





Centre for People's Forestry

Livelihood Rights through Forestry

Annual Report 2004–05



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Overview 2004–05

In the year 2004–05, Centre for People's Forestry (CPF) initiated work on the sustainability of forest based livelihoods, especially focusing on the marginalized sections – the tribals, dalits and women. The livelihood analysis of the data from members of 680 VSSs of the three regions of the State provided the basis for designing studies and interventions. The above objective of ensuring sustainability of livelihood was achieved by promoting and nurturing sustainable institutions, building linkages and developing collaborative projects with Government and Non Governmental Organizations within the State, as well as with organizations at National and International levels.

Collaborations, networking, institution building and enhancing livelihoods (or livelihood security) are the key words that define CPF's work in the year 2004–05.

On the development of **sustainable institutions**, furthering the Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) work in Bhadrachalam and attempting to institutionalize the same through establishing an NTFP Resource Centre; building further on the experiences of the work on bamboo by proposing a resource centre in Pathapatnam of Srikakulam district to serve the VSSs bearing bamboo in the state; hosting the Interactive Centre for Distance Learning Course on NRM offered by the Kolkata based IBRAD and strengthening Vanasamakhyas by mobilizing support to some of the promising members to work as programme executives along with the ongoing efforts in strengthening the three Regional Resource Centres are noteworthy achievements.

On **sustainable livelihoods**, the work carried out includes: formulation and initiation of a collaborative project with AP Forest Department (WB-CFM Project) and the Girijan Cooperative Corporation (GCC) involving about 35 NGOs in the Vishakhapatnam Forest Circle; initiation of efforts towards collaborative work with NRMPA, SDC/IC, CALPI, APFD and the Animal Husbandry Department to address the fodder needs of livestock in general and of the small ruminants in particular through the RRC Rayalaseema; and initiation of discussion on the need to mainstream the concerns of HIV/AIDS.

At the **National level**, the National Conference on Dalit Concerns in Forestry organized by CPF was successful in raising some key questions and also enabled the NGOs, activists, officials, academicians and researchers to think about forestry issues from a dalit perspective. This pioneering conference brought the concerns of forest dwelling/dependent dalits into the forestry discourse. The association with IBRAD, Assam Forest Department, NRMPA and CALPI of SDC/IC are the important contacts established during the year.

On the contacts established at **International front**, the support from Overseas Development Institute (ODI) for documenting and disseminating the experience of work on NTFP; active contribution of two student interns from the University of Twente of the Netherlands through their studies on very important subjects like fodder and fuel wood and the training support to one of the CPF team members on "Forest based small enterprise development" by the RECOFTC have all contributed immensely to CPF's work.



This year witnessed not only continued good relations with the State Forest Department and GCC but also saw a progressive move towards collaborative mode of work with both the agencies.

The partner NGOs; Vanasamakhyas representatives; Trustees of CPF; Advisory Committee members; the colleagues of other solidarity institutions as well as the Resource Agencies have always been with us in all our efforts and endeavours as partners and collaborators.

We gratefully acknowledge the contribution of each and every agency/stakeholder; without whose contribution the above mentioned work could not have been accomplished.

We thank one and all.

CPF Team
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