ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

By

Kovel Foundation

(A Trust by The People For Research On Sustainable Technologies)
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1 About

*Kovel Foundation* (A Trust by the Indigenous People for Research on Sustainable Technologies) has been registered as a Trust under Indian Trust Act, 1882, on February 28, 1994 with its headquarters at Visakhapatnam with the support of Girijan Cooperative Corporation Limited, Visakhapatnam. It is an Apex Organization of 250 Girijan Gum Pickers Associations (GGPAs) spread over 15 districts of Andhra Pradesh and has a strong clientele of 8500 Tribal Gum Pickers as its members.

The Trust Board of Kovel Foundation comprises of 6 elected Tribal Trustees from 250 GGPAs, 3 nominated Trustees and two standing invitees (Commissioner, Tribal Welfare and VC & Managing Director, Girijan Cooperative Corporation Limited, Visakhapatnam) who are committed to tribal development. The affairs of the Trust are managed by the Managing Trustee through the Chief Executive Officer.

Kovel Foundation is one of the few NGOs in the country owned and headed by Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) dependent tribal/ client communities who form the Board. Hence community ownership and participation has always been on high priority in planning, implementation, monitoring, review and evaluation of the programmes for economic development of tribals.

1.1 Kovel Mission

Improving the quality of life of forest dependent tribal families in tribal areas (in India)

1.2 Vision -2022

- Outreach: 1 Lakh families directly in A.P; 5 lakh families indirectly across the country
- Increased incomes of 50,000 families by Rs. 50,000 by 2022
- National Demonstration and Resource Centre of Excellence in NTFP

1.3 Core values

- Faith and Respect (in the capacity of people, their culture & traditions)
- Integrity (human, social & ecological)
- Transparency and Accountability

1.4 The 4 Pillar Programme of Kovel Foundation

- Tribal Institutional Development Programme (TIDP)
- Skill development Programme (SDP)
- Livelihood Development Programme (LDP)
- NTFP Training and Knowledge Centre (TKC)
1.5 Governance Structure

General Body
250 GGPAs

Trust Board
6 Elected Trustees
3 Nominated Trustees

TRUSTEE Zone - I
SKLM VSP VZM
30 GGPAs 1794 GPs
SKLM: Srikakulam VSP: Visakhapatnam VZM: Vizianagaram

TRUSTEE Zone - II
E.G. W.G.
60 GGPAs 2320 GPs

TRUSTEE Zone - III
Khammam
40 GGPAs 1200 GPs
Khammam:

TRUSTEE Zone - IV
WRNGL KRMNGR ADLBD
38 GGPAs 1154 GPs
WRNGL: Warangal KRMNGR: Karimnagar ADLBD: Adilabad

TRUSTEE Zone - V
KRNL MBNR PRKSM
43 GGPAs 960 GPs
KRNL: Kurnool MBNR: Mahaboobnagar PRKSM: Prakasam

TRUSTEE Zone - VI
NLR Chittor CDP
39 GGPAs 1072 GPs
NLR: Nellore Chittor: Cuddapah CDP: Gum Pickers
2 Projects

2.1 JTT-STEep

**Project Title:** Sustainable Tribal Economic Empowerment through NTFP Value Chain Management

**Short Title:** STEEP (Sustainable Tribal Economic Empowerment Project)

### Project area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Mandals</th>
<th>Panchayats</th>
<th>Villages</th>
<th>Families</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>2137</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Godavari</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>36</strong></td>
<td><strong>157</strong></td>
<td><strong>6157</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary**

Sustainable Tribal Economic Empowerment Project (STEEP) aims to empower the NTFP dependent tribal families who are illiterate and away from mainstream by enhancing their collective bargaining power especially in the market place to move the primary collectors up in the NTFP value chain. The project has been initiated implementation in 3 locations viz Visakhapatnam, East Godavari and Kurnool of Andhra Pradesh State in the month of May 2009 with the financial support of Jamsetji Tata Trust, Mumbai and now is in its early second year of implementation. During the first year, the project has concentrated on collecting baseline data of the NTFP dependent families in the selected area for situational analysis of their livelihoods, promotion of Common Interest Groups (CIGs) and NTFP livelihood Vs issues in marketing in particular besides identifying & placing of project staff, establishing the District level offices, etc.

When it comes to program implementation, the project’s strategy is that community organization through institution building, strengthening of the institutions by facilitating them to adopt regularity in meetings, thrift/savings, identification of Community Resource Persons (CRPs) from each village level NTFP specific institution (Common Interest Group {CIG} ) for extending technical and institutional support to their fellow NTFP dependent families. Identification of regional/area specific issues prevailing in terms of identification, pre/post harvest management of NTFP with a special focus on conservation, primary processing and marketing issues. This is being done in basically two ways viz observing the weekly local markets (Shandy), field/forest visits and interaction with the target community so as to develop the plan for interventions and effective strategy as well.

As it was planned in the project, there are different levels of institutions viz at village level, Cluster level and District level being formed and strengthened with an aim to empower the poorest of the poor NTFP dependent tribal families.
Project has promoted Common Interest Groups (CIGs) with 20 NTFP dependent tribal families each wherein the family is a member as CIG is the important platform for enabling the NTFP collecting family to move up in the value chain through capacity building thereby complimentary support services like primary processing, value addition, collective marketing, etc. Project’s future strategy is to promote Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies (MACS) at appropriate level. Project has promoted Cluster Federation in each cluster and promoted a District level federation with all the 5 clusters in the location. The capacity building programs have helped the CIGs to contribute for addressing the issues especially at CIG /village level.

**Formation of Cluster Federations**

As reported earlier, in all the three locations, the teams have conducted series of meetings at CIG level to sensitize the primary collectors on the importance of institution building with reference to CIG vs Cluster Federation besides discussing what, why and how to initiate plan of action. This has been followed by organizing loose body formation in the three locations with 2 leaders from each CIG wherein the Cluster Federation Executive Body with 20 members (one from each CIG) among whom one person has been elected as the President. With regard to Visakhapatnam location, the project is putting efforts to strengthen the existing MACS which has been established by Kovel Foundation during recent years with tribal women from NTFP collecting families.

It is yet to decide by the project that registration as MACSs should be at either Cluster or District level and the project is not rushing to go for registering the cooperative societies immediately as there is a need to experiment the workability of the cooperative as far as the regional, geographical factors and business viability are concerned. It is being planned to promote different interventions such as collective marketing, market linkages with both GCC, traders and outside market, regeneration, etc for better learning and to extend improved services to a larger community. The following are the details of the Federations which are formed and being strengthened.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Name of the Location</th>
<th>Name of the Cluster</th>
<th>Name of the Cluster Federation</th>
<th>Head quarters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>Pinakota</td>
<td>Adavitalli Girijana Mahila Co-operative society ltd.</td>
<td>Chintapaka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>Samagiri</td>
<td>Merimata Girijana Mahila Sangam</td>
<td>Samagiri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>Salugu</td>
<td>Adavirajula Girijana Mahila Co-operative Society Ltd.</td>
<td>Salugu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>Inada</td>
<td>Sree Girijana Mahila Sangam</td>
<td>Inada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>Kevarla</td>
<td>Adivasi Girijana Mahila Sangam</td>
<td>Kevarla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>Ahobilam</td>
<td>Adavitalli sangam group</td>
<td>Ahobilam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>Nagaluty</td>
<td>Girijana chenchu mahila sangam</td>
<td>Byrluty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>Kotalachervu (Sub)</td>
<td>Girijana Grama Ikya sangam</td>
<td>Kotalachervu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Formation of District Federations

As part of strengthening of the cluster federations at District level, District Federations have been formed as informal bodies for time being. Preliminary meetings with the Cluster federation have been organised to discuss the Federations structure and functions. Loose bodies have been formed for the 3 District Federations and bank accounts were opened. The teams tried to identify the functions to be performed at both cluster federation and district federation level as well. The following are the details of the District Federations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Name of the Location</th>
<th>Name of the Dist. Federation</th>
<th>Name of the Bank</th>
<th>Account No.</th>
<th>Names of the Account holders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>Vanamala Girijana Mahila Sangam, Paderu</td>
<td>IOB, Vaddadi</td>
<td>37101000014012</td>
<td>G.Venkat laxmi &amp; D. Dali Naidu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>Zilla Adavi Chenchu AbhvruDNA Sangam</td>
<td>S.B.I, Atmakur</td>
<td>31560448410</td>
<td>Vusenamma &amp; Bhayyamma and M.Naresh Kumar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>East Godavari</td>
<td>Adavithalli Girijana Mahila Samithi</td>
<td>UBI, RCMV</td>
<td>328702010190595</td>
<td>MNB Raju DC &amp; D. Lakshmi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Strengthening of Institutions**

The project is putting its efforts to strengthen the CIGs by organizing intensive training programs and exposure visits to similar models. Regular meetings are being organized with the members for ensuring continuity in the group. Collective marketing in majority of the cluster federations is also helping to continue the spirit among the members thereby increased interest in the CIGs also. Apart from the regular activities like meetings, internal training programs, the beneficiary families’ capacities are being built through facilitating their participation in the state level or inter-state level workshops, seminars, meetings, etc for better exposure and awareness.

**NTFPs collection and marketing**

A total of 30 NTFP/Medicinal plants are being dealt by the project for which conservation, sustainable use and regeneration techniques have been taught by intensive series of training programs, meetings. These NTFPs have been sold to either Cluster Federation procurement centers or GCC managed Shandy points or purchasing centers. Some of the items have been collected, processed and marketed and some of them value added either at household level and some of them at CBO level. Some of them were not being marketed earlier for which the project has established market linkages with traders.

**Collective marketing**

As it is mentioned, the cluster federations in all the 3 locations have put efforts to take up collective marketing activity on pilot basis to see the workability. During the earlier reporting period, some of the cluster federations have initiated procuring NTFP/Medicinal plants such as Nelavemu/Kalmegh, Honey, Chedupotla, Ambatimamidi, etc.

![Price Margin](image)

This has been continued in the clusters concerned and initiated in the new clusters also which led to procurement of Dry Amla, Sugandhi Pala (Hemedisnum indicus), Tamarind, Pongam seed, Nelavemu, Soap Nut, Hill Brooms, etc.

While the procurement is mostly concentrated at Cluster level in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari locations, it is more decentralized at village level in Kurnool location as far as geographical factors are concerned. The following are the details showing the abstracts of collective marketing being under taken by the cluster Federations. So far in the project, a total of 25 NTFPs which include Notified, Non-Notified commodities have been collected and marketed by the federations with a total turnover of Rs 232328/-. The graph shows the variance in the procurement and sale price at the cluster federation collective marketing centers for the major commodities.
Additional NTFPs marketing
As per the designed strategy for enhancing NTFP livelihood for the dependent tribal families, the project has identified NTFP/Medicinal plants which are available but not marketed so far for want of market information in spite of the fact that those commodities are in good demand. After establishing linkages with companies/traders, the collection has been promoted by organizing capacity building programs on sustainable harvest management of each commodity.

So far under STEEP, a total of 9 commodities viz Nelavemu, Sugandhipala, Pathalagaridi, Malaria teega seed, Podapathri, Atikaamidi Root, Atikamamidi leaves, Karakata and Chedupotla have been identified, collected and sold to buyers/companies by the community collectives. Graphs given here are showing the progress being made in promotion of additional NTFPs marketing

Direct marketing
All the additional NTFPs which collection and marketing has been promoted for, have been marketed directly as most of them fall under the category of Non-Notified list. The following are the details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>No. of commodities marketed directly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>East Godavari</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Value addition
As it was planned, the project has put its efforts to address more on the value addition stage in the supply chain of certain important NTFPs which fetches more incomes and potential in terms of abundance also. A total of 6 NTFPs viz Tamarind, Amla, Honey, Palm Fiber, Myrobalans and Malaria teega have been concentrated for promoting value addition intervention. Some of them are up scaled and some of them have been taken on pilot basis. The given are some of the graphs which show the progress being made in value addition intervention under STEEP

As far as the potential is concerned, the number of NTFPs taken for value addition intervention in each location varies. They are 3 in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari and two in Kurnool. The value added commodities in one location are sometimes overlapping with the one in the other location. But the total NTFPs are 6 in number.

The graph given here shows the range of increased economic value of the NTFP through value addition in each location. It is to be noticed that additional income only has been calculated. In terms of potential for benefiting more number of dependent families through value addition interventions, East Godavari and Visakhapatnam are comparatively progressive than Kurnool. When it comes to increased economic value of the produce, Kurnool is better than Visakhapatnam. Therefore, it is understood from the graphs that the possibilities for interventions would depend on various factors as shown in the graphs.

Palm fiber
It was known that some of the villages in East Godavari location are endowed with rich potential of Palm fiber i.e. being marketed by private traders in the form of wet produce for Rs 10-15/Kg. There are issues in case of weighment, quality, low prices, processing, etc. It was found that the drying adds value to palm fiber and fetching significant increased incomes in the open market. The project team has experimented to work out the economics of the variation to understand the dynamics when the fiber is dried at household level. It was also found that the household level (primary) processing is done by both men and women and causing for more drudgery.

The project has explored the technology and market by visiting some sites in sub plan mandals of East Godavari, where it has been taken up. It has been decided to procure Palm fibre processing machine in one of the clusters on a pilot basis for its efficiency. Accordingly,
the machine has been procured and set up at Jagamelapalem of Pedda Beerampally cluster and initiated the activity.

CIG members from Peddanuthula village of Velagapally cluster have requested the project to provide palm fiber extraction machine as they have good potential for the same in the area. Strategically, the project has shifted the machine from Jagametlapalem to Peddanuthula where a group of 5 members has taken initiative to undertake palm fiber value addition activity. The activity has just been initiated.

The following are the broad details of operation and management of palm fiber machine
- Formation of a value addition group
- The group buys Palm leaves from the members of CIGs in the village
- Pays Rs 40 per 100 leaves
- So that the drudgery of especially women and children is reduced
- The families are in a position to sell all the available palm leaves. Earlier they used to extract fiber only from few leaves as per the family’s capacity
- The value addition group extracts fiber, dry it and sells to traders
- Future strategy would be derived as per the results
2.2 HONEY TRAININGS – TRIFED

**Project Title:** Training programme for the Honey harvesters on scientific collection and quality extraction of wild bees honey in Andhra Pradesh

**Introduction**

The giant rock bee (Apis dorsata) is commonly known as wild honeybee. The largest, most productive, dangerous and a dominant species among honeybees available in the temperate forest in India. There are four varieties of bee colonies such as Apis dorsata (Rockbee), Apis cerana indica (Indian honeybee), Apis florea (Little bee) and Apis mellifera, Apis dorsata contributes over 70% of the total production of honey in India.

The tribals collect a variety of Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) from the wild sources for self-consumption and also for sale. Among the collected NTFPs, honey collection and selling is also one of the important activities for generating considerable income for majority of the tribal honey collectors. Tribals collect the honey in two seasons in a year as a group activity.

Honey is a natural resource, which is available in the forest areas of Andhra Pradesh and is being harvested through unsustainable methods. Destructive harvesting methods leading to poor quality, reduction in number of bee colonies and thereby impact on the ecosystem. Therefore, the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation Limited (TRIFED), New Delhi and Kovel Foundation, Visakhapatnam has designed a training programme for skill building on scientific collection and extraction of wild bees honey to the Honey Harvesters. The training programme mainly conducted to tribals who has dwelling near by the forest and depending on forest based livelihoods.

**Objectives:**

- To create awareness about the merits and demerits of scientific practices versus existing practices from collection to marketing of honey with special focus on regeneration of honey bees.
- To impart training on skill building for collection and quality extraction of wild bees honey by following best practices.
- To educate on the usage and safety of the honey harvesting kit, practical demonstration of honey harvesting and wax preparation.
- To increase income following by sustainable scientific practices

**Details of activities**

**Finalization of the training schedules**

Kovel Foundation had been finalised the training program schedule for the skill building programs for the honey hunters in consultation with the Regional Manager, TRIFED, Hyderabad. As per the schedule, the training programme has been completed successfully without any deviation.
Selection of the Beneficiaries

Selection of beneficiaries for the proposed training program had been done by Kovel Foundation. All the Honey Harvesters who had undergone training are from the scheduled tribal community. The total numbers of 500 honey hunters targeted were trained in Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Khammam, Warangal, Kurnool and Prakasam districts of Andhra Pradesh.

Development of Training Material

Kovel Foundation had developed the training material such as Vinyl Posters Kit, Poster Calendar, Training Manual by using innovative method of showing in the form of pictorials highlighting dos and don’ts for better understanding of the scientific techniques of sustainable harvesting and processing. In addition to this, Kovel also developed a certificate and an identity card for Trainees, which were distributed to the individual honey harvesters at the time of training programme.

The above training material is really handy for the Trainers during the 4 days training program to make the illiterate tribals to understand the concept and techniques. Trainees have shown keen interest and enthusiasm towards the training material and there was a demand from the staff for the posters for their reference. The specimen of the certificate and identity card being issued to the trainees are enclosed.

Training Methodology

Tribals in general are not habituated to sit at one place continuously even for hours for any of the purpose. By keeping this in view, Kovel Foundation had adopted a different strategy for organizing the capacity building programs for the tribal honey hunters by following focused group discussions, preparation of charts, group discussions and presentations, conducting various games, songs of tribal folk, in order to make the trainees to get into the overall concept of the training program. Moreover, during the night time also the Trainers made them to enjoy the cultural activities like singing songs, dancing, mimicry with active participation of the trainees, etc. in addition to the above, providing quality food and friendly relations with the trainees at the training center had also contributed towards making the program successful.

Process for Training Programme

The refresher training program had been conducted for the Trainers at Kovel Foundation office for 4 days before commencement of the training programme. The 4 days training program on scientific collection and quality extraction of wild bees honey for the honey hunters had really been a successful model with its effective and useful contents which had been finalized into day wise sessions.

As per the finalized session plan, the main contents of the program were, sharing the experiences of the trainees on the existing practices of honey harvesting – its adverse impact, importance and need for the honey extraction on scientific lines, types of honey bees and
features, life cycle of honey bees, division of bees family, relationship between forest and honey bees, reasonality, existing practices of honey collection, honey – its production and collection, collection of honey – usage of kit, practical demonstration on sustainable honey collection in the field, experience sharing on the field visit, processing of honey, quality control, grading and preparation of wax, products and uses of honey, GCC network in marketing, resource mapping, need and formation of Honey Harvesters Association (HHA), sustainable honey harvesting - role of various stakeholders, etc and concluded with training evaluation, distribution of kits and certificates. The day wise session plan is enclosed.

**Documentation – Strategy**

As per the requirements of the funding Agency, Kovel had taken up intensive documentation of all the training programs in terms of photo and video documentation and process reporting. For every batch, there was an either VCD/Photographs covering steps in the entire process of 4 days program for each group of training programme. Similarly the photographs were also being taken up by the team for covering important steps. The Photographs are enclosed along with this report.

In addition to the above, the Resource Teams had put in their efforts towards disseminating the information through print media by inviting the reporters from various Newspapers. The details of the copies of paper clippings are enclosed.

**Monitoring of the program**

The personnel from both the TRIFED & GCC and other dignitaries had been visited the training programs as per the schedule submitted by Kovel Foundation and interacted with the trainees during their visit and also visited field for observing the practical demonstration on sustainable honey collection and distributed tool kits along with resource material and certificates.

Honey Harvesters Group. A group of 5 honey collectors have been organized into Honey Harvesters Association and supplied to them the following kit.

**Distributed tool kits**

1. Sting proof dress – 3 Nos with veils & hats
2. Nylon rope/Twin thin rope 6mm size – 1
3. Nylon rope 20mm size – 1
4. Nylon rope 10mm size – 1 with safety belt
5. Stainless steel bucket – 1
6. Stainless steel knife – 1
7. Stainless steel container with lid – 1
8. Stainless steel sieve – 1
9. Leather hand gloves – 3 sets
10. Clinical hand gloves – 3 sets
11. Torch light with 3 cells - 1
2.3 TRIFED HILL GRASS TRAININGS

Project title: Skill Building of Hill Grass collectors on Cultivation, Scientific Harvest Management & Value Addition

Introduction
Hill Brooms (Thysanolaena maxima) grass is known as Tiger grass i.e. a minor forest produce that thrives well in the mountainous areas. It is abundantly available in the forest and the grass tied together to perfection as brooms for a living of the tribal. Hill brooms are made of stalks of grass that is found growing on the banks of rivers or streams and also on hill slopes. The most sought for item in every household, the hill brooms keep our environment clean. Sales generated from tiger grass provide a good source of income to the dependent families.

Though they are earning good incomes from Hill broom cultivation, there is a high incidence of exploitation taking place in the name of advancing system that affects pricing, weighment, grading, etc by middle men, traders, etc. Moreover, there are certain issues like distant market, lack of transport facility, lack of technical knowhow on especially value addition, lack of storage facility which are leading to less returns from the sub-sector.

Keeping the above issues in view, Kovel Foundation in collaboration with TRIFED, Hyderabad has taken up a project to build the skills of tribal Hill Grass collectors on cultivation, scientific harvest management and value addition.

Target area and community
Visakhapatnam and Khammam Districts have been selected to implement the said training program as they are potential for Hill grass in terms of availability and dependency of tribals. Konda Reddi, Konda Dora, Maali, Konda Kammara, Kotiya, Konda Kummari, Bagatha, Nooka Dora out of which Konda Reddi is falling under Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG). A total of 100 tribal members have been targeted and benefited under this program.

Project duration
Two months viz January and February 2013 is the period in which the said training programs have been conducted. Each batch was intensively trained for 7 days covering theory, practicals, forest visits, exhibition, etc.

Identification of beneficiaries
Kovel teams visited the villages and shandy points to identify the tribal Hill grass collectors including Primitive Tribal Groups and information has been collected on the existing practices, market channels, prices, etc. The Kovel team organized orientation meetings to explain the objectives of the training program for enhancing livelihood opportunities. The teams also formed Clusters with a size of around 25 Hill grass collectors to organize training programs.
The identified Hill grass collectors have been informed the details of date and venue well in advance. The day before commencing the training program, the team members mobilized the identified trainees to the venue.

Contents of the training
During the training programs, the resource personnel have in depth discussed on major livelihoods of the hill grass collectors, Present practices being followed by the hill grass collectors in cultivation/harvesting to marketing, seasonality, availability (forest, cultivation, near streams, etc), issues in the entire process, etc to understand and assess the situation.

In addition to the above, the trainees also were taken to visit the forest and existing cultivation patches to learn identifying matured broom grass by ensuring brownish edged inflorescence on the top of the grass, complete blooming, minimum 3 feet to maximum 4 feet length of the grass and season i.e. February to May which may slightly vary from area to area.

In the existing practice, leaves and other unwanted parts separated from the collected hill grass before drying in the sun light particularly on the roofs of the houses for many days than actual requirement. Drying in the sun light is causing for changing the color of the material from greenish to brownish which is reducing the quality and price.

In scientific practice, the processed hill grass is dried in shade for 3 to 4 days and then dried the same in sun light another 3 days to ensure proper drying and retaining the greenish color. In addition, drying on the elevated latform instead of the roofs helps faster drying by shuffling the material from time to time.

After the above, the teams have trained them on scientific collection, processing, quality control measures, value addition/product development, brand building, better marketing sources, cultivation especially in their own lands, etc.

The resource teams have arranged exhibition with various models of value addition brooms along with the other important NTFP/MAPs samples for a better understanding of the trainees. Apart from all this, the trainees have enhanced their learned skills through practical experience of making different models of value added broom such as chain model, poosa model, paayalu model, reverse chain model, plastic pipes model, etc which was facilitated by the resource team.

Tools
In the existing practice, the hill grass collectors are using knife or sickle for harvesting of the broom grass, fibres of Adda, Barenga, Thadipodu, Yepi, etc are used for bundling. Significant number of hill grass collectors are selling the grass without bundling especially to the traders who give advances to them.

For scientific harvest and post harvest management of hill grass, plant cutter, plastic pipes, different types of plastic wire and elevated platforms are required.
Marketing
Currently, the hill grass collectors are selling each broom for Rs 50/-. As per the developed value addition practice, 2 of the existing size brooms are being made into 3 value added brooms using plastic pipes and wires. Each value added broom can be sold at Rs 60 which means they get Rs 180/- whereas they used to get Rs 100 only before value addition. An amount of Rs 25/- is spent towards value addition of the 3 brooms. Therefore, the net profit in calculation is Rs 55/-. As per the assessment, a hill grass collector’s family sells around 50 brooms in a year that fetches Rs 2500/-. According to the above economics, they can make 75 value added brooms which provide Rs 4500/- and the expenditure is Rs 625/-. Hence, the margin is Rs 1375/-.

Cultivation
Selection of suitable land, pretreatment of soil, season for each stage of cultivation especially plantation during rainy season, identifying & collection of good suitable stumps for plantation, required inputs, distance between the plants to be maintained while panting, after plantation care especially protection from cattle and forest fire, possibility for planting hill grass on the bunds of Podu patches, etc have been taught to the trainees during the training program. While collecting the stumps for planting, the trainees were explained the importance of leaving 50% of the bush (Suckers) for further regeneration purpose. It is also suggested the farmers to leave hill grass bushes in their podu patches while clearing the area and use for planting in the rainy season. It is estimated that an amount of Rs 5000/- to 6000/- per Acre of Hill grass cultivation in terms of ploughing, suckers collection and planting. During the first year of plantation, around Rs 2500/- to 3000/- will be the income and from the second year onwards, Rs 40000/- to 50000/- till the 10th year of plantation. By 10th year, the sucker will be damaged and the farmer needs to remove the stumps completely and replant with fresh stumps.

Cluster formation
As part of the strategy, every 25 hill grass collectors are formed into hill grass collectors group with an aim to promote collective marketing of hill grass and other produce through the groups to reduce exploitation and transaction cost that result in remunerative prices. The said institution also helps promoting brand image for the value added brooms.

Opportunities
The selected areas for hill grass training are located very near to evergreen tourist place Araku. This provides an opportunity for the tribals for better marketing of the value added brooms. The said training program have been conducted just intime before the season starts and hopefully the trained hill grass collectors will be able to utilize the skills they learnt in the training.
**Strategy**
Kovel has identified local resource persons for the training programs from local communities especially who belongs to Nooka Dora (ST). The trainers are traditionally hill broom makers and trained by Indira Kranthi Patham.

2.4 NPM PROJECT

**Project title: Sustainable Agriculture - Non Pesticidal Management**

Kovel Foundation in collaboration with Indira Kranthi Patham has been working on promotion of sustainable agriculture by adopting Non Pesticidal Management approach in Devarapalli, Paderu and Ananthagiri Mandals of Visakhapatnam District. The basic objective of the project is to reduce the dependency on chemical fertilizers and pesticides by utilizing locally available bio resources for pest and disease management.

Kovel Foundation is one of the partners in sustainable agriculture project being supported by IKP in 4 clusters, 20 villages, 3230 acres and 986 farmers in the 3 Mandals.

Farmers have been organized into Sasya Mithra Groups, organising Farmers Field Schools (FFS), Extending technical and institutional support on promoting NPM practices. The project is also focusing on capacity building programmes to the field functionaries and farmers by undertaking seasonal trainings and exposure visits to improve their capacities, knowledge and skills.

The farmers are showing keen interest towards using low/no cost inputs in managing the crops from pest and disease attacks and realizing the positive impact that is going to be created economically and environmentally in the years to come towards sustainable agriculture development.

2.5 KEYSTONE-CORDAID

**Project title: Conservation, Livelihood and Enterprise Development of NTFP**

**Context**
Project’s core strategy is to enhance the collective bargaining power of the client families by forming them into Common Interest Groups (CIGs) with Non Timber Forest Product specific dependent families so as to address the product specific issues in intra and extra household environment by capacity building on scientific harvest management of certain product such Gum karaya, Palm Fiber, Wild Brooms, Mahua, Honey, etc besides promoting value addition and collective marketing.

As part of capacity building, training programs with reference to scientific harvest management, value addition including grading, quality control, marketing, etc on NTFPs in
general and Gum Karaya, Honey and Palm Fiber in particular have been organized through series of intensive and refresher training by the project for the respective CIGs using the services of resource persons as per the requirement.

As part of the project strategy, the project team visits shandy every Monday to assist the NTFP collectors in NTFP quality control, value addition and prices and receipts besides observing and making notes on the issues and kinds of exploitation which are being used for further sensitization at village level meetings so as to build their capacities and knowledge.

In addition to all the mentioned, the project has been promoting plantation of economically important NTFP species especially Gum Karaya by raising NTFP nurseries which are major sources for generating sustainable income for thousands of families across the state.

Objectives – Period covered by the report
- To strengthen strategically chosen local initiatives in the field of NTFPs, which have potential for replication
- To build relevant information, knowledge and methods which promote community based initiatives
- To undertake pilot studies and implementation activities, which initiate efforts in the field addressing conservation, livelihood and enterprise
- To address capacity building needs of the community through meetings, exposures, workshops, training and documentation of indigenous knowledge
- To lobby/campaign with policy makers through media and dialogue, for change in obsolete institutions and regulations, which obstruct efforts to improve the livelihood of adivasi NTFP collectors

Project Area
V.R. Puram Mandal in Khammam district is the project area for targeting 500 tribal families besides covering East Godavari, Kurnool and Visakhapatnam districts for NTFP nurseries and plantation in general and Gum Karaya plantation in particular.

Stakeholders
1. NTFP collecting tribal families, who collect various NTFPs for consumption and sale.
2. Girijan Cooperative Corporation, Limited, Bhadrachalam: - They extend procurement and marketing of 24 NTFPs from the tribals in the weekly shandy points besides providing Public Distribution System (PDS) and seasonal agricultural operations.
3. Forest Department: - They are promoting Forest Protection Committies (FPC/VSS) besides forest protection and development.
4. ITDA, Bhadrachalam: - Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) Bhadrachalama is responsible for overall development of tribals and it covers around 6 lakh tribal families in the district.
Activities & Output

Promotion and strengthening of CBOs

**Common Interest Groups**

Project's core strategy is to form Common interest Groups (CIGs) with Non Timber Forest Product specific dependent families so as to address the product specific issues in intra and extra household environment by capacity building on scientific harvest management of certain product besides promoting value addition and collective marketing. The CIGs are organizing monthly regular meetings where the project team educates them on the seasonal NTFPs, collection practices, quality control aspects besides market information in addition to the training programs being organized for the CIGs on specific products and themes.

**Cluster Federation formation**

As it is planned in the project strategy, the already formed CIGs have been formed into a Cluster Federation i.e. Vanadevatha Cluster Federation based at V.R.Puram in the month of June 2012 so as to take care of the activities like member education, linkages, convergence, financial mobilization, etc. at present the Federation is being an informal body. The Cluster Federation is meeting regularly on monthly basis to discuss the plans.

**Gum Karaya trees allocation**

The Gum trees which are available and being allocated among the Gum Pickers by giving easily understandable code numbers so that there would not be any misunderstandings in future. This initiative has been continued and the MC is helping them in doing the same in the villages such as Buruguwada, Annavaram, etc.
Production, Value addition and Trade

**Weekly Shandy monitoring**

It is known that the project focuses on shandy monitoring with the aim to identify the issues both from buyers’ side and the primary collectors as well. This helps improving the quality of the produce and reduce the exploitation while marketing the NTFP in the market place. There is a weekly shandy market at V.R. Puram i.e. Mandal headquarters wherein the tribals participate in big numbers and they bring saleable items including forest produce. GCC organizes procurement and marketing at this centre on weekly basis besides traders participation. Monday is the marketing day.

For the NTFP which is being bought by GCC, the project is putting efforts to enhance the quality so as to increase the bargaining power of the primary collectors. Keeping the level of exploitation that is being taken place in terms of middle men Vs individual sales by the primary collectors, the project is going to promote collective marketing by the CIGs in the project area.

**NTFP Regeneration**

**Gum Karaya Nurseries**

Kovel has established NTFP nurseries at de-centralized level so as to reduce the transportation cost as most of the tribal villages are located remote and sometimes no transport facility other than walk. During the current year, the nurseries have been established in East Godavari, Khammam, Warangal & Kurnool Districts of Andhra Pradesh.

**Plantation**

Under the project, Kovel has been able to raise and promote plantation of 27065 Gum Karaya plants along with few other NTFP saplings, covering 1251 farmers from 51 villages in the 4 Districts viz East Godavari, Khammam, Warangal & Kurnool Districts of Andhra Pradesh.

Forest Range Officer, V.R. Puam Range has attended the plantation inauguration program at V.R. Puram on in the month of August 2012 for which, around 35 farmers have participated from 6 villages of the project area.

**Pole plantation**

The project has motivated two tribal farmers in 2 villages viz Annavaram and Buruguwada for taking up plantation of Gum Karaya poles on the
bunds of their Podu cultivation patches during the reporting period. The Mandal Coordinator has conducted training program on Gum Karaya Pole plantation to the interested farmers in the project area.

**Gum Karaya survival survey**
During the reporting period, a survival survey has been done in cordaid project area in Khammam District for the plantation done in the year 2011. The overall rate of survival is more than 50%.

**Wild foods**
Mr. Karthik Raja, a Naturalist from NTFP-EP – India has visited Kovel to document on the identified wild species in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari locations where the tribal communities depend on hunting and food gathering from the wild sources for their food security. They are majorly categorized as fruits, nuts, seeds, flowers, mushrooms, larvae, tubers, insects, birds, fish, animals, honey, etc. which would provide 6 to 8 months as supplementary food.

2.6 SKI-IPAP

**Project title: SKI – DFID - IPAP project**

Kovel Foundation has been one of the partners of Skillshare International, New Delhi. In collaboration with Skillshare International, Kovel has been implementing the project titled with "Sustainable Tribal Economic Empowerment Project" (STEP).

Kovel Foundation aims to enhance the livelihoods of needy tribal community by analyzing their livelihoods with special reference to NTFP besides natural resource conservation which ultimately leads to sustainable empowerment.

The purpose of this partnership is to address the needs of tribal poor tribal families with special focus on women who would be placed on the front as active participants in the entire chain by organising them into SHGs and cooperative for collective initiatives. The project duration is for 5 years and being implemented in Visakhapatnam and Vizianagaram Districts covering 1000 NTFP dependent families.

The expected outcomes of the partnership are

- Institutionalization of SHGs and MACSs as self sustainable enterprises to promote alternative marketing channels controlled and managed by women besides other social development activities
- Value chain analysis and market research to understand the situation and enhanced capability of client community as per the needs
• Increased awareness among the service providers and general public on low health and human development indicators among tribals arising from marginalization

The activity is started with undertaking a baseline survey to identify the clientele families during the earlier financial year

The following are the details of the activities done during the report period

**Strengthening of SHGs**
- Concentrating on streamlining and strengthening of existing 56 SHGs, which are not able to do regular saving and not maintained the book keeping in most of the cases.
- The project is able to organize two new SHGs and focusing on non SHG members to be part of either existing SHGs and/or new SHGs.

**Focused on Women Empowerment through MACS**
- Women are the members, SHGs are the primary groups.
- Women leadership development.
- To increase the Bargaining Power in the market place,
- Women managing the institutions thereby control over money and processes.

**Activities carried during the period**

**Management Training for MACS Members & Board**
- 2 Trainings were given to 370 members from 3 MACS on Principles and Management of MACS.
- Formed Procurement Committees and trained them on Book Keeping, Quality Control and Weighment process.
- Training was given on NTFPs on seasonal basis.
- Training organized with posters and calendars keeping the illiterate tribal in view for dissemination of information
- Imparting capacity building programmes on seasonal basis for sustainable harvesting, post harvesting, value addition and marketing.
- Building their knowledge, skills and capacities in NTFP Value chain Management and Group Management.
- Disseminating market information including prices offered on various NTFPs and their grades, weighing process and the dynamics at marketplace.
- Organized one day workshop with expert on key issues of MACs

**Advocacy**
- Conducted Paralegal workshop for 27 members on NREGA, FRA, PESA and NRHM
- Conducted 9 Awareness meetings on NREGA Act.
- Focusing on PRIs to own and control
- Mobilising communities to voice of livelihood rights through NREGA, NTFP, FRA and other social security schemes.
- Enabling communities to access Govt. resources.
• Sustainable agriculture and livelihood.
• Liaisoning with Forest Department for creation of awareness on Forest Rights Act and facilitation for applying Claims.
• Conducted orientation programme to community by Kovel Volunteers on NTFPs, NTFP prices, Market Channels, Value Addition and other Govt. programmes in regular monthly village meetings.
• Village level Issues have been taken up and mobilized them to resolve.

**Medicinal Plants Research and Documentation Process**
- Interaction with community
- Identification of Tribal Doctors
- Orientation meeting with Tribal Doctors
- Collection of information on plants and method of medicine preparation
- Collection of samples
- Documentation analysis

**Work done so far**
- 22 herbal doctors have been identified from 14 villages and data collection is going on.

**Health**
- 21 Community Health Workers are delivering services in the project area.
- Conducted orientation programme on Project with 30 CHWs and 2 ANMs.
- Sensitized the available services of 104 and 108 for accessing Medical Services.
- Mobilizing community for the health camps organized by the Govt. in Shandys

**Livelihoods**
- Focused on NTFP based livelihoods like Amla, Gum Karaya, Myrobalan, Marking Nuts, Soap Nuts and etc. through Value Addition.
- Collaboration with TRIFED for skill building programmes on Gum Tapping, processing and tool kits were provided to them for 240 members.
- Shandy Monitoring is also in place to support NTFP collectors in terms of Grading, Prices and Quality Control.
2.7 Actionaid – Joint Program

Project title: Strengthening Adivasis Self-Governance and Dignity – Joint Initiative

State level meeting to bring together existing tribal CBOs/groups

The purpose of state level meeting with existing tribal CBOs/groups working on FRA, PESA, TSP and WASH is to bring all together for collective action and to raise their voices collectively on the state for implementation of the Acts in true spirit. In the state level meeting the CBOs/groups have sensitized on the prominent features of the FRA/PESA/TSP that are to be address. This activity is planned to conduct at zonal level (Visakhapatnam, Khammam and Hyderabad) to cover all CBOs/groups working in the state. Prior to this the CBOs/groups have identified and collect their profiles in July month. The two day workshop has conducted with minimum of 30 youth representing either CBO or group in October, November and December 2012.

The resource persons have identified in during the first fortnight of August month and content of the workshop has prepared and finalized by end of August month. Before the state level meeting, the identified CBOs/groups has given questionnaire on issues those are in implementation of FRA/PESA/TSP and also issues regarding gender and WASH. The collected questionnaires from CBOs has documented and discussed during the meeting. The outcome of the meeting would provide a course of plan of action for the next quarter.

Training on PESA, FRA, gender mainstreaming, WASH, adivasi institutional building and strategic leadership

The objective of training programme is to provide inputs on prominent features of the Acts and present status of implementation of FRA/PESA and on gender mainstreaming/WASH to the CBOs for further understanding of intensity of the issue. Along with the inputs on the issues the youth has sensitized on institutional building and strategic leadership skills.

Sensitization of service providers (relevant departments) and media (particularly local media) towards community needs

A sensitization workshop conducted at mandal level in the Joint initiative operational area (Kovel and SAKTI) where the services providers have sensitized on programmes, schemes and local governance, entitlements and legislations for adivasis particularly on PESA, FRA, TSP WASH and NAPCC for effective service delivery.

Study on status of implementation of PESA, FRA, WASH and TSP

To have comprehensive understanding on status of implementation of Acts and policies in context to tribal welfare and development a study has conducted in the selected villages covering districts having schedule tribal pockets. The study would facilitate by each INGO on either of the issue in the state and take responsibilities like
Before the study a workshop held at state level with INGOs, CSOs, NGOs, CBOs and movements working on tribal issues. Though one INGO/CSO takes the lead for each of the theme, other INGO/CSO compliment and supplement the studies. Also experts working in these issues will facilitate the process through developing study material and method of study. Also the CSOs and the SPC will involve in collecting the information from primary and secondary sources to substantiate the study more effective.

**Dissemination of the reports to the elected representatives MPs and MLAs through deliberations and interactions**

Issues, status of implementation, community perceptions and suggestions or feed back of the INGOs/CSOs/Groups/networks/Activists/ academicians that are come from the study and state consultations has disseminated or shared to the elected representatives for affirmative action and influence the state for necessary action.

**Campaign support & IEC material**

A campaign on PESA, FRA, TSP, WASH and gender mainstreaming has initiated at state level by involving CSOs/NGOs, groups and networks. The campaign includes

**PCC meetings**

To facilitate the initiatives and implement the planned activities of IPAP-JP and also to plan activities for JP, a Planning and Coordination Committee (PCC) will be formed at state level comprising of the participating IPAP partner CSOs working on Adivasi issues or non IPAP CSOs working on tribal rights and issues in the state. The PCC necessitates the critical element of planning and co-ordination. The PCC will meet by monthly to plan, organize, monitor and review programme plans and actions in order to ensure smooth implementation in the state. The committee can co-opt other non IPAP NGOs that have vast experience in the state or other state on adivasi issues and can provide technical support to the activities to be undertaken at the state level. The Committee will ensure that all participating partners are informed of district, state and national level activities and processes as planned under the initiative

- A State-level Coordinator will be appointed in the state to function as the focal point for the state. The State Coordinator will plan and attend the PCC meetings and also will submit monthly progress reports to the PCC with a copy to the National Coordinator.
- The PCC have met quarterly under the Chair of the lead CSO to facilitate effective planning, implementation and coordination amongst the CSO partners and community networks, and review the reports submitted by State Coordinators. All decisions related to planning and implementation will be discussed and agreed at this forum.
2.8 NABARD MAA THOTA

Project title: Tribal Development Fund (TDF)-Ma thota
Kovel foundation in collaboration with NABARD, Hyderabad has been implementing Maathota project with 1000 tribal farmers covering 1000 acres wherein mixed plantation of Horticulture and NTFP species with an aim to provide food and economic security to the poorest of the poor tribal families besides supporting the beneficiaries in terms of training, livelihood enhancement, health, women empowerment, etc since 2010 and the program continues till 2017. The plantation program has been completed in 3 phases during the 1st 3 years and casualty replacement happens in the 2nd and 3rd year of each phase of plantation.

All the beneficiaries of Maathota have been formed into Village Development Committees (VDC) at village level and all the 1000 beneficiary farmers have been organized into a Mutually Aided Cooperative Thrift Society (MACS) for taking up collective initiatives for overall empowerment of the members. The project also is undertaking activities like supply of smokeless chullahs to tribal women to reduce their drudgery and improve health conditions, conducting training programs for the VDC leaders and COs on health & nutrition, etc.

The following are the activities undertaken so far under Maathota

Completed 1000 Acres plantation
The Maathota program has been implementing in 60 tribal villages / habitations in 11 Gram Panchayats covering 1000 farmers. During the 1st year, a total of 200 farmers have been covered followed by 400 and 400 during the 2nd and 3rd phases of plantation respectively.

For all the Maathota plots, the beneficiaries have taken up preparation of basins, setting up of NADEP Compost pits, live & dry fencing, organic complex, Farm Yard Manure, H style staking, etc besides watering the plants regularly. Under Soil Moisture Conservation activity, earth bunds, stone bunds, contour trenches, rock fill dams, tree platforms, etc have been taken up in Mathota area.

Institutions
As part of the project strategy, the 1000 Maathota beneficiaries have been organized into 48 Village Development Committees out of which, bank accounts for a total of 43 VDCs have been opened jointly with President, secretary and Kovel representative. A total of 16 VDCs have initiated thrift activity by saving Rs 30/member/month and the amount is being
deposited in the concerned bank accounts. All the VDCs are conducting regular monthly meetings to discuss about Maathota status, issues, opportunities, savings, etc.

**VDCs**

*Collective initiatives*

During the year, the VDCs from around 10 villages have taken initiative to pool up Non Timber Forest Produce such as Tamarind and Dry Amla at one place to reduce the exploitation in the marketing of the same and to provide remunerative prices to their members. 2 VDCs have taken up the responsibility of pooling up the produce before selling to the buyer. The total turnover is around Rs 100000/- which has been realized by the beneficiary families.

*Controlled cattle management*

Open cattle grazing is very common in tribal areas especially during January to June when there are no crops in the agriculture fields. This is a biggest issue in case of Maathota because they have to protect the plantations from cattle menace. Out of 48 VDCs, 23 VDCs have this problem wherein the remaining have controlled cattle management round the year. In this backdrop, all the VDCs have decided to go for controlled cattle management and strictly monitoring the same by their members. 3 of the VDCs have initiated penalty system in case of cattle menace.

*Drinking water projects*

A total of 4 villages where drinking water was a big problem especially for the women who fetch the water from faraway places by trekking, the project has helped in establishing gravity water system for bring the drinking water down the hills.

Kantipuram village is one of them where the women had to go trekking for half Km during non-summer season and 1 Km during summer season. With support of the project, around 15 members from the village have contributed for 3 days towards labor for setting up the gravity water system. Project has provided Sintex tank and cement platform. A total of 36 families have been benefitted and the waste water is being used for cultivation in the nearby paddy fields.

Karivesi, M. Bandavalasa and Chimiti are the remaining 3 villages where the drinking water has been provided through HDPE pipes from the hill tops with a distance of 600 meters, 550 meters and 300 meters respectively. For setting up of the pipes, the villagers contributed the labor and the cement platforms are yet to be constructed with support of project.

*SRI Paddy promotion*

The project has motivated one farmer in Kantipuram village to take up SRI paddy cultivation that was resulted in good yield thereby income to the farmer. With this experience, the VDC in Kantipuram has taken up initiative resulting in promoting SRI by a total of 32 families out of which 19 are Maathota beneficiaries.

A Drum seeder has been set up in the village for seed sowing on pilot basis in collaboration with Agriculture department od Ananthagiri Mandal.
**MACTS**
All the 1000 Maathota farmers under Maathota have been organized into a Mutually Aided Cooperstive Thrift Society (MACTS) namely Adavithalli Girijana MACTS that was registered with its headquarters at Bangarammapeta of Ananthagiri Mandal. A total of 450 members have already paid the membership fee i.e. Rs 10/member and share capital i.e. Rs 100/member. The total amount raised so far is Rs 49500/-.

**Kalmegh cultivation**
Through the MACTS, the project has identified 60 farmers from 6 villages to take up Kalmegh cultivation in 60 acres for the year 2013. The estimated yield per acre is 1000 Kgs. The project has arranged buy back linkage to the MACTS with Suguna Foods, Koimbatore @ Rs 15/Kg to farmers. In addition, 5% of the total cost will be given to the MACTS towards service charge. This is being done on pilot basis and will be replicated later on large scale.

**Smokeless Chullahs**
It is observed in the project area that majority of women are suffering from eye problems, cough and lungs related health problems. As per their feedback, it is the cooking process and tools being used for cooking are causing for the same. Keeping the said issues in view, the project proposed to provide Bio-mass based stoves (Wardha Model) in the project area. A total of 500 smokeless chullahs are being distributed @ Rs 610/stove so far in around 20 villages.

**Survival survey**
Survival survey is being done for every 3 months of each plantation on regular basis in Maathota project. The following are the details of survival that was done recently in the month of December 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Year of plantation</th>
<th>Mango (%)</th>
<th>Amla (%)</th>
<th>Gum Karaya (%)</th>
<th>Teak (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>92.59</td>
<td>91.58</td>
<td>83.44</td>
<td>98.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>93.70</td>
<td>88.44</td>
<td>81.92</td>
<td>95.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>91.42</td>
<td>77.57</td>
<td>77.98</td>
<td>89.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Casualty replacement**
Casualty replacement for 1st phase plantation i.e. in 2010 was done in the year 2011. And replacement has been continued in the next year also i.e. in 2012 for the same plantation. First time the replacement was done with support from project and next time the cost was completely borne by the farmers. The same system is applied for the plantation of all phases.

**NADEP Compost pits**
The project has promoted NADEP compost by a total of 354 farmers and a total of 354 acres of Maathota was covered under this in 32 villages so far. The remaining are yet to be constructed in the month of June as the green leaf is not available in the current season.
**Critical irrigation to Maathota**
As part of providing critical irrigation to the Maathota plots during summer season, the project has established gravity water system in 11 villages covering 195 Maathota plots. Oil engines were provided in 8 villages covering 120 acres. For the rest, watering is being done by carrying water from nearby streams. The minimum distance is 50 feet and maximum is 500 meters.

**NTFP Nursery**
The project has set up NTFP nursery in Bangarammapeta village wherein Kothammathalli VDC has taken initiative to take care of the nursery. The following are the details of plants available in the nursery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Name of the plants</th>
<th>Plants available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gum Karaya</td>
<td>10000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Amla</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kokkitha</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mango</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gurivinda</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Henna</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Pathalagaridi</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>sathavari</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>N.M.Bark</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mixed plants (Sapota, Guava, pomegranate, etc)</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Intercropping**
As part of promoting inter crops, the project has motivated the farmers to go for plantation of mixed varieties. Hill brooms in 120 plots covering 10 villages wherein the extent ranges from 2 cents to 5 cents. This was also piloted with one farmer and now getting replicated.

Pippalamodi is another such species which is a medicinal plant that is being promoted in 4 villages now covering 21 farmers and each farmer have taken up 25 cents for this. The farmers were taken for an exposure visit to Hukumpeta to see the cultivation practices. 1st time harvesting will be done after 1 and half year of plantation.
followed by harvesting every year. Average income will be Rs 10000/annum. Once planted will last for 5 years. The cost is around Rs 500 per 25 cents for seedlings besides labor cost. Pulses, vegetables, millets, etc have also been promoted as intercrop in around 70% of the Maathota plots in the entire project.

**Health & Nutrition**

The project has taken support of an NGO namely Green Vision for extending training to Community Organizers and Village Development Committees leaders on health and nutrition and a total of 6 members were trained on the same. The said training program was organized in two phases and 2 day each time.

**HERBAL HEALERS TRAININGS**

Support has been extended to Jattu NGO as a Reosurce agency with regard to building skills of tribal herbal healers on herbal medicine. The following are the details of training on capacity building of Village Botanists

**Day - I**

After completing the registration process of the participants, the training programme was inaugurated by Sri Pari Naidu, CEO, Jattu followed by opening / inaugural address by Sri V. Krishna Rao, CEO, Kovel Foundation. The following are the key topics discussed during the sessions on day 1

1. Needs assessment
2. Village botanists’ concept
3. Assessment and orientation on NTFP and Medicinal plants
4. Herbarium concept and preparation
5. Objective of QRS and Methodology for assessment of local forest resources

**Day -2 - Village visit**

Training team reached Gorada village of Rayagada Jammu Panchayat of G.L.Puram Mandal which is 35 KMs away from training venue at 9.30 am. The sub-clan in the village is Jatapu (ST). In the village, the training team has identified local/community Resource Persons viz

1. Tadangi Krupa Rao
2. T. Bangarraju
3. Toyaka Linganna
4. T. Srinaidu and others

Along with the local resource person, the training team reached the hill/forest “Hekinikota Konda” which is a virgin forest and steep hill, climbed upto 150 meters, which is located west to the village. Laid a quadrat of 10 x 10 mts. With the help of a rope.

Listed the different plants available in the quadrate, counted species wise, also taken the girths of above 15 cms and recorded in the table form for study and analysis. Repeated the 2nd quadrat after lunch near the ST hosted area by the same team, noted the data.
Observations:
Well diversified vegetation covering trees, shrubs, herbs with lianes common plants of the forest and found the following

1. Kondatamara  
2. Induga  
3. Billa  
4. Addaleaf  
5. Ravi  
6. Nelavemu  
7. Nelatadi  
8. Adavi nittimalli  
9. Kampu rottta

Density of Kondatamara, induga, addaleaf calculated in the 2nd quadrate and the team found the prominent plants are as follow.

1. Kosangi  
2. Peddamanu  
3. Induga  
4. Kummariteega  
5. Ooduga

Findings:

- This forest has good diversification with number of species. Especially it has good potential with NTFP and medicinally useful species.
- This is good area for taking up NTFP/MPs for promotion of livelihoods to realize >40% of existing income as an additional income to the local forest dwelling community through constant followup with capacity building process for minimum of 3 years.

Day - 3  
Session wise class room discussions held
- Herbarium – need, method of preparation and preservation of the herbarium explained
- Broad classification of plants – herbs, shrubs and trees explained. Also useful parts of the plants narrated.
- Identification of NTFP/ Medicinal plants how and why?

It should be always with experienced herbal Vaidyas one should identify and then tally with the herbaria and other available literature such as Gambel volumes etc. is mandatory. Then only we have to specify the scientific name and family which the plant belongs to drafted with the support of herbarium is explained.

- Explained two names concept of scientific name of a plant and its importance. Difference in between Genus/ and species explained
- Trained on 50 medicinal plants and their uses and available in their vicinity and supplied the material to the trainees with their scientific names, families and their uses.

Day – 4 – Field Visit

The team of trainees and resource persons reached the village at 9.00 am, organized a transect walk in an anti-clock manner and invited the community for the Gramsabha organized from 10 am to 12.30 noon at their Chavadi (Community hall) with the help of local SHG/VO leaders.
Started Gramsabha by the resource team at 10.15 am and reviewed the status of SHGS/VO and their books, savings, thrift etc. during the Gram sabha, it was observed that they are not aware of the Bangha nidhi and individual saving amount that they have accrued since so many years.

Regarding the study on natural resources with reference to NTFP and medicinal plants, the team noticed that the forest around the village is a virgin at diversified one having good flora for their herbal based needs and intervention to enhance their livelihoods also taken up a model baseline survey of 2 typical NTFP collectors of the village in a view to the village botanists/trainees.

**Day – 5**  
Class room sessions 10.00am to 6.00 pm on the following  
- Sustainable harvesting : Need and technique of sustainable harvesting for future generations and for conserving the forest resources is explained  
- Post harvesting: Processing, drying and preservation of the NTFP/MP produces has taught, which will fetch more income and quality of the products.  
- Marketing: Created awareness on marketing gaps usually come across in the tribal and rural areas context in quality, weighment and bargaining the price and realizing the money with proper calculations are taught.  
- Regeneration: Need of forest regeneration in a view to developing the forest resources for the benefit of local communities and bio diversity.  
- Explained the Acts and regulations with reference to GCC Monopoly and Dept of Forest.  
- Roles and responsibilities discussed in group discussion, concluded a village botanist can enhance the rural livelihoods through forest resources many fold of the existing one.  
- Closing function : Attended by Sri D. Parinaidu, CEO, Jattu guided the participants to utilize the training after Post training test, by which we have noticed a remarkable development among the trainees
2.9 UNDP

Project Title: Organisational Capacity Building of Kovel Foundation

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Kovel Foundation is a Trust by the Indigenous People for Research on Sustainable Technologies, with its headquarters at Visakhapatnam. It is an apex organization of 250 Girijan Gum Pickers Associations (GGPAs) spread over 15 districts of Andhra Pradesh and has a strong clientele of 8500 Tribal Gum Pickers as its members. Kovel Foundation has come into existence with the following objectives:
Kovel building on its base created and experience, is now striving to scale up its initiatives to reach out to six districts and 12,000 people in the next three years. To achieve this scale, Kovel had approached NRLM for MKSP-NTFP project. While the strategic intent was clear, Kovel also realized that to effectively implement MKSP-NTFP project, there were many key areas that needed immediate attention of the organization to prepare itself well for MKSP-NTFP project. These were:

- Concretizing the long-term vision and strategies of Kovel Foundation, given the emerging new opportunities and challenges
- Improving the efficiency of the organization to handle the new opportunities and challenges using standard operating procedures, technology, etc.
- Effective frameworks for monitoring and evaluation, institutional framework and business operations of the CBOs
- Effective communication materials and tools to project and improve the opportunities for Kovel Foundation to engage with different types of stakeholders - Bankers, Venture Capitalists, Donor agencies, etc.
- Building capacity of the staff in effective project management and delivery of the results of the project and develop a good Detailed Project Report

Towards this, Kovel requested the support of UNDP to enable the organization to get these capacities building support to deliver MKSP project effectively and efficiently and also sustain the initiatives of the project.

The objectives and key outputs envisaged in the UNDP support proposal were
(a) To reflect on experiences, opportunities and challenges and build a participative organisational Vision for Kovel Foundation
(b) To develop a Detailed Project Report (DPR) as per the guidelines of the MKSP, building on the long-term organization vision and strategic intent
(c) To build the capacities of the staff of Kovel Foundation in effective Project Management tools and methods (RBM)
(d) To develop practical Manuals and Standard Operating Procedures for effective management of finance, human resources and management information, and software for the same
(e) To develop effective communication materials to project and promote Kovel Foundation among the potential stakeholders to help in its path of scaling up and sustaining community organisations and enterprises

The anticipated outputs included: (1) Development of Vision Document for Kovel Foundation (2) preparation of DPR Document with Sub-components as per the MKSP guidelines (3) Trained Core Team of Kovel on RBM (4) Website hosted and available (5) FMS Manual (6) Business Process Systems Developed (7) Organisational profile for communication. To assist with achieving the outputs Kovel had engaged following set of service providers:

(a) Akshara, HIG-II Block 15 F-8 APHB Colony, Baghlingampally, Hyderabad – for Organisational Visioning
(b) Vrutti Livelihood Resource Centre ,#19, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Ashwath Nagar , Bangalore – for DPR, MIS, HR Manual and RBM training
(c) Catchway Technologies, Shankaramatam, Dwarkanagar Visakhapatnam (AP) – for website designing and hosting
(d) Rozmin Ajani, Chartered Accountant, 198, Street 4, Avenue 1, Road no.12, Banjara Hill, Hyderabad – for FM Manual and software
(e) Vrutti Livelihood Resource Centre #19, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Ashwath Nagar - for building organisational pitch (Print and PPT)

SECTION III: PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Development of Vision Document for Kovel Foundation</td>
<td>Fully achieved</td>
<td>A 20 year Vision Document for Kovel Foundation has been developed after intense engagement and deliberations with all stakeholders. To facilitate the vision building process expertise of Akshara Livelihood Centre was outsourced. Vision Document and process adopted for the same is enclosed (Annexure –I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Preparation of DPR Document with Sub-components as per the MKSP guidelines</td>
<td>Fully achieved</td>
<td>The purpose was to collect and process the necessary technical, economic and policy data and prepare a detailed project report (DPR) that would focus on establishing producer centric market oriented decentralized supply chain management system owned and managed by primary producer groups for effective procurement, marketing, processing and regeneration of medicinal and aromatic plants. The DPR was successfully prepared as per the MKSP guidelines and strategic intent of Kovel’s long range plan. The technical assistance was provided by Vrutti, Bangalore. The detailed project report covered all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUTPUT</td>
<td>PERFORMANCE</td>
<td>COMMENTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>essential elements of the project. The strength of this DPR is the Logical and clear project idea and the strategy intent and rational in its objectives. The DPR is enclosed for quick reference (Annexure –II)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Trained Core Team of Kovel on RBM</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
<td>A two day workshop on project management (Result Based Management) was successfully conducted on 13th and 14th December 2013 with technical inputs from Livelihood Resource Centre, Bangalore. The workshop was able to enhance the understanding of RBM among the KOVEL’s core staff and contributed significantly in equipping the participants with requisite project management tools and methods for effective and efficient management of projects. The detailed workshop report is enclosed (Annexure– III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Website hosted and available</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
<td>The official website of Kovel has been successfully launched. It was designed by hosted by : Cathway Technologies , Shankaramatam ,Dwarkanagar Visakhapatnam (AP) Key contents of the website are : “Genesis of Kovel “Vision and Mission “Building blocks “Outreach “Projects “Resources “Photo Gallery “Face book /Twitter updates “Headlines and Events “Contact us /query form “5 GB space,600 GB bandwidth and 30 e-mail ID s The web portal has given visibility to the project and also helped to prepare the ground for other information dissemination activities of the project. Annexure VII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) Business Process Systems Developed</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
<td>With the conviction that institutional capacity of the organization is the most crucial factor in its ability to achieve project goals, institutional needs assessment of Kovel Foundation as</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
proposed in the support proposal to UNDP was undertaken. The object was to know where Kovel’s strengths lie, where it has significant weaknesses and where it should focus institutional development efforts in context of the new project. As a result of this significant exercise the following key areas were reviewed and manuals were developed to strengthen and standardize the business process systems

- Financial Manual
- Management Information Systems

The Financial Manual was developed by Rozmin Ajani, Chartered Accountant, Hyderabad. The purpose of the this manual was to strengthen, standardize and document policies and procedures for budgeting, accounting, reporting, internal checks and control, audit arrangements, statutory compliances etc. (Annexure IV)

The HR Manual and Management Information Systems (MIS) were developed by Vrutti Livelihood Resource Centre, Bangalore. (Annexure – V & VI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6) Organisational profile for communication</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
<td>Relevant communication material (Brochure, Prezi -PPT etc) has been developed to project and promote Kovel Foundation among the potential stakeholders to help in its path of scaling up process. For this purpose technical expertise was sourced from Vrutti Livelihood Resource Centre, Bangalore. The communication material developed as part of this component is enclosed. (Annexure VIII)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall assessment</td>
<td>Largely achieved</td>
<td>Overall objective of the project has largely been achieved despite some difficulties during the initial phase. The project has contributed significantly in preparing the organization adequately in all aspects for efficient effective implementation of MKSP-NTFP project. The performance of the technical consultants was satisfactory and up to the mark.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.10 APMAB

**Introduction**
Tribals have been living in the remote forest areas and hill tracks depending upon agriculture and forest in many ways for their sustenance. The tribals in general have multiple livelihoods which indicates that they fall under poorest of the poor category as it is understood that a family that has only one livelihood means they have assured income out of it. The dependency of the tribals on the forest is normally for collection and cultivation of NTFP/MAPs, horticulture produce that is available in the wild source, fuel wood, fodder, raw material for handicraft items, medicine for primary health care, etc besides agriculture.

**Project area**

**Activities carried out**

**Identification of villages and orientation**
Identified 210 villages from 8 mandals in Visakhapatnam district and organized orientation meeting to coordinators following which, the community meetings were held at village level wherein the main objective of the project had been explained to the beneficiaries especially with regard to the subsidy for pippalamodi cultivators.

**Base line survey**
Baseline survey had been carried out in 210 villages of 8 Mandals in Visakhapatnam District and identified around 3500 tribal farmers who are cultivating pippalamodi. All the farmers belong to tribal community. The main livelihood of them in the project area is agriculture, collection and marketing of NTFPs/MAPs, wage labour etc.

**Field visits & verifications**
A team from central office from Kovel Foundation had visited along with coordinators to the field areas while selecting the farmers, community level meetings, land and farm verification, etc and gave necessary inputs to the team.

**Cluster meetings**
Coordinators organized cluster level meetings with community from villages and formed Pippalamodi Farmers’ Clusters and facilitated selection of President and Secretary among the identified farmers and filed resolutions in their meeting books.
**Bank a/cs opening**
After formation of clusters, Kovel Foundation facilitated them to open bank accounts in the name of concerned Clusters operated by President, Secretary & a Coordinator from Kovel by communicating with the bankers at Mandal level to allow them to open bank accounts accordingly for implementation of project.

**Mandal wise cluster wise beneficiaries’ finalization**
After reviewing of baseline data and meeting with coordinators, Kovel Foundation has finalized the list of Mandal wise, cluster wise beneficiaries covering 3263 farmers with 2000 acres.

**Transfer of funds from Kovel to Clusters**
After opening bank accounts by Clusters, Kovel has received resolutions from the clusters with regard to request for release of funds to their bank account and accordingly Kovel had transferred funds from Kovel Foundation account to beneficiaries’ clusters through transfer (RTGS/NEFT).

**Payments & documentation**
During payments, Kovel had developed guidelines and guided the Coordinators regarding documentation process which includes the registers to be maintained at cluster level, office level, payment through Cheques, keeping the data of unused & used cheques, cheque book issue register, photographs & video, filing of press clippings and facilitation to farmers to withdraw money.

**The following are the details of Mandal wise payment made**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Mandal</th>
<th>No. of Farmers</th>
<th>No. of Acres</th>
<th>Amount paid (Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>G. Madugula</td>
<td>826</td>
<td>557.50</td>
<td>2787500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hukumpeta</td>
<td>907</td>
<td>454.15</td>
<td>2270750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Arakuvalley</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>115.50</td>
<td>577500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Dumbriguda</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>242.50</td>
<td>1212500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Chinthapalli</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>38.75</td>
<td>193750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>G.K. Veedhi</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>23.00</td>
<td>115000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Paderu</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>564.35</td>
<td>2821750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ananthagiri</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>4.25</td>
<td>21250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>3263</td>
<td>2000.00</td>
<td>10000000.00</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Present market scenario – scope for further improvements

The pippalamodi farmers are dependent on local weekly markets called shandy points where traders and middlemen from Vaddadimadugula come and offer prices. The transactions are being done without any proper documentation. Some of the traders and middlemen pay advance to the known farmers before actual arrival of the produce to the market and charging of interest also existing or sometimes lesser than prevailing market prices.

There are three grades while selling the pippalamodi in the local market and quality is decided by seeing physical parameters and farmers are not aware of market prices so they are dependent on the mercy of the traders. There are manipulations in the weighment and also in payments.

Suggestions for improvements
- Government should buy pippalmodi from the farmers by fixing minimum support price
- Collectivization of pipplamodi cultivators at mandal and division or at larger area
- Promotion and supporting processing centres and technology for drudgery reduction
- Developing linkages with local, national or international markets
- Leveraging mutual initial corpus business amount or linking with banks
- Cluster level godowns and Individual drying platform and tarpaulins need to be provided to the farmers

Medicinal plants status and support
Forest and tribals are closely interlinked and interdependent for meeting various consumption, food, medicine, cosmetics needs besides meeting livelihood needs. Though wealth of forest resources are existing in their vicinity, they are not aware of how these resources could be used commercially so as to improve their quality of life.

The following interventions are required to be implemented for improving medicinal plants based livelihoods

- Conducting resource surveys for potential marketable plants
- Undertaking market studies for market tie ups and value creation
- Awareness meetings to the tribals on conservation and livelihoods
- Trainings to the farmers on scientific collection and processing of medicinal plants
- Promotion of regeneration of threatened medicinal plants
## Trust Board profile -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Name of the Trustee</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Zonal details</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sri. P. Chalapathi</td>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Zone-VI</td>
<td>Malaechur Vill. Kalahastri Mandal Chittoor Dist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Smt. S. Avulamma</td>
<td>Vice-ChairPerson</td>
<td>Zone-V</td>
<td>Ahobilam Vill. Allagadda Mandal Kurnool Dist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sri. K. Mangaraju</td>
<td>Trustee</td>
<td>Zone-II</td>
<td>Korumilli Vill. Rampachodavaram Mandal East Godavari Dist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sri. K. Yerakanna Dora</td>
<td>Trustee</td>
<td>Zone-I</td>
<td>Bangarammapeta Vill. Ananthagiri Mandal Visakhapatnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sri J. Rajaiah</td>
<td>Trustee</td>
<td>Zone-IV</td>
<td>Bussapur Vill. Govindaraopeta Mandal Warangal Dist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sri D. Parinaidu</td>
<td>Managing Trustee</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Parvathipuram Vizianagaram Dist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Dr. P. D. Kameswara Rao</td>
<td>Trustee</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Cheepurupalli Vill. Garividi Mandal Vizianagaram Dist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sri. M. Yugandhar Reddy</td>
<td>Trustee</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Sivajipalem, Visakhapatnam.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4  Key Staff profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Working since</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>V. Krishna Rao</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ms. N. Hema Latha</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>L. Vijay Kumar</td>
<td>Project Director</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>K. Sriram Murthy</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>T. Lakshmana Rao</td>
<td>NTFP Coordinator</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>M. Ravi Kumar</td>
<td>Admin. &amp; Finance</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>V. Vanisri</td>
<td>Coordinator for Documentation</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>T. Subba Rao</td>
<td>Training Coordinator</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>N. Chinnal Dora</td>
<td>Field Coordinator</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>S. Surya Manikyam</td>
<td>Social Mobilization Coordinator</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>S. Satyanarayana</td>
<td>Training Coordinator</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>M.N.B. Raju</td>
<td>District Coordinator</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>M. Naresh Kumar</td>
<td>District Coordinator</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>D. Dali Naidu</td>
<td>District Coordinator</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>K. Laxmanra Rao</td>
<td>Mandal Coordinator</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>G. Raja Prakash</td>
<td>Office Asst.</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Support staff : 100