



# NEWSLETTER

## SUSTAINABLE CATCHMENT FOREST MANAGEMENT (SCATFORM) PROJECT



### MESSAGE FROM CEO & PD

I am happy to share the September 2021 newsletter of the project. As you know by now, the objective of the newsletter is to inform the readers about the project and periodically share the progress and achievements of the project. While the earlier two newsletters looked at overview and institutional structure of the project this issue details out forest management systems and processes.

The Project's aim to improve quality of forest in the targeted catchments with main focus on catchment protection is expected to be achieved by September 2028. The project components include bio-physical interventions (in forestry and soil & water conservation) and livelihood interventions.

I hope you are getting to know the project by now through these newsletters. I am sure that these newsletters would contribute towards the project maintaining transparency that SCATFORM would like to promote in its functioning and operations.

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



**1. Project Outline** - The main objective of SCATFORM is to improve quality of forest in the target 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. Forest improvement is a long-term process. Forest quality is improved by direct plantation as well as protection. SCATFORM's investment is limited to the first-year plantation work and additional four years for maintenance. In order to create long-term benefits as incentives for maintenance, SCATFORM mostly works with forest dependent communities to improve forest conditions under Joint Forest Management (JFM) scheme. The summary of forest improvement activities in SCATFORM is given the table below

## 2. Brief Description of Livelihood Component

Sl. No.	Components/ sub-components	Unit	Target
3.1	<b>NTFP based Livelihoods</b>		
3.1.1	Support to NTFP Centre of Excellence	Lump-sum	
3.1.2	NTFP Collection/Primary Processing Centre		45
3.1.3	Advanced Processing & Value Addition Unit		4
3.2	<b>Agroforestry based Livelihoods</b>		
3.2.1	Plantation of Agroforestry Crops	ha	8880
3.2.2	No. of JLG to be formed	No.	740
3.3	<b>Livestock/Fish Farming/Organic Farming based Livelihoods</b>		
3.3.1	JFMCs/EDCs to be supported	No.	450
3.3.2	Support for Livestock Farming	Lump-sum	
3.3.3	Support for Fish Farming	Lump-sum	
3.3.4	Support for Organic Farming	Lump-sum	
3.4	<b>Ecotourism Development</b>		
3.4.1	Support for Ecotourism Policy Arrangement	Lump-sum	
3.4.2	Upgrading Eco Parks		3

**3. Project Outline – Livelihood Perspective** - Developmental schemes adopt specific strategies and employ resources with the main, if not sole, objective of enhancing the quality of the people by ensuring the livelihood security. Such schemes become all the more focused towards such objectives if they are meant for socially disadvantaged and economically backward inhabitants of ecologically degraded and fragile regions. Project for Improvement of Project for Sustainable Catchment Forest Management in Tripura (SCATFORM) is based on one such approach of ensuring livelihood security through participatory and scientific management of natural resources in a sustainable way.

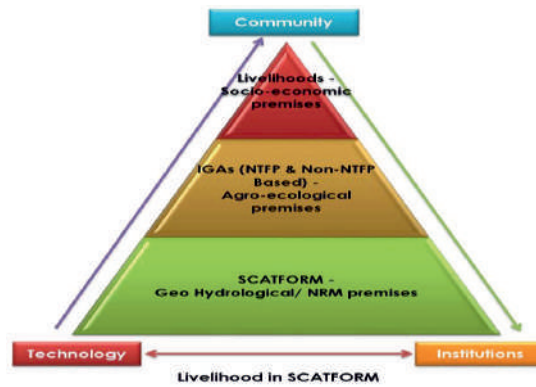
**4. Objectives of Livelihood Development under the Project-** Livelihood development of the project has the following objectives :-

- \* To reduce forest degradation by motivating them to judiciously manage forest resources and to reduce the pressure of forest degradation by unsustainable ways of resource utilization.
- \* Expand the opportunities of income generation for the betterment of life in Tripura.
- \* Divert forest-dependent living, jhum in particular, to other alternatives so as to reduce negative pressure on forest resources and vulnerability to soil erosion.

SCATFORM has been designed and being implemented on sustainable forest management plus approach where emphasis is on people and their aspirations, capabilities and livelihood as shown in the figure given above.

**5. Focus of SCATFORM and Livelihoods** – The programme focuses on five key areas;

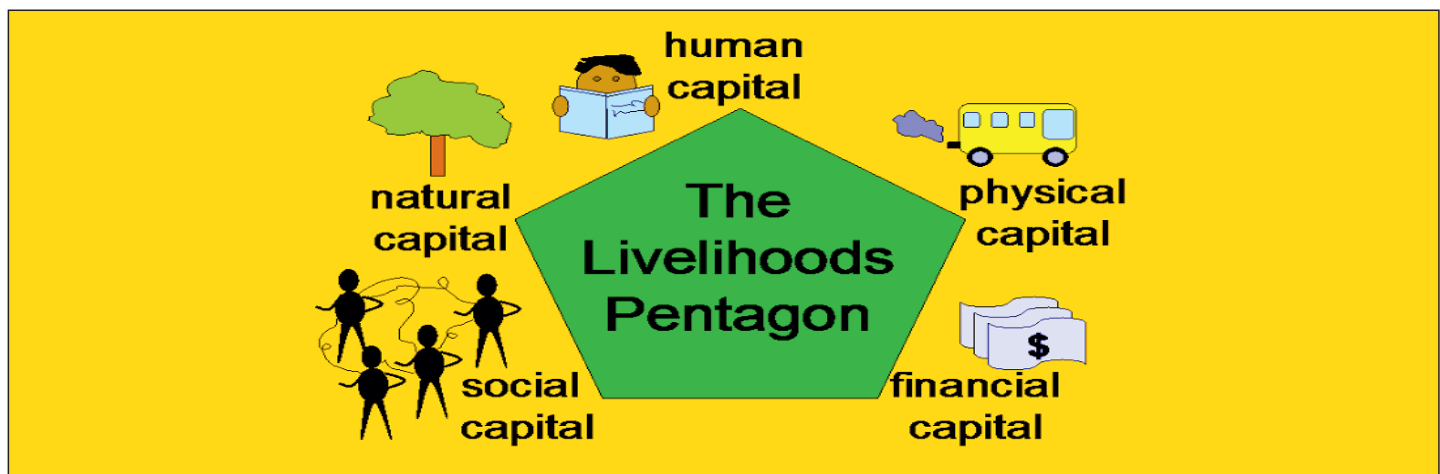
- a) *Improving household incomes from forest-based activities through better access to markets, credit, and technology.*
- b) *Encouraging a more equitable distribution of forest resources and benefits.*
- c) *Equitable and efficient partnerships between forest department and small holders and communities.*
- d) *Adaptive approaches to integrating conservation and development.*
- e) *Using payments for environmental services (PES) to reduce trade-offs between livelihoods and conservation.*



**6. Livelihood – Definition** - When asked “what is a livelihood”, a few would struggle to answer. “Making a living”, “supporting a family”, or “my job” all describe a livelihood. The term is well recognized as humans inherently develop and implement strategies to ensure their survival. Thus, we may summarise the meaning of livelihood as under;

A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stress and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base. (Chambers & Conway, 1991)

**7. Livelihood Framework- DFID's model framework:** - DFID puts emphasis on various types of capitals like natural capital, human capital, social capital, physical capital and financial capital. It works towards providing these capitals to the poor and strengthening them to face the shocks



**8. Features of Sustainable Livelihood Approaches** - Features of a sustainable livelihoods approach are as under;

- **People centred**
- **Holistic - multiple strategies across sectors**
- **Builds on strengths and opportunities**
- **Dynamic**
- **Evidence base for policy**
- **Emphasizes sustainability**

**9. Livelihood Strategy at a Glance** - Prudent, effective and implementable strategy for livelihood development towards enhancing the socio-economic status of project beneficiaries in one hand and reduce the pressure on forest & natural resource on the other is the key to optimization of available resources towards realization of objectives of any project particularly project like JICA funded “Project for Sustainable Catchment Forest Management in Tripura – SCATFORM)”

## 10. Approaches of Livelihood Strategy - Livelihood Strategy deals with various aspects of realistic livelihood in brief as under.



A livelihood strategy is an organized set of life- style choices, goals and values, and activities influenced by biophysical, political/legal, economic, social, cultural, and psychological components. There are many challenges to improving the well-being of people dependent on forests. These include;

(a) expanding forest- based employment and income opportunities; (b) finding ways to keep forest resource depletion from negatively affecting livelihoods; (c) changing property rights and regulatory regimes to increase households' access to forests and forest-based incomes; (d) identifying conservation strategies that favour livelihoods, while achieving conservation; (e) making smallholders more competitive in global markets by helping them overcome market, capital, technical, and management constraints.

**11. Approaches of Livelihood Strategy -** Livelihood Strategy deals with various aspects of realistic livelihood in brief as under;

NTFP based IGAs and Non-NTFP based IGAs to make the livelihood strategy more realistic and easy to use it for easy understanding and effective implementation keeping in view the overall project objectives. The main objective of Strategy for Livelihood and Cluster Development Options is to help all the concerned stake-holders to make use of the same at reference document in ensuring process and procedure to identify potential and sustainable livelihood options and implement these IGAs in an effective manner towards realizing the project objectives.

A step-by-step process to identify the livelihood activities in the project areas is outlined as below;

**STEP-01 ::** Collect the baseline primary data

**STEP-02 ::** Identify the target stake-holders

**STEP-03 ::** Rapport Building

**STEP-04 ::** Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)

**STEP-05 ::** Collect secondary data

**STEP-06 ::** Initial assessment

**STEP-07 ::** Analysing the information

**STEP-08 ::** Identifying the Alternative Livelihood activities

**STEP-09 ::** Reflection, vision and prioritization

**STEP-10 ::** Activity design and appraisal

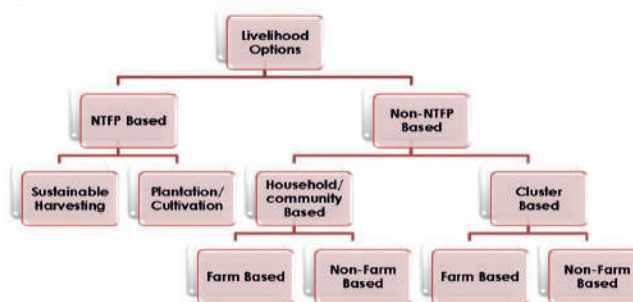
**STEP-11 ::** Preparation of Annual action plan of identified

**STEP-12 ::** Programme or project implementation

**2.1 Challenges and Opportunities -** There are many challenges to improve the well-being of people dependent on forests. These include;

- (i) Expanding forest-based employment and income opportunities;
- (ii) Finding ways to prevent forest resource depletion without negatively affecting livelihoods;
- (iii) Changing property rights and regulatory regimes to increase households' access to forests and forest-based incomes;
- (iv) Identifying conservation strategies that favour livelihoods, while achieving conservation;
- (v) Making smallholders more competitive in global markets by helping them overcome market, capital, technical, and management constraints.

Chart showing various categories of Income Generating Activities



### 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](mailto:tripurajica@gmail.com)*

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