

12th Annual Partner's Meeting- 6th August 2014

The 12th Partners' Meeting of Centre for People's Forestry (CPF), brought the entire networking unit of CPF on a single platform. The meeting took place at St. Ann's Generalate, Tarnaka, Secunderabad on 6th August, 2014.

The Annual partner meeting provided a platform for Partner NGOs, Community representatives, field facilitators from various on-going projects, Vanasamakhya representatives, CPF trustees and staff, for discussions and cross learning.

The first half of the day was engaged on presentations on accomplishment made with respect to CPF's core area of Interventions and community responses; which highlighted the progress made during the financial year 2013-14 towards Forest Rights and Tenure Security, Capacity building and Strengthening of Forest Based Communities, Action Research and Policy Advocacy, Participatory SNRM and Livelihoods. Followed to this, the partner NGOs Gramabhyudaya, Samyogita and CONARE presented their work during the year in project villages.

Participants Profile

Stakeholders	Number of participants
NGOs	13
Vanasamakhya	6
Trustees & staff of CPF	33
Community Representatives (including field facilitators)	75
Total	127

Activities sought by Communities

- Organic farming practices
- Land development activities in IFR title holder lands
- Fodder generation
- Strengthening of School Management Committees
- Improving services of Anganwadi Centres

In continuation, an interactive session was conducted by Dr. Suryakumari, Director, with the community representatives by asking them to share any interesting learning/liking they had from the presentations made during the day. In response, community representatives shared their learnings and requested CPF to implement similar activities¹ in their villages too.

12th Annual Day Programme was marked by release of CPF annual report for the period April 2013 to March 2014 by Dr. Urmila Pingle, Managing Trustee, CPF and a CD on "Chenchus in Transition-II" was released by Chenchu community representatives. Followed to this, the overview of programmes and finance of the year was shared by Dr. Suryakumari, and Mr. Balraj Gupta.



Group Photo – Annual Partners Meeting

¹ Different activities from different projects were shared. People appreciated some activities which are not there in their locations currently and asked CPF to start them in their villages also. One of the sarpanches present was keen on Anganwadi centres.

Key messages:

Dr. Urmila Pingle, Managing Trustee, CPF, shared her association with CPF since 2005 and appreciated CPF's work with Chenchu community, reaching them at interior villages and hoped this development will be sustainable even post project scenario. She wished that similar work need to be carried out to empower other tribal communities by introducing new technologies especially on agriculture and watershed works. While recalling her association with CPF, she expressed that, the CPF has contributed a lot in success of CFM/JFM programme and efforts put in motivating the government departments especially forest department and successfully tapping the resources towards enhancing the income of tribal.

Dr.D.Suryakumari, Director, CPF expressed that there has been change in mode of implementation of the projects by CPF, earlier it was mostly through partner NGOs, where as now its direct implementation of projects.

Partner NGOs: shared their reflections and observations on the ongoing projects of CPF during the event.

Overall, the foundation day event was very successful with the participation of more of more community representatives this year. The participants recalled the accomplishments during the year from April 2013 to March 2014 and CPF's commendable contributions in the field of forestry; building the capacities of grass root NGOs, field facilitators and community representatives.

Release of Annual Report and CD on "Chenchus in Transition-II"



About CPF:

Centre for People's Forestry is a Civil Society Organisation established in August 2002. CPF works for the rights and livelihoods of forest dependent communities with due regard to conservation. It believes that the claim to conservation, control and management of the resources belong to the forest dwelling and dependent communities and their livelihoods should be the primary concern of all forestry programmes.



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Note: This year Government officials could not attend CPF Annual Partners Meeting due to state bifurcation process and the follow-up works