



NEWSLETTER

SUSTAINABLE CATCHMENT FOREST MANAGEMENT (SCATFORM) PROJECT



MESSAGE FROM CEO & PD

I am happy to share with you the second newsletter of SCATFORM. This newsletter summarizes for the readers the institutional structure of the project and roles played by different entities in the Project.

As part of the agreement between JICA and Government of Tripura, it is mandated that the Project will be implemented under the aegis of an autonomous society and in this direction the State Government has formulated the Sustainable Catchment Forest Management (SCATFORM) Society.

In this newsletter we are sharing the institutional structure and responsibility at various levels in the project and in the Society. This information, I believe, would contribute towards maintaining transparency that SCATFORM would like to promote in its functioning and operations.

Dr. Avinash M Kanfode, IFS
Chief Executive Officer & Project Director

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STRUCTURE OF SCATFORM PROJECT AND ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Tripura Forest Improvement and Poverty Alleviation Society renamed as Tripura Sustainable Catchment Forest Management Society has been registered under Section 3 of the Societies Registration Act 1860 vide Registration No 808 I of 2019 with the main objective to improve quality of forest in the targeted catchments by sustainable forest management, soil and moisture conservation and livelihood development,

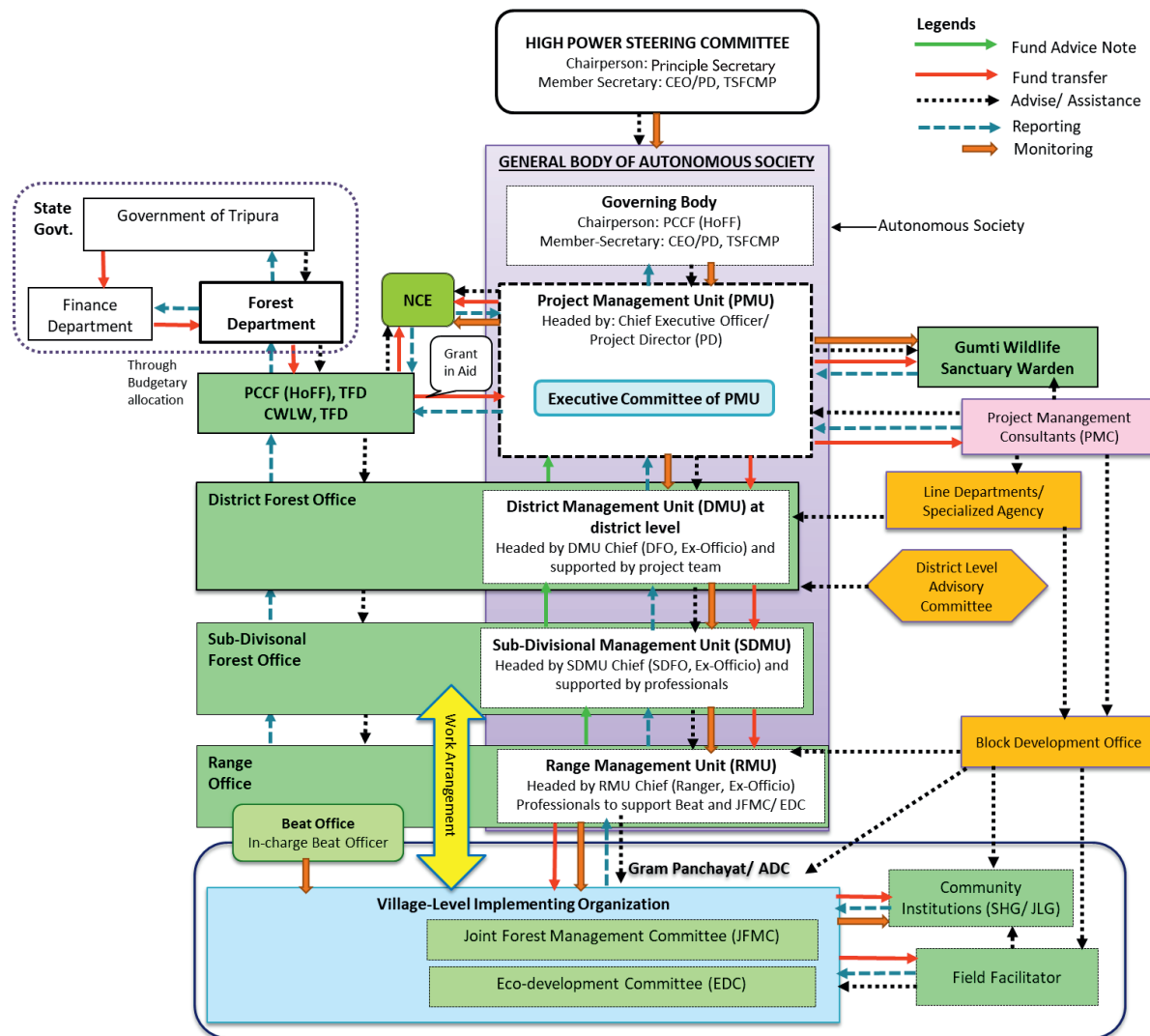
thereby contributing to development of forest ecosystem services and livelihood improvement of forest dependent communities in the State of Tripura.

The society has been provided institutional, functional and financial autonomy to implement the Project in a time bound and effective manner. The Institutional arrangements in the Project are illustrated below.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Project operates as autonomous registered society within the Tripura Forest Department and is responsible to manage, coordinate, implement and monitor the proposed activities in the Project.

All offices created for this project exclusively work to assist and facilitate implementation of the proposed activities following the project implementation schedule, annual plan of operations and envisaged processes.

The High Power Steering Committee (HPSC) created for the Project acts as highest decision-making body for the Project at the state government level. The Governing Body (GB) and Executive Body of the Project are the decision-making bodies for the Project within the Society as per the provisions in the Societies Registration Act, 1860 as applicable in Tripura. The composition of HPSC and Governing Body is given below



To support project implementation at the field level, PMU has been created of which coordinates with a set of offices viz., District Management Units (DMUs), Sub-Divisional Management Units (SDMUs) and Range Management Units (RMUs). These units work as extended arms for the PMU under the society mode.

The Beat Office with its in-charge works as a link office and

contact for RMU between the project and village level institutions. The Beat Offices are in proximity with the JFMCs/EDCs, and are being strengthened with infrastructure support for efficient coordination and follow-up/ supervision. The PMU, including DMUs/SDMUs and RMUs assist and play facilitative roles, and sources funds for project implementation.

For steering the wildlife interventions in the Gomati Wildlife Sanctuary, the Wildlife Warden is responsible for planning and implementing the interventions. As an exception, no DMU is created for the intervention in the Gomati Wildlife Sanctuary.

To support District/ Sub-Divisional and Range Offices, set of professionals (Livelihood Coordinators and Community Organizers) are engaged. These professionals support Range Offices and Village Level Institutions in field implementation. Village Level Institutions are also supported by field facilitators, which are identified from within the respective project villages by the village level institutions. In addition, as a part of project design, PMU is also supported by a team of professionals engaged by PMU as Project Management Consultants.

The statutory institutions of Gram Panchayats and Village Councils (formed under ADC) are involved during community mobilization and planning processes, and project information is shared with these institutions for bringing in synergy and transparency in project operations.

PMU has come out with a comprehensive Operation Manual that prescribes guidelines, policies, protocols, procedures and rules on finance, accounting, administration, management for smooth implementation of the Project. The Operation Manual necessarily includes Gender Policy and Checklist to ensure gender mainstreaming in the Project, as well as policy on the revolving funds. PMU will evolve mechanism for tracking the project implementation, reporting and fund flow, for the project interventions.

AGROFORESTRY PLANTATION:

Under JICA Project a total of 8880 ha of Agroforestry plantation will be implemented. Material component funding will be provided by SCATFORM and wage component funding will be tapped from MGNREGA Scheme for plantation.

Agroforestry Guidelines has been published for taking up agroforestry plantation. Under SCATFORM 'One Range One Agroforestry Model' will be implemented keeping in view the formation of product based clusters in the projects.

In the year 2020-21, a total of 181 ha of Agroforestry plantation have been raised and effort has been made to increase the plantation target in 2021-22. So far, 200 ha per district plantation has been fixed and for convergence with MGNREGA Shelf of Projects has been submitted to concerned District Magistrate & Collector.

LEMON VALUE ADDITION:

Tripura JICA Project is looking forward to start commercial production of lemon based value added products. Project has made an effort to identify the best uses of Hawaibari Gandharaj Lemon for value addition. So far, two local lemon

made products have been experimentally prepared such as Marmalade and Squash with the help of Hawaibari JFMC members.

PROJECT WEBSITE:

We are pleased to announce that our new project website is ready for inauguration. Our goal with this new project website is to provide our visitors an easier way to learn about the Project (SCATFORM) and also to allow the visitors to browse information based on their own choice. We hope you find the new website with a fresh look, easy to access information and we also wish to establish this portal as a source of information for those who visit our site.



REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

The Tripura JICA Project (SCATFORM) witnessed the celebration of the 71st Republic Day on the 26th January, 2021. Senior project officials along with other project staffs and a section of people from local neighbourhood area filled with a feeling of patriotism and dedication gathered in front of the Prakriti Bhawan or PMU Building. The celebration started with the hoisting of the National Flag by the CEO & PD Dr Avinash M. Kanfode. In his speech, he highlighted the importance of the Constitution and its unique features such as Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic and Republic enshrined in the preamble of the constitution. He also gave an insight on the various accomplishments achieved by project and motivated the project staffs for bringing more laurels for the project through their accomplishments. The speech was



followed by the National Anthem. The program ended with the message to create a great nation through collective efforts from all individual. Sweet packets and Chocolates were distributed among all the guests and participants.

INTRODUCTION OF BIO METRIC ATTENDANCE

To maintain overall punctuality and utmost professionalism among the project staffs the Bio Metric attendance devise was introduced in the PMU building. This ADHAAR enabled bio metric attendance devise not only restore authentic attendance of the project personnel but in long run will enhance the discipline of employees in project.

REVIEW MEETING ('RAFTAR')

For intensive monitoring of the project activities, a system of weekly meeting of all key officials of PMU is held and four week rolling plan is drafted out and monitored. So far more than 40 such review meetings have been held and the preparatory activities have been taken up strongly



ECOTOURISM ACTIVITY

The project is to identify sites for up-gradation of existing Ecoparks and accordingly two parks at Jamjuri and Rungthung have been considered, in addition the eco park at Unakoti. The PMU Staff along with PMC expert have visited Jamjuri and Unakoti for finding out the possibilities for upgradation. Criteria to identify locations for ecotourism destinations are being worked out by PMC in project.



PROJECT PROGRESS AS ON JANUARY 2021

A	Plantation	Unit	Achievement
	AR Plantation	ha	775
	ANR Plantation	ha	962
	Improvement of Forest Nurseries		
	Hi-Tech Nurseries	Nos	3
	Central Nurseries	Nos	7
	Agro Forestry Plantation	Ha	181.03
	Filter Strip	Km	2.5
	River Bank Plantation	Km	11
	Fruit Tree Plantation in GWLS	ha	65
	Grass-land Development in GWLS		65
B	Soil and Moisture Conservation		
	Check Dam M1	Nos	12
	Check Dam M2	Nos	6
	Brushwood Check Dam	Nos	49
	Contour Trench	Nos	91
	Bandalling	sites	1
C	Livelihood Development		
	SHG Formation	Nos	125
D	Institutional Development		
	Preparation of BFBP	Nos	59
	Formation of JFMC	Nos	113

YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE NEWSLETTER

We request and encourage you to share your experiences under the Project. You can highlight activities and achievements of the Joint Forest Management Committee. You can also consider inspiring stories of individuals who are doing good work which needs to be shared with other people in the state. This will provide recognition to individuals and provide opportunities for other people to learn from the experiences. You can share your experiences with our field personnel in your JFMC.

You can also write to us at : tripurajica@gmail.com

CEO & PD, Tripura SCATFORM Project, Prakriti Bhawan, Gandhigram, West Tripura 799012