

Reporting Form

Project Progress (Narrative Report)

Financial Support

For all projects supported by the Protestant Agency for Diakonia and Development - Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service (hereafter referred to as Financing Partner) a progress report is required after every six months. The report shall be sent to the Financing Partner 3 months after the end of the reporting period at the latest. Its volume should not exceed a total of 12 pages. Any additional information should be added as appendices. This applies also to statistical data, photographs, etc.

1. General Information

Name of the Organisation	Accion Fraterna
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Project Title	Promoting Sustainable Agriculture & Diversified Livelihoods in Anantapuram district
Project-No.	N-IND-2015-0024/EZE-No.2015 74383
Project Period	From 01-04-2015 till 31-03-2018
Reporting Period	From 01-04-2017 till 30-09-2017
Date of Report	31.12.2017
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2. Change within the Organisation

During the reporting period, did any important events or changes take place within your organisation?

2.1

related to the management structure?

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

Based on the recommendations from External Evaluation & Strategic Planning Exercise conducted during March 2017, AF also felt the need for restructuring its operational units from "area" to "mandal" level. Earlier, AF's operational area of 8 mandals was comprised of 4 areas (Each area consisted two mandals). Each area was headed by Area Team Leader (ATL) technically supported by an Agriculture Extension Officer (AEO). There were issues with the structure like vague division of roles between ATL & AEO. And STOs were reporting to two leaders which made the administrative control unclear among the teams. Keeping in mind these issues and also the starting of a tripartite project called CRZBNF and one more project supported by GoAP and IFAD in pipeline, AF started working on reorganising the Organisation's structure. In June 2017, the operational unit was changed from "area" to "mandal" level. At present, each mandal team is lead by one Mandal Team Leader (MTL) and fully responsible for planning, implementation and monitoring of project activities.

2.2

related to your planning system?

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

2.3

related to the composition of your staff?

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

With the change at frontline management structure by promoting committed and competent STOs as MTLs, a new layer of middle level managers evolved comprising of the staff who had worked as ATLs and AEOs earlier. Each of these former Area level leaders were assigned the responsibility of nurturing and mentoring 2 MTLs. They also provide thematic support to the mandal teams like convergence with Govt and other agencies, Sustainable Agriculture, Alternate Livelihoods, Capacity building of staff and CBOs etc.

2.4

related to other issues?

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

No

3. Changes of social, political, economic and ecological project context

3.1

Are there important changes (social, political, economic, ecological) in the projects' immediate environment since its inception?

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

No

3.2

Is the underlying problem analysis of the project still valid considering possible changes in the context?

Yes

No

If No, please describe:

Yes

3.3

Do these changes have implications for the work, the project objective and the latter's achievement?

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

No

4. Outcome and Impact

Project objective: In total 21,400 marginalised families improve their nutritional and livelihood security through the strengthening of CBOs, the promotion of risk mitigating sustainable agriculture practices and the diversification of their income sources.

Indicators (information differentiated by sex or one indicator for the gender dimension)	Achievement of objectives (Assess using indicators)	Planned activities	Implemented activities
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<p>1. 30% of 11500 household have benefitted from the adoption of drought coping technologies / practices recommended by the project.</p>	<p>30 % of 11500(i.e 3450) households have directly benefitted through additional yields ranging from 15 to 25% as compared to neighbouring farmers who did not adopt technologies/practices recommended by the project by the end of 2nd year of the phase itself.</p> <p>During the reporting period, another 4207 families were benefitted through timely sowing of crops under insufficient moisture conditions in July through row furrow watering & sowing, cultivating contingency crops, using cement lined farm ponds for protective irrigation, low cost weeding operations using cycle seeder/weeder, improved income & nutritional security from back yard poultry, storing seeds using 3 layered bags, availing high quality ground nut and navadhanya seeds under CMSS through MACS etc</p>	<p>1. Timely sowing of crops using furrow watering & sowing method</p> <p>2. Fodder Development</p> <p>3. Farmer Field Schools</p> <p>4. Promoting Contingency crops during delayed rainy season</p> <p>5. Promoting cycle weeders & 3-layered seed storage bags</p> <p>6. Facilitating implementation of Community Managed Seed System (CMSS) through MACS</p> <p>7. Promoting Backyard Poultry for improved nutritional security and for small additional income for landless families</p>	<p>1) 293 dry land farmer families were supported for timely sowing using furrow watering & sowing method covering 419 acres</p> <p>2) 458 families were benefitted from fodder development covering 593 acres</p> <p>3) 216 FFS Sessions were conducted on rain fed demoplots and 879 farmers participated</p> <p>4) 3816 families sowed contingency crops</p> <p>5) 295 families adopted cycle weeder and 428 families used 1563 three layered bags for seed storage</p> <p>6) 4697 families availed 5543 Qls of GN seed and 4622 families availed 8976 navadhanya kits under CMSS</p> <p>7) 1070 landless families were provided with 4869 swarnadhara chicks</p>
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<p>2. 50% Women of those households which adopted the drought coping technologies / practices jointly {Women & Men} participated in decision making.</p>	<p>30% of the women of the households who adopted the drought coping technologies or practices jointly participated in decision making. Women played active role in selecting the beneficiaries for the project activities and managing the CBO assets. Women who were elected as Directors (Executive Committee members) actively participated in CMSS program supported by the GoAP and were part of important decision making at CBO level like beneficiary selection, reviewing the progress etc.</p>	<p>1. Strengthening of CBOs - Meetings & trainings (SMG, GSMS, MSMS, ASMS and at MACS level)</p> <p>2. Conducting mass campaigns on World Day to Combat Drought & Desertification with 50% women participation.</p>	<p>1) 3859 SMG meetings were conducted against the planned 10272 in which average women attendance was 63%</p> <p>2) 1003 GSMS meetings were conducted against the planned 2568. Average attendance of women was 62%</p> <p>3) 46 MSMS Meetings were conducted against 96 planned.</p> <p>4) 2 ASMS Meetings were conducted against 4 planned</p> <p>5) 64 directors of eight MACS including 28 women were trained on Co-operative Governance and leadership</p>
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<p>3. Thirty percent of young women and men provided with vocational skills by the project earn not less than Rs.1500/- per month from home based employment and not less than Rs. 5000/- per month from outside employment.</p>	<p>1) 38 (37%) of the 102 boys trained in Driving, two-wheeler and mobile phone mechanism got employed/self employed during the reporting period and earning Rs.6000/- to 10,000/- per month. 2) 40 girls were given advanced training on garment making. 20 of them set up 2 garment making centres and started earning Rs. 3,000/- through linkage with garment industry. 3) XXX SMG members who availed small loans set up/expanded business and started earning Rs. 2000/- additional income per month</p>	<p>1. Training in LMV, HMV driving and training on two wheeler & mobile phone mechanism 2. Facilitating bank & market linkages for women who underwent advanced training in garment making 3. Promoting new /expansion of small off-farm and non-farm businesses by providing small matching loan to beneficiary contribution (Please see ANNEXURE 1 for narrative report for the targets of planned activities)</p>	<p>1) 41 youngsters were trained on LMV driving; 27 youth were trained on HMV; 19 were trained on two wheeler mechanism and 15 boys were trained on mobile phone mechanism during the reporting period 2) 58 out of the 93 girls who were given advanced training on garment making, have set up 7 garment making micro units using bank & market linkages 3) 120 SMG women members (mostly Labour Group) were given loans for petty businesses amounting to Rs. 6,00,000/-</p>
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If the project is more complex and composed of different project components, kindly use the spread sheet attached.

4.1

What other changes beyond the ones described in the above table did you observe/detect? Please mention anything that may be of relevance to the project progress.

Further changes: No further significant changes have been observed.

4.2

In case you observed any direct negative outcome of the project, please describe it, too.

Potential negative outcome: No potential negative outcome was observed

4.3

Which incidents / events could you observe, which you consider to be contributing to or interfering with the accomplishment of the development goal (impact-level)?

No significant incident/event was observed during the reporting period

4.4

Which methods did you apply to assess your project's outcome and impact?

The outcome was assessed using the following methods:

1. The data was collected and consolidated from village level records maintained in each of the 214 villages like Village Activity Registers, Minutes of Meetings, Monthly progress reports etc. and analysed.
2. Individual Interviews with some specific farmer & farm labourer families were organised to assess the outcome for certain activities.
3. Focused Group Discussions were conducted with beneficiaries of various project activities to understand the change brought in.
4. Core team members were formed into teams and Field Monitoring and physical verification exercises were conducted during rabi season
4. The findings from various methods were triangulated comparing FGD reports, field verification and monitoring reports of STOs, AEOs, Subject Matter Specialists and PME team members.
5. The action learning cycle was used to reflect, learn and draw lessons for improving planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation at project level.

5. Conclusion for the Future Work

5.1

Based on your experience gathered, do you see a need to change the planned activities in order to accomplish the project objective?

Yes

No

If Yes, please state the reasons and elaborate on the changes:

Not applicable

5.2

In case you require consultancy services, please state the respective area:

In, AF has been sanctioned a new project on Climate Resilient Zero Budget Natural Farming in which AF, as a Resource NGO works on capacity building of field NGOs and Dept of Agriculture in the district in training & certifying 3000 Master Farmers in the district in 3 years. One more bigger project called "AP Drought Mitigation Project" is under pipe line and is expected to be launched in the second half year. This might result in increasing the staff strength by 50 per cent. The organisation needs to manage the changing needs in HRD, MIS & OD. Hence we need hand holding support from consultants in these areas.

5.3

Which are the most important lessons learned during the reporting period?
Please refer to gender equality issues also.

Lessons learned:

This year all eight mandal MACS played key role in successful implementation of CMSS program. However, the MACS and Sasyamitra Groups and Federations were not fully aligned. It led to many MSMS members to take up dual responsibility as MSMS members and BoD of MACS. It resulted in some confusion and burden on few women members who were needed to work harder at household level and at CBO level. As the Department of Agriculture was keen on achieving targets, staff of AF took lead role in implementation of CMSS . As the program would be scaled up in the coming year, we felt the need for reducing the confusion by integrating Sasyamitra Groups with the MACS at mandal level. We have started working on this issue and have been trying to encourage every SMG member to obtain membership in MACS and also a congenial Governance structure is being worked out with support from experts in the Cooperative Sector.

Annexe to 03-5 (Narrative Report):

Project components' objectives	Indicators (information differentiated by sex or one indicator for the gender dimension)	Achievement of objectives (Assess using indicators)	Planned Activities	Activities implemented / carried out
1.	1.			
	2.			
	3.			
2.	1.			
	2.			
	3.			
3.	1.			
	2.			
	3.			
4.	1.			
	2.			
	3.			