

14th Annual Meeting – 6th August, 2016



The 14th Annual Meeting of Centre for People's Forestry brought all the CPF partners including community representatives on to a common platform to share, learn and discuss about the various programmes. The meeting took place at St. Ann's Generalate, Tarnaka, Secunderabad on 6th of August-2016.

A total of 128 representatives from the three States of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh & Odisha from the districts of Adilabad (Telangana), Nellore, Visakhapatnam & Srikakulam (Andhra Pradesh) and Malkangiri, Keonjhar (Odisha) participated in the meeting.

Session-I- Welcome Address

Mr. P. Rajanikanth, SPO, CPF; initiated the meeting with a warm welcome to all participants and invited the Joint Director-CPF as Chair and Chief functionaries of CPF partner NGOs; Mr. Jayaraju from Samyogita and Mr. Trinadha Rao from Gramabhyudaya as Co chair onto the dais, followed by a round of self introduction by all the participants.

Mr. Vasu, Joint Director, CPF; expressed his contentment with enhanced participation of the community representatives from various states. Mr. Jayaraju, from Samyogita; said that CPF, cooperation and support has helped him to work effectively for the cause of community and this support from CPF should also continue in future as well. After that Mr. Thrinatha Rao, Gramabhyudaya; shared that the annual meeting gives an opportunity for sharing of experiences from different field areas and cross learning.

Session-2-Annual Program Presentation-2015-16

Mr. C. Vasu, Joint Director, CPF; shared the vision and mission of the organization Further, he explained, five thematic areas of work. i.e. Forest Rights & Tenure Security, Capacity building and strengthening of forest based and other communities, Action research & policy advocacy, Participatory SNRM & Livelihoods and Climate Change. Later the annual achievements were presented thematically by the concerned program officer along with the team. The proceedings of the session went into interactive mode. The brief of the power point presentations is as follows:

1. Forest Rights and Tenure Security – Gargi Das

Specific points explained under this program:

- Since 2008 CPF has facilitated submission of 5366 Individual forest right (IFR) claims and out of it 3052 individuals have received IFR titles
- 80% of the IFR titles received in Srikakulam, Vishakhapatnam and Adilabad units were having discrepancies and were resubmitted for rectifications.





2. Capacity building and strengthening of Forest based and other communities – Mr. C. Vasu

It was shared that CPF took a call on the statement of Prime Minister, and participated in the building of Panchayat Raj Institutions on the suggestions of TATA Trust and invitation of Mr. Kesineni Nani, MP, Vijayawada parliamentary constituency. In this regard an extensive ground work has been done and prioritized important task plans (Micro Plan) for 265 GPs. As the Tata Trust and MP of Vijayawada Parliament Constituency requested the CPF to take up this activity forward, CPF started working and implementing partner to Tata Trusts and has been working on several projects in the constituency towards transforming the rural Vijaywada. The projects are listed below:

- Swachh Vijayawada parliamentary Constituency Mission (SVM) Pilot
- Internet Saathi Initiative
- Implementation of Village Development Plans
- Iceberg Revolving Fund
- Iceberg programme
- Health Insurance Project in Vijayawada
- Internet Saathi – AP
- Institutional support to CPF

3. Action Research and Policy Advocacy – Gargi Das

Advocacy measures taken up by the organization and the outcome of the advocacy activities in the context of facilitating the implementation of the FRA, School drop out ratio, Health issues in the villages, drinking water issues, etc. (based on need and rights of the

community) in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states were shared in the meeting. Further a brief was also given on the various research works taken up and completed in last one year. The research reports and policy brief documents are also brought out.

4. Participatory SNRM and Livelihoods – P. Rajanikanth

P. Rajanikanth, shared the CPF areas of working in NRM i.e. forest, water and agriculture. He has given the progress of agro-ecological practices in all CPF operational areas. He has shared the achievement of all NRM based projects, i.e. IWMP, TDF, BfdW and DST.

5. Climate Change – E. Poorna Chander

E. Poorna Chander explained that, most of the ongoing project activities in the operational areas, are in alignment with various indicators for the Climate Change adaptation practices as prescribed in several national and international guidelines. Further, it was briefed that, from this year onwards, it will be a priority to include the indicators for climate change adaptation while planning for new activities, in ongoing projects and also in new project proposals.

Session-3- Reflections on presentations

Dr. D. Suryakumari, Director, CPF

After the presentations on the CPF programmes, the Director asked the participants about their opinions. The majority of the participants expressed that, they are very impressed about the outcome of Internet Saathi Project and Sanitation project being implemented in Vijayawada Parliamentary constituency. Later she enquired the participants about village coordination group (VCG) functioning. The reply came from participants that, they are able to receive individual and community level benefits from government schemes because of VCGs. They requested the Director to continue the same facilitation and federate them at Gram Panchayat level, to get more strength to community. Also an appeal came that, they are looking for activities that will sustain their lives and natural resources. The Director said that, CPF will take both tasks i.e. federation of VCGs and NRM plans preparation & facilitation.



14th Annual Day Event

Mr. P. Rajanikanth, SPO, CPF requested the guests to come on to the dais. Dr. Gnana Prakasham, Executive Director, CWS; was requested to chair the session. Sri. M.V. Sastry, founder, CWS; Dr. Subhash Chandra, DGM, NABARD and Dr. D. Suryakumari, Director, CPF shared their messages in the meeting.

Presentation of Annual Report & Annual Audited statements of accounts:

Annual Report and Annual Audited statements of accounts were presented by Director Dr. Suryakumari and Finance Officer Mr. Balraj Guptha during the meeting.

Messages from Guests:



Sri. M. V. Sastri, Trustee-

KICS: It was a good achievement for the organization as the women participation in the meeting has increased over the years. Forest dwelling communities will be

able to access all rights on forest resources by empowering them. Involvement of PRI members in planning and implementation of project activities will lead to sustainability.

Dr. Subhash Chandra,

DGM, NABARD: CPF made lot of efforts to bring the community members from three different states into a common platform. This platform gives good



opportunity to the funding agencies to hear the project implementation process and its achievements. Moreover, it also helps the organization and funding agencies to learn community perspectives, needs and to prioritize on

the future course of action for community benefits. In the larger context of Agriculture, need to promote climate resilient agricultural practices that will give higher production with low inputs.

Dr. D. Suryakumari:

In 2002, CPF started its association with the forest dwelling communities through 680 Forest Protection Committees (Vana Samrakshana Samithies) across 12 districts of united



Andhra Pradesh in facilitating APCFM project (powered by National Forest Policy 1988 and JFM guidelines). After 14 years of efforts of CPF, it is good to get an opportunity to provide inputs to the draft National Forest Policy of 2016, through IIFM which was entrusted with the responsibility.

Dr. Gnana Prakasham, Executive Director-CWS:

CPF succeeded in collaborating with multi-stakeholders in facilitating natural resource management.

These collaborations and engagement should be continued forever.



Release of Publications



- Annual Report 2015-16
- A Study of Indigenous Agricultural Practices among the Tribes of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana The Trajectory of Transition and Impacts on Livelihoods and Food Security
- Policy brief on Changing trends in the agricultural practices of Tribal Farmers: Need for Intervention



Disribution of Prizes

Mementos are given to best performed model farmers,
best performed village level community institutions and field team.

About CPF: Centre for People's Forestry (CPF) is a Civil Society Organisation established on 6th August 2002. It is a non-profit, non-political and secular organisation, working for the development of forest dwelling/ dependent and other resource poor people, especially the deprived and marginalised sections irrespective of religion, race, caste or creed