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NEWSLETTER

SUSTAINABLE CATCHMENT FOREST MANAGEMENT (SCATFORM) PROJECT



MESSAGE FROM CEO & PD

Continuing with our efforts to share about the various components of SCATFORM Project through our newsletter, we are sharing the activities done towards the Institutional Strengthening component of the project in this issue. This issue of the newsletter will summarise the different subcomponents and activities proposed under the Capacity Development and also talks about approach and target participants. The Capacity Development component has been well formulated considering the need and gap of knowledge of different levels of participants through Training Need Assessment and a comprehensive plan with definite timeline has been worked out for implementation.

Capacity building is often used as a co terminus with training of a set of individuals. But capacity building does not confine to training of individuals only. Rather the focus has to be on improving performance of all the related parts of the project and the individuals so that they can adapt to the new system and an enabling environment is created for improved performance and that's the motto of SCATFORM. Your feedback and suggestions on things related to projects and about this newsletter. Do write to us.

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



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT UNDER SCATFORM

The SCATFORM is designed to achieve the goal of sustainable forest management, Soil and Moisture conservation, Biodiversity conservation and Livelihood development of the local people. The project components will be implemented following three modes, viz, JFM with microplanning mode, Non JFM Mode and Farm Forestry. The project also puts emphasis upon community based Ecotourism and ecosystem services assessment and Agroforestry. The livelihood development component focuses on community development through inter sectoral convergence of resources, SHG and JLG based income generation and cluster based business promotion. The project has a defined structure and institutional arrangements both at department and community level. The success of the project depends to a large extent on the

- Capacity of the institutions to perform their designated roles to deliver the desired results
- Synergic actions among the institutions to set a

common goal and work in a concerted manner to achieve the goal

- Capacity of the institutions and its members to receive and assimilate new knowledge and skills as required to deliver the project tasks
- Institutions ability to be proactive, to be open to new ideas and adaptive capacities as well as resilience to changes.

Therefore, capacity development is required at all the levels including the forest department (PMU, DMU, RMU), community (including JFMC, SHG, JLG/Business Development Groups) and Support staffs (LC, CO and FF) level. The desired results of the project depend to a large extent on the capacity and preparedness of the project implementing agencies (RMUs), the JFMCs/SHGs/Business Development Groups and the Support staffs who would be acting as facilitators.

The lessons learnt from the TFIPAP project (Phase-I) would help to a great extent in developing an overarching capacity building strategy and training plan for this phase.



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

In last two years several activities have been conducted under the Capacity Development components. These are:

1. Forestry Integrated Geospatial Solution (FIGS) – RFP created, floated and now evaluation of the agencies is underway.
2. Scientific Planning and Decision-Making inputs for BFBP
 - a. Preparation of maps PMU-GIS lab for draft BFBP preparation by project staff.
3. Development of project specific methodologies
 - a. Canopy Density Maps, Forest Type Maps, Biophysical Parameters Assessment
4. Preparation of Guidelines

- a. JFMC Survey and Demarcation of project interventions
- b. RoFR Survey
- 5. Training and Capacity Building
 - a. Survey and Demarcation Activities
 - b. Project specific geospatial methodologies such as watershed delineation, catchment area calculation, canopy density mapping, forest type mapping

(I) Training Needs Assessment (TNA)

It is the basic need for a well-planned and effective training initiative to be preceded by a Training Needs Assessment study done by expert hands. Such a study will provide a basis for setting the training priorities and direction of the short, medium and long term training plans. Training Need Assessment (TNA) methods help in identifying the gaps/lack of accomplishments between the expected performance and the actual performance of the people in an organization, classification of the gaps and focus on the gaps that could be accomplished through designed training inputs. It would also help in understanding the training needs of different levels (both vertical and horizontal) as that would help in minimizing the gap, thereby sequencing the training inputs at different levels to have a synergic effect. The Training Need Analysis as envisaged under SCATFORM covers a detailed analysis of Training need on the basis of the information collected from different

stakeholders against a semi-structured questionnaire. It has described the methodology of the entire study followed by a multi-dimensional analysis. A category wise identified gaps for which training is required has been summarized before the proposed tentative timeline of training. The TNA report is a product of a Joint effort by Project Management Unit (PMU) and Project Management Consultants (PMC) under SCATFORM.

(2) Development of Training Master plan for entire project duration:

The Training Master Plan for SCATFORM has been developed in order to accelerate the implementation process of project's Capacity Development strategy and enhance quality of deliverables. The purpose of the Master Plan is to provide a clear direction and performance indicator for the project. It will also indicate the possible time frame for that training and potential resource agency who will impart the training programme. The Training Master Plan developed for SCATFORM clearly spells out Types of the Training to be provided, Targeted participants, Number of Batches, Probable month of conduction of Training and cost associated with it for entire project duration. It will act as a hand book for implementation. A yearly implementation Calendar has been prepared from the Master plan in the beginning of every financial year for implementation.



(3) Selection and Identification of Training Resource Agency

SCATFORM is a multifaceted and multidimensional project which involves a number of components. Capacity Development being a crosscutting area needs to address projected needs of training in all the areas of project components. To cater the same few resource agencies who are expert in related fields has been identified by the department. State Agencies like SIPARD, TRLM have been approached for training on soft skills and skill development areas whereas Institute of repute like IIFM, IBRAD IIE has been communicated to conduct training of officials outside the state.

To gain the cutting edge knowledge in the field of Forestry and Sustainable Forest Management a team of 24 officials will be visiting outside India for overseas exposure training. Different agencies located in Thailand, Japan and from other countries have been roped in to organise the same.

(4) Trainings so far completed

Under SCATFORM a number of trainings have been imparted to different levels of Stakeholders. Some of the trainings had been conducted at PMU building in Agartala while others are conducted at DMU and RMU level. Table below summarised Trainings completed so far for different level of stakeholder under the project



Sl	Target Participants	Number of Trainings	Cumulative number of Total Participants
1	Community	10	298
2	Forest Officials	42	1564
3	Field Staffs (LC and CO)	32	1248

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. We 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 / JFMC.

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

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