Foxtail Millet. 41q repaid to seed bank
- Seed processing and grading equipment has been accessed by the cooperative through the agriculture department on subsidy basis.
- 2 more seed banks are planned in Challapur and Gokafaslabad in convergence with IWMP. IWMP has confirmed their approval in setting up 2 seed banks.



Future Plan

- Seed production and marketing of Paddy and Groundnut crops is planned to be taken up with incubation of the business for two years.
- Linking of ground nut seed produced in Kattera (Summer) 2014 to the government subsidy program is being sought.

- Linking up with National Seed Corporation for taking up seed production is also planned.
- Linking demand and supply of seed as a service through the seed bank.
- Organizing field visits to higher officials and facilitating the interaction with farmers and their institutions
- Organising state level experience sharing workshops

Impacts:

Seed banks have been able to make quality seeds locally available but efforts need to be put into establishing systems to expand the reach out of the seed bank to all the cluster villages and also deal in volumes to meet the requirement of all the interested stakeholders.

PROPOSAL – 2: PROMOTION OF MILLETS

Progress made up to November, 2013

- Dist Collector and Commissioner, Agriculture have given sanctions to access Jowar unit under INSIMP in Kharif and Ragi unit in Rabi.
- Promotion of Sorghum in 1325 acres in both Kharif and Rabi has taken place under INSIMP in Kharif 2013.
- Replacing Ragi in rice fallows is being undertaken in Rabi 2013. This is aimed at demonstrating Ragi as an alternative to paddy in low yielding borewells.



Future Plan

- In 2014 once the production of millets in the Mandal increases, it is planned to take up inclusion of millets in PDS, ICDS and mid day meals.
- Organizing food festivals to promote nutritional benefits of millets will be planned early next year.
- Processing facility for millets will be established in 2014 for value addition and marketing through the cooperative.
- A comprehensive proposal for millets development for district will be submitted to DOA, Women and child welfare Department and NABARD



Impacts:

- Part of Jowar, INSIMP program, area has increased. We are in the process of collecting the data of yield and how much it is contributing to HHs consumption
- A case is being made with the farmers to substitute paddy with Ragi in low yielding bore wells.

PROPOSAL – 3: SMALL HOLDER HORTICULTURE AND FLORICULTURE INTENSIFICATION

Progress made up to November, 2013

- 194 farmers in 10 villages have been organized into 11 vegetable growers groups in Doulothabad Mandal.
- 10 of the 11 groups have been accepted by the Dept of Horticulture under Quality Management Program in Vegetables as a special sanction to RRA CP area.
- Applications have submitted to APMIP for drip and estimations have generated



Future Plan

- Brainstorming on how to move ahead on Vegetable production with vegetable growers, experts and experienced farmers
- Rolling out action plan will start from December 2013.
- Register these farmers in the cooperative under the vegetable sub group and access benefits assigned for society in QMP viz. Packing house, cold storage and transport vehicle.
- Identifying local and private parties for marketing of agricultural produce from the cooperative.
- Standardizing design for vegetable cultivation in an acres per farmer needs



Constraints:

- Lack of clarity with the department regarding the program has caused a delay in accessing and rolling out of this program.
- Lengthy processes to access the scheme benefits
- To improve in-house capacities in vegetable production and marketing, exploring collaborations with experts/ institutions

PROPOSAL – 4: INTEGRATED BUSINESS SERVICE AND INFORMATION (BSI) CENTRE FOR STRENGTHENING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Progress made up to November, 2013

- A grant worth 10.96 lakhs has been received by the farmers' cooperative from DWMA to set up the BSI. This grant is being used to setup a BSI in Balampet village of Doulthabad
- The custom hiring centre in the village consists of one set of power tiller, power weeder and brush cutter.
- The BSI also has a sustainable agriculture input centre which is catering to service delivery depending on farmer requirements.
- These implements in the BSI are aimed at improving the productivity of agricultural labour needs of the farmers and have been leased to the community through the cooperative.
- The BSI also has an information centre for accessing information of agricultural crops and livestock diseases. The software is in an initial shape and is in the process of being firmed up.
- Streamlining of production and sales of concoctions is underway. 250 lt of Neemastram, 460lt of Aiduaakulakasayam, neem powder, 150no. of pheromone traps sold.

Planned in the future

- 2 more such centers are planned in Challapur and Gokafaslabad in convergence with IWMP.
- Systems for leasing out / hiring of implements at the custom hiring center along with charges and monitoring mechanism is to be put in place so that it could be emulated at the BSI's planned.
- Need to firm up the mechanism of how many farmers are accessing information from Information center
- Making BSIs economically viable units.

Critical Areas

- The materials that should be stocked in the BSI and the systems of operation need to be firmed up.
- Custom Hiring center is also in the trail phase and will be expanded around May once an understanding of the machinery and the process of leasing out is finalized.

PROPOSAL – 5: ENHANCING LAND AND SOIL PRODUCTIVITY, BIOMASS INTENSIFICATION AND DRYLAND HORTICULTURE

Progress made upto November, 2013

- A meeting organized with MGNREGA and RRA team at DWMA office to share our plans
- As per District Collector instructions, Nodal officer, RRA organised a meeting with mandal functionaries of MGREGA, IWMP and RRA. Prepared plan and generated few estimates on special drive
- Soil fertility practices which include compost pit and NADEP compost pit, tank silt application, biomass plantation and dryland horticulture in a block of 10 acres or more have been made as a unit and are being offered to farmers under MGNREGS.
- A plan for soil fertility package was undertaken in 137 acres in 2013. Administrative sanctions were received for 64 acres while the work could only be grounded in 13 acres.
- WASSAN staff is participating in Gram Sabha's to integrate soil fertility, biomass intensification and dryland horticulture into MGNREGA. The planning exercise will be over by December 2013.

Action plan

- In the planning exercise of MGNREGS for the year 2014 it is planned to offer the soil fertility package as a default work following which facilitation of the community on soil fertility would be taken up by WASSAN.
- Getting approval for the MGNREGS patch for filling biomass, watering and turning over of compost in compost pits.
- Soil fertility package is planned to be undertaken in 5000 ac in next three years.
- Firming up the package of measures in soil fertility enhancement through composting, Biomass intensification and dry land horticulture by providing watering and protection etc.
- WASSAN has been able to coordinate with the local functionaries in MGNREGS in integrating soil fertility related activities (composting, tank silt) in 2394 acres in Doulthabad Mandal.

Critical Aspects:

- The time at which, integrating RRA works into MGNREGA has started at the social auditing. All mandal MGNREGA staff except one was suspended after social auditing. For few month no activity has taken up by them

- District Collector wrote a letter to Commissioner, RD to get additional TA for RRA, but it couldn't happen. Director, MGNREGA has informed that they can't increase the TAs number as it will have the implication on administrative budgets. She has asked to wait up to new TAs take charge
- A lot of time was spent of facilitating the Mandal level EGS team and understanding the technical details of MGNREGS with respect to RRA works. In spite of facilitation and repeated perusal soil fertility works could not be grounded due to lack of priority from the Mandal level staff in integrating these works in their targets.
- Mandal Computer Center (MCC) is suffering with internet access; many a times server will not work, even if it works, speed will be the problem
- Photo capture by TAs is taking more time; without this generation of estimate will not done
- MGNREGA staff will identify the few works which can help them to reach to targeted expenditure
- Suffered with patch (software) closing and opening by DoRD. What kind of works have to be done in which month / time are decided by state officials; this is the irony of the EGS.
- This year an effort is being made to mainstream RRA works in the blocks identified by the EGS staff.



PROPOSAL – 6: NETWORKED BACKYARD POULTRY

Progress made upto November, 2013

- Accessed six units from Pri-minister Package of DoAH
- 4100 chicks have been reared in CRC's this year.
- System of aggregation of eggs in the egg value chain is in place with proper record keeping
- In the egg value chain an agreement has been reached with Google for supplying 500 per week. 5000 eggs of Rs.24629 value have been supplied to Google till now.
- The egg marketing is being done by WASSAN foundation under the trade name "PERATT".
- Integrated BYP plan into IWMP

Future plan

- Increasing the bird population in backyard through CRCs; each CRC has to rear chicks for 3-4 cycles in each year.
- Strengthening the system of aggregation of eggs through the aggregators at each GP.
- Getting other NGOs/ areas under *PEARTI* umbrella and registering a Producer Company at state level.
- Identifying other markets for supplying the eggs with *PERATI* trade name.
- Increasing the income to HHs from BYP.

Critical Aspects:

- Lack of critical mass in egg marketing in each village hampered the grounding of egg marketing through aggregators.
- Stability in the no of eggs marketed every week could not be attained. Fluctuations can be attributed to climatic factors (more eggs spoiled in summer), predation, lack of shelters, and also lack of proper planning.
- Low cost refrigeration facilities could not be developed to prevent damages to eggs in summer.



PROPOSAL – 7: IMPROVING SMALL RUMINANTS' VALUE CHAIN

Progress made upto November, 2013

- 20 units of Jeevakranti scheme has been approved for Goat and Ram Lamb rearers in Doultabad Mandal by DoAH.
- 13 of these units have already been accessed (7 by goat groups and 6 by sheep groups in Doultabad)
 - De-worming and Vaccination camps have been organized as per calendar
 - Goat and Ram Lamb rearers are organized into informal networks.
- VAS is attending the monthly meetings of networks, through which access to health services to these groups has increased.



Action plan

- A livestock reporting system is planned to be operated in the Mandal from March 2014, while a prototype will be tried out in the month of December.
- Initiating biomass intensification and increasing fodder base is being planned to increase body weights of animals.
- The registration of a producer Organization for Goat and Sheep rearers is intended to be completed by the end of March 2014.
- Firming up the business plan for meat marketing through the producer company.
- Linking it to financial institution



Critical Areas:

- Preventive healthcare service delivery though animal healthcare workers against service charges were mooted with officials both at the district level and state level. In the event of no response from these departments, it was decided to get resolutions from village Panchayats to this effect.
- Efforts were initiated to obtain operational guidelines for livestock shelters from RD department, but this needs further persuasion to be grounded.



PROPOSAL – 8: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF RICE DEVELOPMENT OF RICE BASED PRODUCTION SYSTEM OF RICE INTENSIFICATION

Progress made upto November, 2013

- 171.5ac of paddy is under SRI.
- 6 Labour groups have undertaken transplantation in 30ac.



PROPOSAL – 9: EASING DRAFT POWER CONSTRAINTS AND INTERNALIZING VALUE CHAIN OF DRAFT ANIMALS

Description:

Making animal draft power services available to the small and marginal farmers at affordable costs

Progress made upto November, 2013

Proposal accepted by IWMP to support bull calves rearing and giving grants for bullock pairs

Action plan

- Planning exercise needs to be done ground the theme in a phased manner.
- Organize meeting with bankers to provide loan to bull calves rearing.

PROPOSAL – 10: NPM REDGRAM PROCUREMENT, PROCESSING AND MARKETING

Description:

To promote value addition and marketing of agricultural produce from the cooperative.

Progress made upto November, 2013

- Farmer cooperative has procured 141q and processed 66q
- Sold way rest of grain as raw material
- 20q of dhal is still to be marketed. For that, pooling of contacts has started to send free samples to HHs(dhal, Korra and Smalau). Contacts Manager will talk to all HHs to take feedback on the sample (cooking quality, taste etc) and taking the indent for next year

Action plan

- Develop strategy to increase the regular consumers in Hyderabad and around
- Placing the appropriate HR and allocating the budgets

PROPOSAL – 11: VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS, FARMERS COOPERATIVES

Description:

Increase the capacities of farmer cooperative in business and getting access to government programs.

Progress made upto November, 2013

- A separate team has been allocated
- Streamlined the group meeting
- Share capital collected from members who have not paid
- Team attended training program by Procif to develop business plan; in-house capacities may increase.
- Trying to link with financial institutions like NABFINS, LAMP fund, UPNRM; persons from these institutions visited farmers coop. Persons from LAMP fund and NABFINS have visited to field area and had discussions with Cooperative members, they have given in principle agreement to lend the credit to cooperative
- Goat rearers Network: Team members are working to increase the membership in goat rearers groups

Action plan

- Linking of credit to cooperative is underway and applications to sources like NABFINS, LAMP fund have been submitted.
- Finalizing the business plan of the cooperatives
- A two day workshop for cooperative board members is to be organized for orientation on systems for loan distribution and repayment, monitoring mechanisms etc
- Training to board members on their role in developing rainfed agriculture of the members
- Planned to go for a multi-state multi commodity producer company where all cooperatives and networks along with WASSAN foundation take membership should be promoted. This producer company would serve as a centralized node for marketing, accessing credit, supporting capacity building of federations and also serve as a service center.
- An agency/individual to be commissioned to study the viability of the producer company and the legalities and licenses involved for taking up the role as mentioned above

PROPOSAL – 11: FISHERIES

Progress made upto November, 2013

- Due to low rainfall, tanks have not been filled up. No fisheries activity has been planned till now.

Action plan

- Meeting with potential tank fisheries cooperative members to plan for 2014. Realised that need to demonstrate the benefits to the farmers
- Revisiting the proposal to be submitted to Dept of Fisheries
- Demonstrating the results in 8 tanks in four villages

PROPOSAL – 12: GROUNDWATER COLLECTIVIZATION UNDER INDIRA JALA PRABHA

Indira JalaPrabha has taken up irrigation development for SC/ ST farmers at a large scale as a sequel to the Comprehensive Land Development Program (CLDP) by government. Digging of Bore wells is taken up for provision of irrigation at the rate of about one per 10 acres.

Without proper measures, it is commonly experienced that the life of bore wells is limited. Such an eventuality will waste all the precious public investments on irrigation in IJP. The present proposal is to bring in the concept of “**collectivisation of groundwater for secure rainfed crops**” to avoid the above eventualities.

Progress made upto November, 2013

- Sanction for ground water collectivization under IJP in 300 AC has been approved by RD dept.
- MOU has been signed on 10th November 2013

Action plan

- Exposure visits and orientation to IJP beneficiaries
- Preparing the PIP for this pilot
- Placing the HR
- Preparing the plans, taking administrative sanctions and grounding the activity.

BUDGETS ACCESSED FROM DEPARTMENTS

S. No	Theme	Activity	Total Expenditure on the activity	Fund from Department	Farmer / Institution Contribution	Program contribution	Status
1	Seed	25 Demo plots for ground nut seed production as revolving fund to seed bank	120000	100000		20000	Completed
		Training for seed production	10,000	10,000			Completed
		Seed Village Program in ground nut	72,000	36,000	36,000		Completed
		Paddy seed production	48007		48007		Completed
2	Millets	Farmers' awareness campaign	60,000	50,000		10,000	Completed
		Seed supply support for seed bank sorghum(per acre) - Jowar, INSIMP for Kharif, 2013	200000	200000			Completed
		Provision of Inputs	1590000	1590000			Completed
		Seed supply support for seed bank ragi(per acre); Rabi 2013, under INSIMP	110000	100000			Underway
		Provision of Inputs	1500000	1500000			Rs. 1500000 worth of Inputs- underway

S. No	Theme	Activity	Total Expenditure on the activity	Fund from Department	Farmer / Institution Contribution	Program contribution	Status
		Farmer Awareness Campaign	10000			10000	Will be taken up shortly
3	Small holder & Horticulture Floriculture Intensification	Floriculture promotion				10000	
		Drip	4504920	2252460	254939		Rs. 2252460 worth of work has started execution
		Facilitation of vegetable groups through farmer resource persons				14500	Underway
4	Integrated Business Service and Information Center (BSI)	Establishing a BSI in Balampeta Village	1096000	1096000			Underway
		Chipper for biomass lopping in compost pits added to BSI	45000			45000	Completed
5	Enhancing Land and Soil Productivity Biomass Intensification and Dry	Exposure visit to farmer groups	5,000	5,000			

S. No	Theme	Activity	Total Expenditure on the activity	Fund from Department	Farmer / Institution Contribution	Program contribution	Status
	land horticulture						
		Dry land Horticulture	829314	829314			Activity has started and is underway
		Biomass nurseries	20000			20000	Underway
		Demonstration of chipper for biomass intensification	10000	10000			
6	Networked Backyard Poultry	Setting up of CRC	15000			15000	Completed
		Raising chicks in Chick Rearing Centers started by entrepreneur at village. These chicks were then linked to BYP through IWMP	37600	18800	18800		
		PM package (6 units)	81000	40500	40500		
7	Small Ruminants' Value Chain	Jeevkranti Scheme	360000	180000	180000		Completed
		Vaccination drives	64218	64218			Completed
		Goat scout program (supplementary feed)	140000	140000	0		Completed
8	System of Rice	Support to labour groups for	87000	87000			

S. No	Theme	Activity	Total Expenditure on the activity	Fund from Department	Farmer / Institution Contribution	Program contribution	Status
	Intensification	weeding and transplanting					
9	NPM redgram procurement and processing		410362		54432	355930	Completed
10	Institutions	Amount spent of institution building	40000	15000		25000	
		TOTAL	11465421	8324296	632678	525430	

* Accessed budget from RS. 83.24 lakhs within a year.