

Integrated dairy development and System for Rice Intensification (SRI) method of paddy cultivation in the newly irrigated areas



The project is supporting about 300 farmers in adopting the System for Rice Intensification (SRI) method of paddy cultivation as well as integrated dairy farming in six villages of Lingasugur taluk, Raichur District, Karnataka. The project provides affordable credit to Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) and imparts technical skills through various capacity building programmes. The success of the beneficiaries with their yield and net returns has motivated the neighbouring farmers to adopt SRI.

PROJECT RATIONALE PROJECT FACTS

SRI for paddy cultivation is a proven method to conserve water and reduce green house gas emissions. Dairies with biogas units will lessen the dependence on fuel wood. This reduces the drudgery of the women folk and limits the biotic pressure on forests. Coupled with the support of credit and capacity building measures, a veritable change in the lives of farmers is expected.

UPNRM Support

Revolving fund assistance of USD 0.07 Million (INR 4.05 Million) to be repayable in one lump sum on completion of two cycles.

Term loan assistance of USD 0.06 Million (INR 3.83 Million) to be repayable in 17 quarterly instalments after moratorium of 9 months.

Grant assistance of USD 0.02 Million (INR 0.97 Million) towards implementing cono weeders, biogas units, etc.

No. of Participants

About 300 farmers

Project Duration

2012 - 2017

Project Approach

The project adopted a targeted community approach. Small and marginal farmers, scheduled castes (SC) and scheduled tribes (ST), and women-headed families were selected to improve their income and food security without negatively impacting the surrounding natural resources.

1. Formation of activity based clusters.
2. Strengthening existing community organisations through trainings on how to write a business plan in order to get funding for the proposed activities.
3. Training youth on vet care services to become para vets. This creates an effective support system.
4. Training is imparted on limiting chemicals in farm practices in order to help them understand the merits of organic production.
5. Capacity building on SRI cultivation through exposure visits and trainings.
6. Arrangement of green fodder along with Azolla cultivation.
7. Arrangement of inputs for crops that foster food security and bio diversity.
8. Credit based need assessment for each activity.
9. Provision of portable vermi compost making materials.
10. Provision of credit through village level institutions like JLGs.
11. Initiation and follow up to ensure the successful operations of the activities.
12. Conducting experience sharing events aimed to motivate farmers to adopt SRI.

Impact of the Project

The project improved the livelihood of about 300 poor families. Impacts include:

- Farmers have started income generating activities like integrated dairy farming (milch animals), vermi compost, Azolla, and green fodder.
- SRI has increased productivity by 30%.
- The positive results have motivated other farmers to adopt the SRI method of paddy cultivation.



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