

2014

Inception Report- Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojna



Shroffs Foundation Trust-
Kalali

A. Organization (PIA) detail

The Shroffs Foundation Trust (SFT) was instituted in 1980 as a philanthropic endeavor of Shroffs family, though the developmental activities were started in 1987 through the village Kalali, Vadodara district. Since last 27 years the trust has made rapid stride in rural development. At present SFT actively works more than 500 villages in most deprived areas of Gujarat, which are tribal blocks of Vadodara district and Banni cluster (Desert) of Kutch district.

Natural Resources development, Agriculture and animal husbandry development, medical services, skill trainings, education and livelihood are the major focused areas.

SFT is also recognized by various State Governments and the Central Government for implementation of the Government programme for Rural Development, Tribal development and poverty alleviation.

1. Legal Status and organizational profile

- I. Registered under the Mumbai Public Charitable Trust Act, 1950.
- II. Trust Registration Number: E/2818/Vadodara. Date: 5/12/88 Place: Vadodara
2. III F. C. R. A. registration Number: 041960094
3. Registered Address of Head Office:
Shroffs Foundation Trust,
At & Post Kalali,
Taluka / District: Vadodara
Telephone Number: 0265 - 2680061, 2680702
Fax Number: 0265 – 2680370
Email Id: sft@shroffsfoundation.org
Website: www.shroffsfoundation.org

Mission statement:

“To assist village population in improving their productivity, efficiency and creativity through services and goodwill, with the support of industries, academic institution, voluntary and government agencies and with the guidance of competent and committed experts by knowledge, inputs and effective management of available resources viz. land water, energy, livestock and people. To upgrade the quality of lives of everyone in the villages the children, the youth, women, men and the aged, mainly through their own involvement, interest and initiative.”

Our Approach:

The development programs have to be customized to suit the needs of each cluster and area and based on the assessment of the current development status and the forward path required; SFT felt need to develop different vision exercise for our different working areas. Utilizing the resources and opportunities available in the areas, we focused integrated approach to provide opportunities to improve life style of the people through building their capacities with active participation.

Strategies of implementation:

The organization's strategy broadly likes,

- Empowerment of community and ownership of program to ensure the management and sustainability.
- Convergence of natural resource development programs like, Soil and Water conservation.
- Conjunctive use of water for improving livelihoods.
- Diversification in agricultural pattern, focusing on more profitable agriculture practices.
- Equity and gender consideration with strong organizational capacity and institutional building

Focus areas of the organization:**Major focused areas of SFT are as under**

- Natural Resource Development- Soil and Water conservation, Water harvesting and Forest area development.
- Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.
- Agriculture Mechanization and Drudgery Reduction.
- Enhance livelihood opportunities by Skill development.
- Improvement in quality of primary education and literacy.
- Rural Sanitation and energy (Biogas)

B. Executive summary of the project / Brief description of the project

The Tribal area of district Vadodara (Now Chhotaudepur) is among the most backward areas in Gujarat. It is predominated by the tribal mostly depending upon rain fed agriculture on their small and marginal land holdings.

In the tribal area entire family is engaged in Agriculture and women contribute more than male members of the family. However women do not get due recognition and empowerment as they are not recognized as farmer and so never given benefit.

Government of Gujarat has promoted self help groups of women named Sakhi Mandal in the district on large scale as main tool for poverty alleviation. This is a very favorable opportunity to link these women members of Sakhi Mandals with agriculture based livelihood activities. Hence, the present proposal addresses the issue of women's participation in sustainable agricultural development to enhance their livelihood and build their capacities in appropriate farming techniques. Building institutions from village to clusters and finally at block level and empower them with knowledge and skill is an important and focused area of the project.

Cadre development in form of development of community resource persons will be the human assets created under the project to bring the development process further.

The SHGs will be brought under umbrella of block level cooperative society which is

The soil health improvement and reinstallation of traditional seeds are another important aspects of the proposal.

Training, exposure and constant handholding to the Women's institutions and CRPs will be the key strategy of the project. The Women Institutes and the Local Resource Persons are expected to be leading the project implementation with facilitation support by the project staff.

The project will be implemented with **7320** small and marginal women farmers spread over in **91** villages of Chhotaudepur and Pavijetpur blocks. There will be total **12** Clusters of villages, each cluster consists average **8-10** villages and **550-600** women farmers. There are total **120** CRPs which is one CRP per 60 women farmers.

The villages are selected based on SFT's long presence and clusters provided by GLPC under Mission Mangalam program.

Objectives of the proposal,

a) *To organize and empower 7320 Women Farmers in groups and bring them together under the umbrella of common interest based Cooperative society at Block level with visualizing their active contribution in agriculture sector of Tribal blocks of Chhotaudepur and Jetpur Pavi in three years*

b) Vision of Success

This proposal is to build up capacities and empower women farmers to establish women led institutions and linkage with agriculture extension system by providing knowledge and technologies for sustainable agriculture practices so as to achieve their visibility, reduce drudgery and enhance income in Jetpur Pavi and Chhotaudepur tribal blocks.

Tasks:

Sr	Tasks	Status
1	Deployment of staff	As per proposal four staff members, (one project coordinator, two taluka coordinators and one accountant deployed) Eight more field supervisors deployed as organization contribution.
2	Orientation and training of staff on MKSP	All staff members are oriented and trained on the program objectives and implementation strategies.
3	Finalization of clusters / villages	8 clusters and 61 villages in Chhotaudepur and 4 clusters and 30 villages (Total 12 Clusters and 91 Villages) finalized.
4	Identification and selection of SHGs and Members	8 Clusters and 5320 women farmers in Chhotaudepur and 4 clusters and 1800 women farmers (Total 12 clusters and 7320 women farmers) are finalized.
5	Identification of CRPs	90 CRPs in Chhotaudepur and 30 CRPs in Pavi Jetpur (Total 120) selected.
6	Community resource person (CRP Trainings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Orientation• Sustainable agriculture• Survey Techniques	All 120 CRPs are oriented in project objectives, working strategies with their role and responsibilities. All 120 CRPs are trained on sustainable agriculture practices on major crops focusing ICM- techniques. All 120 CRPs trained on survey techniques
7	Baseline Survey	Process of baseline survey is initiated.
8	Material Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical Protocols• Farmers Dairy• Training Modules• IEC material for farm schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nine technical protocols are developed.• 5 Crops, Maize, Paddy, Wheat, Black gram and Gram• Developed farmers' diary for agriculture guideline and information• Vermi compost, Farm Yard Manure, Soil Testing and Amrut Pani
9	Women Farmers' Trainings	The trainings of women farmers on various crops, Soil Health management including Soil Testing, vermi compost and FYM are started.

Output:

- a. Increased Agriculture productivity to the tune of 75 % to the present level of each family.
- b. Food security will be ensured to the 100% for the targeted families along with increase in their nutrition level.
- c. This will introduce innovative ideas to improve the income alternatives among women farmers.
- d. Market linkage for the backward and forward integration will be ensured with competitive market along with management of integrated pest, fertilizer and water would result in 30-40% savings / gain at each farmer's level.
- e. There will be additional employment generated due to increased intensity of farming.
- f. There will be sub-sector development for agriculture such as seed production, organic fertilizer production, aggregation of produce and primary processing, animal husbandry, etc. All these will contribute to energize the local economy for multiplier effect.
- g. The recognition and dignity of women farmers will be increased.
- h. The improved knowledge and adoption of modern technologies will decrease the drudgeries and hardship of the women farmers which led these women farmers to more focus for their children education and other developmental activities.
- i. This will be resulted in terms of reduction in migration, food security; nutritional security, etc. will strengthen the women and contribute to improve their strategic role in agriculture.
- j. Introduction of improved technologies of agronomy and its adoption will ultimately enhance the soil and environment positively.
- k. Reduction in use of water, recommended doses of fertilizers and chemicals, use of biological fertilizers and biological control measures for pests and diseases will have positive impact on soils and environment.

Activities undertaken so far:

1. Approval Date:
2. MoU Date: 25Th June 2013
3. Sanction Date: 25Th June 2013
4. Fund release: 20Th March 2014

Activity Schedule (Gantt Chart)

Activity	13-Oct	13-Nov	13-Dec	14-Jan	14-Feb	14-Mar	14-Apr	14-May	14-Jun	14-Jul	14-Aug	14-Sep	14-Oct	14-Nov	14-Dec	14-Jan	14-Feb	14-Mar
Deployment of Staff																		
Orientation & training of staff on MKSP																		
Finalization of clusters / villages																		
Identification of SHG members																		
Mahila kisan Profile																		
IEC material development																		
Identification of CRP																		
DPR Preparation																		
Baseline Survey																		
Initial inception report																		
Training to CRP																		
Functioning of farm schools																		
Training to Community																		
Seed conservation through seed plots																		
Demonstration on Bio Pesticides																		
Promotion of Integrated Crop Management																		
Promotion of Inter Cropping																		
Promotion of Bio Pesticides																		
Soil testing																		
Promotion of Vermin compost																		
Promotion of FYM Pits																		
Exposure visits of CRPs to immersion sites																		

The 1st year is started from October-13

Description of each activity (1-2 sentences)

Mahila Kisan profiling and to Provide Khedut Pothi to women farmers:

- The diary contains agriculture input (Expenses), output (Yield) and extension activities related details, it will be equipped with crop related information like, selection of seeds, ideal period of different crops, soil preparation, crop protection, weather and overall guidance to the farmers for successful cropping
- This will be the basic document to understand and measure the success of the program interventions.

Baseline survey

- Baseline survey is conducted to map the status of Mahila Kisans in reference to socio-economic background, age, education, skills, occupation, institutional membership, income, land ownership, potential for IG activities etc

Conducting Gram Sabha

- Gram Sabha are conducted in all 71 project villages with the aim to spread awareness on the project and bring all key people together to facilitate the project interventions.

DPR Preparation

- Detailed project report is to be prepared in reference to project objectives, tasks, outputs along the stipulated timeframes.
- The DPR shall be based on the model template developed and submitted to the district authorities.

Technical protocols documentation

- The technical protocols on sustainable agriculture shall be customized in reference to the local context. Four protocol booklets shall be developed in Gujarati language for wider dissemination.

Value-chain Studies

- The proposed value chain studies shall be undertaken on specific crops; These studies shall build on the findings of similar studies focusing on the applications of solutions to the PIA's MKSP operational area. Such knowledge management inputs are expected to drive consolidation and convergence with an aim to maximize gains for the mahila kisans.

Technical protocols documentation

- Technical protocols are developed for five major crops and four organic materials / Methodologies.
- Prepare detailed technical note specifying the protocols/ practices to be used under Agriculture practices of major crops, including IPM, INM, soil health management, water management, use of bio-pesticides, bio-nutrients, seed security through production and preservation, animal husbandry, mixed cropping.

Develop display material for training on-Flex posters and Cards:

- A set of about 50 charts are developed for cropping practices of five major crops, organic material, MKSP objectives, main messages of the project and village details are developed and printed for farm schools.
- Purchases shall be made in bulk to get benefit of scale based on the training requirement. The content for flex posters and cards shall be developed by the experts and consultants.

Farm School

- Field farm Schools in 71 project villages are started with display, teaching and demonstration material to provide on field trainings to the women farmers.

Training and extension to CRP

- CRPs will be imparted training based on customized modules adapted and developed for the purpose and also to develop them as emerging leaders or change agents. They shall be provided exposure on exemplary work being done by counterparts in similar projects within or outside the district.

Training to the women farmers

- The targeted women farmers will be imparted training to motivate them to adopt sustainable agriculture practices.
- Cropping practices on Major crops, organic material and drudgery reductions are the major subjects

Seed conservation plots

- To reinstall the traditional seed conservation practices and reduce the use of high breed seeds, seed plots will be developed by sustainable agriculture practice (ICM Technologies)

Demonstration on Bio Pesticides

- Demonstrations to prepare and use bio pesticide and growth material by using local material like animal dung will be conducted to popularize it and reduce use of chemical material.

Demonstrations:

- Various demonstrations will be conducted to promote Integrated Crop Management (ICM), inter cropping, and bio pesticides, ultimately to promote the low cost and sustainable agriculture practices

Soil Health Management:

- Soil testing will be conducted to about 70% of targeted women farmers for scientific guidance to improve soil health.
- Vermi-compost and Farm Yard Manure units will be provided to all targeted women farmers as demonstration units.

Drudgery Reduction:

- A set of small machines like mini maize sheller, mini rice mill, mini paddy thresher and small hand tools will be made available for demonstration to create awareness among the women farmers.

Operational Fund of Producer federation

- The support shall cover operation cost for three years and other costs related to business development planning etc.

Social Audit

- A joint team of community people, project authorities and experts will conduct social audit to measure the success and impact of the project.

Public information disclosure

- Public display of project information shall be made through wall writings, transparency boards, leaflets etc.
- Sharing of information related to project at government authorities and gram sabha.

Reasoning for timing of activity (clarity needed)

How the individual activity will be undertaken & by whom

- Shroffs foundation Trust has drawn a detailed project implementation plan. Post recruitment of staff, orientation was organized for orientation of district and block level officials. This was followed by Gram Panchayat level orientation programme for PRI representatives. CRPs have been identified and oriented before placement.
- Baseline survey was done and mahila kisan card are under progress. The DPR shall be finalized incorporating specific targets and tasks in reference to the approved project proposal.
- Senior personnel of Shroffs foundation Trust and thematic consultants shall handhold the process during implementation.
- A project MIS shall be maintained backed by knowledge management inputs from time to time.
- Implementation Plan shall involve key village persons, opinion leaders, SHG members. To create better synergy and convergence.

Expected Output

Expected Annual Output

- 120 CRPs will be groomed as complete agriculture extension workers and progressive leaders.
- 71 Farm Schools will be established and developed as self sustained units
- 7320 women farmers will be imparted trainings on sustainable agriculture practices.
- 5 Units for drudgery reduction tools and technologies will be established.
- 50% of targeted women farmers will have adopted sustainable agriculture practices.

Expected Convergence

- For land and water works, MGNREGs potential will be exploited while for agriculture and allied sector activities convergence would be initiated with Department of Agriculture and other line departments. Resources from other donor agencies would be converged for large scale interventions.
- When other farmers from the same village and also other villages would see their use and benefits, they would also demand for them. The demand then would be facilitated to be channelized from MGNREGS. The technical and administrative staff would also be exposed to the idea so that a favorable climate is developed for scaling it in large numbers in the area. It is expected that an investment the tune of Rs.100 lakhs can be attracted from MGNREGS and other such opportunities through convergence over the next three years.

Month-wise expenditure plan:

Month wise expenditure plan will be submitted with DPR, the file for year wise budget plan is attached herewith