

**Proceedings of Review meeting of GEF sub-projects held on 02 December, 2011 in the Conference Room of NAIP, Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan II, Pusa campus, New Delhi.**

A meeting to review three GEF funded sub-projects was held on 02 December, 2011 in the Conference Room of NAIP, Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan II, Pusa Campus, New Delhi. Following were present:

1. Dr. Bangali Baboo, National Director, NAIP, ICAR, New Delhi
2. Dr. H. S. Gupta, Director, IARI, New Delhi
3. Prof. K. C. Bansal, Director, NBPGR, New Delhi
4. Dr. J.C. Dagar, ADG (Agro), NRM Division, ICAR, New Delhi
5. Dr. D. K. Sharma, Director, CSSRI, Karnal
6. Dr. A. P. Srivastava, National Coordinator, Component 3, NAIP, ICAR, New Delhi
7. Dr. B. K. Bandyopadhyay, CPI, CSSRI, RRS, Canningtown, WB
8. Dr. I. S. Bisht, CPI, NBPGR, New Delhi
9. Dr. S. Naresh Kumar, CPI, Senior Scientist, IARI, New Delhi
10. Dr. Manoj Khanna, IARI, New Delhi
11. Dr. Veerendra Veer Singh, Principal Scientist, CMFRI, Regional Station, Mumbai
12. Dr. L. M. Garnayake, Research Officer (Agronomy), OUAT, Bhubaneswar
13. Dr. D. Burman, CSSRI, RRS, Canningtown, WB
14. Dr. N. J. Maitra, Prog. Coordinator, RAKVK, Nimpth, West Bengal
15. Dr. T. K. Ghoshal, Sr. Scientist, CIBA-KRC, Kaddwip, West Bengal
16. Dr. Biswapati Mandal, Professor (Soil Chemistry), BCKV, Kalyani
17. Dr. S. K. Ambast, Director (Act), CARI, Portblair
18. Dr. J. K. Sharma, CSKHPKV, Palampur
19. Dr. R. Hampaiah, AP State Biodiversity Board, Hyderabad
20. Dr. Rabi N. Sahoo, IARI, New Delhi
21. Dr. Rabindra Padaria, IARI, New Delhi
22. Dr. B. B. Panda, CRRI, Cuttack
23. Dr. Arvind Verma, MPUAT, Udaipur
24. Dr. S. K. Malik, NBPGR, New Delhi
25. Dr. Anand Jain, NBAGR, Karnal
26. Dr. Alok Sharma, CSKHPKV, Palampur
27. Dr. K. K. Lal, NBFGR, Lucknow
28. Dr. V. Ravinder Nair, KVK, Adilabad
29. Dr. R. Eshwar Charen, KVK, NBPGR, New Delhi
30. Mr. G. Sailu, SRF, AP Biodiversity Board, Hyderabad
31. Mr. Suresh Prasad, IARI, New Delhi
32. Dr. Bidisha Chakrabarti, IARI, New Delhi

The meeting started with welcome by Dr. A.P. Srivastava, National Coordinator and Dr. Bangali Baboo, National Director, NAIP. National Director, NAIP presented the background of GEF SLEM projects and the purpose of the review. It was followed with presentation by CPIs and CCPIs of the three sub-projects.

**1. Sub-project: “Strategies to Enhance Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in Vulnerable Regions” Lead Centre; IARI, New Delhi.**

Dr. S. Naresh Kumar, In-charge CPI presented the progress of the sub-project. Following salient achievements were presented;

- Introduction of improved varieties of different crops.
- Advisory on Potential Fisheries Zone in Raigad district.
- Introduction of laser leveller in Mewat district.
- Zero tillage for wheat cultivation.

Dr. V.V Singh, CCPI presented the progress of CMFRI Regional Station, Mumbai. He focused on PFZ which has made a good impact in the region. Being a Mobile based service it is not dependent on electricity. He also emphasized that efforts are now to extend the duration of the advisory to five days instead of present level of two days.

Dr. B.B. Panda, CCPI presented the progress of CRRI Cuttack in Ganjam District. The following achievements were presented.

- Enhanced rice productivity in semi deep and deep low lands.
- Introduction of improved variety of vegetables.
- Introduction of moistures stress tolerant of varieties of pulses and oil seed.
- Poultry and aquaculture activities.

He expressed the need for administrative and financial guidelines for speedy procurement/construction. National Coordinator clarified that the guidelines are available on the website and number of financial people from every centre have been provided training on financial and procurement guidelines.

Dr. L.M. Garnayake, CCPI presented the progress of OUAT Centre in Ganjam District. Following achievements were presented

- Improved productivity of rice green gram, groundnut and sunflower through varietal substitution.
- Income generation through mushroom production, apiary and pisciculture.

He expressed that there are strong discontentment of non- beneficiaries in the villages. It was clarified that this is not a development project but a research project through selected beneficiaries. The farmers must be adequately educated about the objectives of the project.

At the end of the presentations, after detailed discussion following comments/suggestions were made;

- National Director mentioned that presentation of CPI was not upto the mark. It should be more specific and focussed.
- Dr. A.P. Srivastava, National Coordinator emphasized that many of the activities like characterization of current climate risk with reference to sustainable livelihood, characterization of livelihood options during past extreme climate change etc. have not been presented. Information on these activities have also not been provided in the progress reports. Accordingly, the activities and the reports need to be strengthened.
- Dr. H.S. Gupta, Consortium Leader and Director IARI mentioned that he is personally supervising the sub-project and emphasized that a good work has been done particularly in Mewat district and assured the house that every effort would be made to fulfil the objectives of the sub-project.
- On PFZ advisory, ND, NAIP wanted to know whether the Centre can take-up expansion of this intervention to other coastal belts of Maharashtra. CCPI answered in affirmative for the same. It was also suggested that a document on ITK with due validation may be prepared.
- On presentation of CRRI, Cuttack and OUAT, Bhubaneshwar it was emphasized that the progress in its present form looks like a demonstration on productivity increase rather than a livelihood project. The data needs to be analysed and presented for livelihood improvement. There is also a need for better synergy between OUAT Bhubaneshwar and CRRI Cuttack as both of them are working in the same district.
- Dr. Manoj Khanna from IARI mentioned that it is very difficult to get three bids for construction work in these remote areas. He informed the house that a proposal to PIU was submitted for construction through Panchayat Samiti which was not agreed by the PIU. ND, NAIP has agreed to reconsider the same.

At the end of the discussion on the sub-project it was concluded that though a good work has been done but several aspects need to be strengthened. It was decided to review the project again after one month.

## **2. Sub-project: “Strategies for Sustainable Management of Degraded Coastal Land and Water for Enhancing Livelihood Security of Farming Communities” Lead Centre: CSSRI, Karnal**

Dr. B. K. Bandyopadhyay, CPI presented the progress of the sub-project. He focused on land shaping for water harvesting, drainage relief and crop diversification. Following salient achievements were presented:

- Land shaping (farm pond, ridge & furrow, broad bed furrow, etc.) – 42.5 ha

- Paddy-cum- fish cultivation / integrated farming - 20.8 ha
- Diversification of crops including horticultural crops and their improved varieties 173 ha
- Crop nutrient management– 80.9 ha
- Brackishwater aquaculture– 8.0 ha
- 53 ha area brought under irrigation and cultivation of multiple crops
- Impact of these interventions on enhanced income was also presented.

Dr. N. Maitra, CCPI, R.K. Mission, Dr. T.K. Ghoshal, CCPI, CIBA, Dr. B. Mandal, CCPI, BCKV, Kalyani and Dr. S.K. Ambast, CCPI from CARI, Port-Blair presented the progress of respective Centres. The major focus of all the presentation was on land shaping, crop diversification and aquaculture.

The budget utilization of CARI, Port-Blair was observed to be poor. At the end of the presentations, after detailed discussion following comments/suggestions were made;

- It was emphasized that the expansion of the activities may be undertaken through convergence from other agencies as it may not be possible to undertake large scale land shaping through NAIP support. Field days inviting State Government official and other agencies may be organised.
  - Dr. D. K. Sharma Director CSSRI asked for the detailed economics of ponds including cost of construction, life, repair and maintenance cost to be considered in calculating net-income and benefit cost ratio.
  - It was also suggested to link the produce particularly vegetables to the market.
  - Dr. K.C. Bansal, Director NBPGR suggested to include scope of microbes in the project.
  - Dr. Dagar, ADG suggested to plant cash crops like black pepper on the bunds in Andaman and Nicobar for enhanced income.
  - The major role of BCKV is to monitor the soil and water quality across all the target districts of the sub-project. It needs to be strengthened.
  - ND, NAIP remarked that the progress must focus on fewer interventions for better impact, which is yet to be seen.
- 3. Sub-project: “Harmonizing Biodiversity Conservation and Agricultural Intensification through Integration of Plant, Animal and Fish Genetic resources for Livelihood Security in Fragile Ecosystem” Lead Centre: NBPGR, New Delhi**

Dr. I.S. Bisht, CPI presented the progress of the sub-project. Following major achievements were reported.

- Identification of plant, animal and fish genetic resources for ‘add value’ interventions.
- Demonstration of over 300 on-farm and on-stations trials.

- Breed improvement interventions using locally available superior germplasm.
- Breed improvement and propagation of fisheries.
- Bio resource characterization of genetic resources of the three target districts.

The progress of animal component of the sub-project was presented by Dr. Anand Jain, NBAGR, Karnal. The salient achievements were as follows:

- Characterization of 2161 buffaloes and cattle, 1576 goats and 72 sheep from three target districts.
- Introduction of superior breeds of Sirohi bucks, Gaddi bucks and lambs, Murrah bulls.
- Animal camps on health care, vaccination and improved feed supplement.

Dr. K.K. Lal, CCPI presented the salient achievements of the fish component of the sub-project. It was mentioned that 83 species were identified in the 3 districts. First record of extended distribution of *Tor Tor* was observed in rivers (Godavari and its tributaries of peninsular India from Adilabad). Four common fishes in three districts viz. *Labeo dero*, *Xenentodon cancilla*, *Puntius sarana*, *Crossocheilus latius* were identified for conservation. He expressed the need for additional fund under TA. He was advised to send the proposal through Consortia Leader.

The salient achievement of CSHPKV Palampur was presented by Dr. J. K Sharma. Production of 13q seed of rajmash, 24q of white maize, 9q of red maize, 8 of chitku, 84.2q of red rice were highlighted. No major diseases were reported due to interventions on animal health coverage, vaccination and feed supplement and at same time milk production enhanced by 5-10%. Nine units each of ram and buck and one buffalo bull were introduced for genetic up gradation. Biodiversity fairs were also organized.

The achievements of MPUAT, Udaipur was presented by Dr. Arvind Verma. The interventions on maize (Malar and Sathi), sorghum, mustard, fenugreek, etc. were successfully demonstrated. Value added products of maize were produced for enhanced income. Sirohi bucks were provided for improvement in local goats. Gir breeding bulls were supplied for improvement in cattle population. Captive breeding and propagation of indigenous fish species were also taken up.

The highlights of ANGRAU Centre was presented by Dr. R. Nair. He highlighted the achievements on seed chain development of pop type jowar, redgram (Bollikandulu), local green gram, rice bean and Chittimutyalu (local scented rice). Farm pond development for rain water harvesting evolved keen interest among the farmers and its impact was seen in enhanced productivity of tomato, cotton, red gram, etc.

The highlights of AP State Biodiversity Board, Hyderabad was presented by Dr. G. Sailo. He highlighted the achievements on animal and fish component. Introduction of Ongole bull in the region followed by good animal health care and improved field supplement created good impact.

In aquaculture component collection of indigenous fish species *Labeo fimbriatus* of Adilabad district from Godavari and Pennanga and breeding of the indigenous species, distribution of the seeds in the district community ponds were highlighted. The price of Ongole Bull was stated to be a major constraint in providing more number of bulls in the region. An additional fund of ₹ 12.8 lakh was proposed. CCPI was advised to send the proposal through Consortium Leader.

The presentations was followed by discussion, after which following comments/ suggestions were made:

- ND, NAIP emphasized that there is need to study biodiversity with the changing climate.
- The presentations of NBAGR lacked focus. It is important to know which breeds are getting extinct and what efforts are required to conserve them. There is also need to identify the most important livestock for improving livelihood.
- On presentation of ANGRAU, National Director remarked that since farm pond technology seems to have made good impact it may be focused and highlighted properly.
- Dr. A.P. Srivastava, National Coordinator raised the point that as per approved proposal the role of AP State Biodiversity Board, Hyderabad is to provide policy guidelines which has not been addressed. It needs to be looked into.

While concluding the review National Director emphasised that there is need to understand the area in which we are working; suitably identify the interventions leading to livelihood improvement. The critical analysis of current livelihood system and steps to improve is a must and need to be properly presented. The water harvesting structures need to be rationally designed. He stressed the need for better budget utilization as it is a grant and any lapse of fund is viewed seriously. Overall the progress was satisfactory.

Dr. A.P. Srivastava, National Coordinator proposed vote of thanks.

(A. P. Srivastava)  
National Coordinator

Approved

National Director