



# Workshop with SOVVA & SAGARA Gram Panchayat Leaders to build Support Services for Coffee & Spices

**Venue:** Ushodaya Resorts, Araku Valley

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

## CONTEXT OF THE WORKSHOP

Sovva and Sagara GPs have been selected for the promotion of Natural Farming, DIMSA FPO was formed by the Sanjeevini NGO which is being used as a platform to network with various institutions for the promotion of Natural Farming. WASSAN took initiative through this FPO to implement the NF activities in GPs. The above 2 GPs have Rythubarosa Kendras (RBKs) which are serving a total of 39 habitations covering 2000 families. The major tribal communities are Konda Dora, Kodhu, Kotia, Bagatha, NukaDora, Dulia, Valmiki, Paringa Poraja and Mali. Konda Dora, Nuka Dora, Kotia, Kodhu and Bagatha are predominant tribes and among them Kodhu are categorized under PVTG.

WASSAN and Sanjeevini have initiated the process and sensitized GPs to move towards Natural Farming. On 3rd and 4th August SOVVA Sarpanch invited the ward members of SOVVA for a meeting to discuss the feasibility of Natural farming in SOVVA GP. SOVVA GP leaders have agreed unanimously to promote Natural farming and they announced on 15th August as part of Independence celebrations that SOVVA farmers will move towards promotion of Natural farming named as SOVVA declaration. WASSAN has given an orientation to the volunteers who were provided by the ward members, since then the ward members along with their volunteers participated actively in the habitation wise landscape mapping and planning process.

We have realized that there are 2634 acres found in 21 habitations of SOVVA GP. Out of which the Podu lands are 738 acres, Mettu lands are 1226 acres, Lowlands/wetlands are 660 acres. Coffee and Pepper grown in 567 acres, Ginger covered in 210 acres, Turmeric 63 acres, Sweet Potato 215 acres, Millets 294 acres, Rajma 114 acres and vegetables grown in 194 acres.

In the planning process we have observed that there was a huge gap in the production system of main crops like coffee, Pepper, Turmeric and Ginger etc. No knowledge on crop management and Natural farming practices etc. Postharvest issues are badly impacting on their produce in marketing.

Sanjeevini and FPO leaders & WASSAN felt that to have a workshop with subject matter specialists to seek inputs to incorporate in the planning process.

As per the above strategy, WASSAN and Sanjeevini organized a two-day workshop with SOVVA and Sagara leaders and farmers. Extension officers from the coffee board, horticulture department were joined.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP

The main objective of the workshop is to share the Sovva GP planning process to GP leaders and FPO members. Invite the Coffee & spice board, horticulture department to discuss more on the production system of Coffee, Pepper and Ginger and Turmeric for GP level planning with consent of respective Sarpanches.

The workshop was held on 2nd and 3rd November at Ushodaya Resorts, Araku valley.

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### A TOTAL OF 56 MEMBERS ATTENDED THE WORKSHOP

- Sarpanches from Sovva and Sagara GPs
- Sagara MPTC member
- 5 Ward members of SOVVA and Sagara
- 18 farmers and 8 RYSS field cadre
- 2 from APF
- 11 members from WASSAN
- 8 members from Sanjeevini
- Coffee board members
- AD Agriculture
- AO from Horticulture
- Members from Tanager
- Member from Vikasa NGO

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## FIRST DAY (2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2021)

Mr. Devullu welcomed the participants, followed by a self-introduction. Mr Ashok Sovva Sarpanch has given a brief introduction and objective of the workshop and summarized by Sunny WN. Ward members have shared their experiences in Sovva mapping and planning exercises done in their respective villages.

Mr. Pavan and Narsinga had shared the process of SOVVA GP mapping exercise and discussed gaps and constraints in the planning process. They have shared the Malingavalasa village case study as an example and discussed the plans/ demands which came through the exercise. Few

activities like soil conservation, rock bunding, contour trenches and intensification of coffee, water plans and proposed works under NREGs etc.

Facilitators have flagged issues in promotion of natural farming and cost of production, low production, value addition and market prices etc.

The participants were divided into 4 groups to discuss issues in production systems of Coffee and Pepper and Ginger and Turmeric crops. Facilitators have provided a chart paper for each group and asked them to write issues in seed/plantation, Intercultural operations, Crop protection, Harvest and post-harvest issues.



#### [A] GROUPS FORMED INTO CROP WISE:

Total participants were divided into 4 groups and each group listed issues and challenges in cultivation of Coffee, Pepper, Turmeric and Ginger.

S no	Crop	Challenges
1	Coffee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low survival rate in coffee.</li> <li>• Availability of shade plants like silver oak, Mango.</li> <li>• Plant protection, soil erosion and stone bonding.</li> <li>• Only manual pulping and grading practices</li> <li>• Exploitation by local traders</li> <li>• Need good training on coffee cultivation.</li> <li>• Drying yards not available for all farmers</li> <li>• Access of NREGS works</li> </ul>
2	Pepper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No ladders available for harvesting pepper</li> <li>• Drying yards are not available for all farmers</li> <li>• No awareness on threshing and grading.</li> <li>• Availability of machines for post-harvest mechanisms.</li> <li>• Immature pepper pods harvesting.</li> <li>• Alternative year production.</li> <li>• Exploitation by local traders</li> </ul>
3	Turmeric	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of good quality of seeds, 60% of germination observed</li> <li>• Difficulty in line sowing, high labor intensity.</li> <li>• Weeders are not available.</li> <li>• Boiler and polish machines are not available.</li> <li>• No procurement centers</li> <li>• Exploitation by local traders.</li> </ul>

4	Ginger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No preparation for Seed storage practices.</li> <li>• Training on management practices.</li> <li>• No equipment is available for grading.</li> </ul>
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### [A] INPUTS FROM COFFEE BOARD

Mr Mohan Coffee extension inspector explained about the Package of practices to be followed for coffee and pepper. He also shared the kind of support system available from the coffee board etc.

He said that the Coffea arabica variety is being promoted widely in the Visakha agency. Coffee plant management is the main aspect to enhance the yield of coffee. He has shared what are practices to be followed to increase coffee production.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raising saplings in poly bags.</li> <li>• A pit must be made at least 30 days before transplantation, farmers must dig a pit sized 1.5ft deep with the same width and filled with manure while planting.</li> <li>• Curved roots to be cut down while planting.</li> <li>• Best season for the plantation is June/July.</li> <li>• After plantation, the plant's height must be monitored, cut the top portion of the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plant at 2.5 to 3ft above ground level for the first 3 years and then regular pruning is to be done periodically.</li> <li>• In sloppy lands contours are made to control soil erosion.</li> <li>• Lime application to control stem borer is another important management practice.</li> <li>• Plants require full shade so good shade to be maintained.</li> <li>• Pepper plants to be planted at a distance of 100feet each.</li> </ul>
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Both the coffee board & the ITDA have supplied manual operated baby pulper machines to the tribal farmers on subsidy. As per Mr. Mohan the pulp machines will be useful for the small farmers who own below one acre of coffee but not for large farmers. A person can manually operate 500kg of cherries beyond that difficult for him/her. Community pulper may be useful for large farmers or a group of farmers.

Soil erosion is another issue that farmers raised in sloppy lands. Support is available for contour trenches and rock bunds. GPs to be explored to access support from NREGs.

Drying of parchment is another issue, tarpaulins are not much useful but cemented drying yards are more useful for this purpose. Farmers opined that drying yards are required for household level rather than community level. Land availability at household level may be constrained.



*Mr. Peter has agreed to explore elevated cotton covered Tarpaulin sheets for drying of parchment.*

Mr. Ravindra did a brainstorming exercise with Sagara Sarpanch Mr. Seetharam along with the farmers on things to be done for the promotion of Natural farming in the Sagara GP. Few ideas emerged towards establishment of micro entrepreneurship and access to tools which are important for the farmers in seasons etc.

## SECOND DAY (3<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2021)

The first session started by sharing presentations made in groups. Mrs Padma Horticulture officer explained the kind of assistance available from the department for Turmeric, Ginger etc. She has highlighted land preparation and short duration varieties which are available from the department.

Mr Ravindra and Mr.Pavan facilitated the session on how to address these issues highlighted in the production system. They have done planning exercise as follows:

- Seeds/ plantation related issues.
- Land preparation
- Mechanization for intercultural operations and harvest and post-harvest
- Marketing issues and strategies etc.





A detailed action was prepared with several group discussions.

- After listening to the SOVVA GP planning process, the Sarpanch of Sagara GP requested to conduct the similar process in their GP and planned accordingly.
- Sovva and Sagara GP leaders and FPO members actively participated in the preparation of an action plan, particularly technology intervention to enhance crop productivity and value addition for better marketing opportunities.
- Sagara GP leader Mr. Seetharam had shared his experiences on coffee and pepper aggregation and collective marketing by farmers which they did in 10 years ago and discontinued due various internal reasons. Mr Seetharam expressed interest to do the similar aggregation of Pepper and Coffee for better marketing of coffee and pepper. They opined that a collection point and temporary storage land may be needed to create such a facility locally. Sagara GP took the responsibility to find the place to set up the collection point. Similarly planned to introduce technology which are available for Coffee & Pepper and Turmeric for production enhancement and value addition. There was a discussion on modification of tools for local convenience hence the WASSAN Foundation has agreed to help in this regard.

A small committee has been formed for Black Pepper aggregation and estimate the volume and preparation of the business plan. The committee members like Mr. Pandanna (FPO member), Mr. Seetharam (Sarpanch of Sagara GP), Mr. Ashok (Sarpanch of Sovva GP), Mr. Appalawamy (Karakavalasa Ward Member) and Ms Gijivisha from WASSAN)

Mr Pavan has facilitated the session to prepare an action plan and categorized tasks and responsible persons against each activity. Key actors like GP leaders, FPO members, RYSS field cadre and WASSAN.

## ACTION PLAN

Sno	చేయవలసిన పని	బాధ్యతలు	Target date
1	సాగర పంచాయితీ వార్డు మెంబర్లు పంచాయితీ ప్లాన్ కోసం సమావేశం ఏర్పాటు చేసుకోవాలి. ఈ సమావేశంలో గ్రామానికి ఇద్దరు వాలంటీర్లను గుర్తించాలి.	సీతారాం గారు , సాగర సర్పంచ్	8/11/2021
2	వాలంటీర్ల లిస్ట్ సంజీవిని, వాసన్ కు అంద జేయాలి	రామచందర్	10/11/2021
3	వాలంటీర్ లు గ్రామం బౌండరీలు గుర్తించాలి		15-11-2021
4	పంచాయితీ గూగల్ ఎర్త్ మ్యాప్ అందుబాటులో ఉంచాలి. గ్రామం వారీగా బౌండరీలు ను వాలంటీర్లు	మ్యాప్ ప్రింట్ తీసి ఇవ్వాలి నర్సింగ్	12/11/2021

Sno	చేయవలసిన పని	బాధ్యతలు	Target date
	గుర్తించాలి.		
5	గ్రామం వారీగా గూగల్ ఎర్త్ మ్యాప్ అందుబాటులో ఉంచాలి	నర్సింగ్	17/11/2021
6	మ్యాపింగ్, ప్లానింగ్ పై వాలంటీర్లకు శిక్షణ ఇవ్వాలి	నర్సింగ్	20/11/2021
7	FPO ద్వారా CHC లో 10 నిచ్చెనలు మిరియాలు కోసం అడ్డెకు ఉంచాలి.	పండన్న	31-12-2021
8	FPO ద్వారా ఒక ఫాప్ ఏర్పాటు చేసి టార్పాలిన్లు అమ్మాలి.	పండన్న	31-12-2021
9	CHC లో రకరకాల మెషీన్లు అందుబాటులోకి తీసుకురావడానికి FPO మెంబర్లు ఒక్కొక్కరు 1500 నుండి 2000 కట్టాలి. ముందస్తు పెట్టుబడి కోసం. మొత్తం 5 లక్షల రూపాయిలు సమకూర్చుకోవాలి	పండన్న	31-12-2021
10	FPO ద్వారా మిరియాల కోసం ఒక గ్రేడర్, నూర్పిడి యంత్రం కొనుగోలు చేయాలి. దీనిని తరలించేందుకు అవసరమైన రిక్షా ను వాసన్ తయారు చేయిస్తుంది.	పండన్న, వాసన్	31-12-2021
11	100 టన్నులు మిరియాలు మార్కెటింగ్ కోసం రైతులు ఉంచాలి. ఒక్కొక్క రైతు 200 కేజీల మిరియాలను 3 నెలల పాటు గోడౌన్ లో ఉంచాలి. కనీసం 500 మంది రైతులు ఈ మిరియాలు ఉంచాలి	పండన్న	30-2-2021
12	మిరియాల మార్కెటింగ్ కోసం ఒక కమిటీ ని ఏర్పాటు చేసుకున్నారు. కమిటీ సభ్యులు సీతారం, అశోక్, పండన్న, అప్పలస్వామి, జిజివిష	పండన్న	
13	గోడౌన్ కోసం స్థల ఎంపిక, సేకరణ - బాధ్యత సీతారం గారిది.	సీతారం గారు , సాగర సర్పంచ్	8/11/2021
14	పసుపు కోసం ఒక బాయిలర్, పాలిషర్ FPO ద్వారా ట్రయిల్ కోసం ఏర్పాటు చేయాలి.	పండన్న	31-12-2021
15	పసుపు ప్రగతి రకం విత్తనం కోసం ఉద్యాన శాఖకు ఇండెంట్ పెట్టుకోవాలి.	పండన్న	30-11-2021
16	అల్లం, పసుపు కోసం బెడ్స్ తయారీ కోసం పనిముట్లు కనిపెట్టాలి. వాసన్/farmeasy	వాసన్	31-02-2021

Sno	చేయవలసిన పని	బాధ్యతలు	Target date
17	మాలివలస గ్రామంలో రబీలో కూరగాయల పంట కోసం 8 టన్నుల ఘన జీవామ్మతం తయారు చేసి అందుబాటులో ఉంచాలి. FPO, RYSS మహేష్, రామచందర్, పండన్న బాధ్యత.	మహేష్ RYSS	15-11-2021
18	కాఫీ ఎండబెట్టడానికి ప్లాట్ ఫామ్స్ కోసం గ్రామ ప్రణాళిక లో లిస్ట్ తయారు చేయాలి.	వాలంటీర్లు	
19	మిరియాలు ఎండబెట్టడానికి canvas మోడల్ ను పీటర్ గారు డిజైన్ చేస్తారు	పీటర్	31-12-2021
20	గ్రామంలో ఎంపిక చేసిన ఉపాధి హామీ కి సంబంధించిన పనులను గ్రామపంచాయతీ సహకారంతో ఉపాధి హామీ సిబ్బందికి అందజేయడం	సోవ్వా. సాగర గ్రామ సర్పంచులు	31-12 -2021
21	మండలంలోని 18 మంది సర్పంచ్ లు, ఉప సర్పంచ్ లకు పంచాయతీ అధికారాలపై శిక్షణ నిర్వహించాలి.	రాకేష్	22&23rd Nov 2021
22	స్పైస్ బోర్డు కి పసుపు ఉడక బెట్టె యంత్రాలు కొరకు దరకాస్తు చేసుకోవాలి _ ఎఫ్ పి ఓ	పండన్న	30-11-2021
23	తారపాలిన్ షీట్స్ కొరకు ఐ టి డి ఎ, ఉద్యాన శాఖ వారికి దరకాస్తు చెయ్యాలి _ ఎఫ్ పి ఓ	పండన్న	30-11-2021

The session was closed with the feedback and vote of thanks by the leaders of Sagara and Sovva Gram Panchayats. Participants took a group photo at the end of the session.

## PARTICIPANTS LIST

S No	Name of the participant	Designation	Village	Phone number
1	Killo Mothi	Ward member	Killoguda- Sagara	8328524665
2	Cheda Manjula	Ward member	Adapavalasa-sagara	9337421759
3	K Vari	Farmer	Killoguda- Sagara	8328524665
4	K Ramchandrar	Ryss	Killoguda- Sagara	6305430394
5	P Ashok kumar	Farmer	Korangiguda-Sovva	9491393177
6	P Rajkumar	Ward member	Mogiriguda-Sagara	7013298597
7	P Narasimha rao	Ward member	Malingavalasa-Sovva	7670954081
8	L Appalaswamy	Ward member	Karakavalasa-Sovva	9494689710



S No	Name of the participant	Designation	Village	Phone number
9	K Gasiram	Ward member	Odiyavalasa-Sovva	7382765813
10	K Rambabu	WASSAN _CRP	Goppula valasa-Sovva	7981309470
11	S Raghunathu	Volunteer	Malingavalsa-Sovva	9490504765
12	K Donnu	Volunteer	sagirivalasa-Sovva	6303109441
13	G Nageswara rao	Volunteer	Goppula valasa-Sovva	6300734046
14	P Raghunathu	Volunteer	Karakavalasa-Sovva	9598585217
15	G Dombu	Volunteer	Malingivalasa-Sovva	8688115576
16	S Mahesh	WASSAN _CRP	Similiguda-Sagara	6304746123
17	G Dhamodhar	WASSAN _GC	Araku valley	8099095630
18	K Durgaprasad	Ryss-NF-MT	Killoguda- Sagara	6302771226
19	S Simhadri	Farmer	Demuduvalasa-Sovva	9381051637
20	K Pandanna	Ryss-ECRP	Goppula valasa-Sovva	7569655385
21	M Binku	Ward member	Kotragondhi-Sovva	8985194853
22	K Seetharam	Sarpanch	Kusumaguda-Sagara	9493980657
23	K Mohan Rao	Ward memembr	Gadyaguda-Sagara	8247577668
24	A Maheswara rao	Ryss-NF-MT	Sovva	8639065660
25	P Kastu		Balyaguda-Sagara	9490281822
26	G Mahesh	MPEO- Horticulture	Dumbriguda	9492233160
27	S Musiri	Farmer	Similiguda-Sagara	6305334527
28	B S Chakravarthi	Ryss-Marketing	Araku valley	9491797810
29	S Jayakala	MPEO- Horticulture	Araku valley	6303913352
30	P Soita	VHA	Korri-Dumbriguda	8333036725
31	V Govindu	Ward member	Poddaguda-Sagara	8333036725
32	JV Jayaprakash	WASSAN	Vijayawada	9182504677
33	G Rakeshkumar	WASSAN	Paderu	8985234213
34	K Anilkumar	WASSAN	Araku valley	9010620803
35	Dk Patra	WASSAN	Srikakularm	8763561116
36	T Narasingarao	WASSAN	Visakhapatam	9491787476
37	Gigivisha	WASSAN	Hyderabad	8299300402
38	Ravindra	WASSAN	Hyderabad	9440621861
39	Sunny	WASSAN	Visakhapatam	9989977835
40	M PavanKumar	Consultant	Hyderabad	9440621863

S No	Name of the participant	Designation	Village	Phone number
41	P Bakos	Consultant	Srikakularm	9492643199
42	GT Naidu	Tanager-MO	Araku valley	8985904808
43	P Prasad	Ward member	Kusumaguda-Sagara	9444661025
44	V Devadasu	MPTC	Sagara	9491061487
45	K Lormi	Farmer	Kusumaguda-Sagara	9490178144
46	R Ramachandar	Ward memembr	Panasavalasa	9494726067
47	Swamy	APF	Visakhapatam	9396955195
48	Raghu	APF	Visakhapatam	9849298904
49	K Narasinga rao	Farmer	Kumidiguda	9182943830
50	P Padma	Horticulture officer	Dumbriguda	7036551265
51	K Balaram	WASSAN	Visakhapatam	7981417647
52	T Balaswamy	Farmer	Adapavalasa-sagara	9492342921
53	T Srinivas	Vikasa	Araku valley	7659056465
54	Dayanedhi	Farmer	Killoguda- Sagara	6301916925
55	Gowtham	WASSAN	Vizainagaram	9676333221
56	E Mohan	Coffee-EI	Dumbriguda	9866056145

