

## 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 Ecology Centre
Address	Upparapalle Road, Bangalore Highway, ANANTAPURAM - 515 002
Contact Person	Dr. Y.V. Malla Reddy
E-Mail	yvmallareddy@yahoo.co.in mallareddy@accionfraterna.org
Fax	+91-8554-244 990
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 01-10-2015 till 31-03-2016
Date of Report	25-06-2016
Author	Mohan & Malla Reddy

## **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:

Change of management structure

**2.2**  
related to your planning system?

Yes  No

If Yes, please describe:

Planning system

**2.3**  
related to the composition of your staff?

Yes  No

If Yes, please describe:

Staff changes:

**2.4**  
related to other issues?

Yes  No

If Yes, please describe:

Change of topics

## **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:

Changes: No significant changes have been observed so far.

### **3.2**

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

Yes

No

If No, please describe:

Problem analysis

### **3.3**

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

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

Implications:

## **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
---	---	--------------------	------------------------

<p>1. 30% of 11500 household have benefitted from the adoption of drought coping technologies / practices recommended by the project.</p>	<p>15 % of 11500 households(1725) have directly benefitted. About 7 % of the redgram farmers(805) directly benefitted in villages where timely rains followed by dry spells using AF's Protective Irrigation activity. The yield on redgram was increased by 20 to 30% when compared to control plots. Despite delayed rains, 11% of the target families(1265) benefitted from opting for contingency crops of short duration like horsegram, sorghum, greengram etc. The net income from horsegram and sorghum crops ranged from Rs. 2000/- to Rs.5,000/- per ha. The contingency crops enhanced fodder availability to 5 % (575)of the families who have cattle and small ruminants.</p>	<p>1.1.2.5 Farmer Field Schools Sessions 1.1.3 Demonstrations on SA cropping systems &amp; practices</p>	<p>1.1.2.5) 50 Field Days were conducted in 50 villages and over 4000 farmers actively participated and observed the results of demo plots through crop cutting experiments. 1.1.3.1 SA Rainfed crop demonstrations: As there were little or no rains during sowing season promoting contingency crops of short duration like horsegram, sorghum, green gram etc was taken up on large scale covering covering 6500 ha. belonging to 5600 families. 1.1.3.2 Chemical free demonstration under irrigation: Demonstrated and promoted cycle weeders on 400 small holders' plots for carrying out weeding operations at low cost and reduced drudgery.</p>
---	--	--	---

<p>2. 50% Women of those households which adopted the drought coping technologies / practices jointly {Women &amp; Men} participated in decision making.</p>	<p>20% of the women of the households(2300) who adopted the drought coping technologies or practices jointly participated in decision making. The conveners of CBOs (Women by default as per AF's policy) played active role in selecting the beneficiaries for the project activities and managing the CBO assets. 70 per cent of the 211 participants in the FGDs revealed that they had discussions with their spouses for deciding and implementing activities which involved sizeable beneficiary contribution like cement lining of farm ponds, cycle weeders, protective irrigation etc. 20% of the respondents revealed that decisions related to marketing of farm produce were collectively taken.</p>	<p>1.1.1 Strengthening of CBOs - Meetings 1.1.2 Capacity building of CBOs</p>	<p>1.1.1.1) 4332 SMG meetings were conducted against the planned 5136 in which average women attendance was 70% 1.1.1.2) 1260 GSMS meetings were conducted against the planned 1284. Average attendance of women was 75% 1.1.1.3) 42 MSMS Meetings were conducted against 48 planned. 1.1.1.4) 2 ASMS Meetings were conducted as per the plan 1.1.2.1 &amp; 1.1.2.2) 38 Cluster level &amp; 8 Mandal level trainings on SA &amp; Drought mitigation were conducted involving 315 MSMS members (46% women) &amp; 250 GSMS members (49% women)</p>
--	--	---	--

<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) 28 of the (41%) 61 boys got employed as professional drivers during the reporting period and earning a minimum Rs. 6000/- per month.  2) 53 (21%) of the 252 girls trained on garment making started earning Rs. 2000/- to 3,000/- by stitching garments at home.  3) During the reporting period, 28 youth got jobs in Bangalore and earning Rs. 10,000/- to 15,000/- per month. Cumulatively 78 youth got jobs out of 526 who participated in 2 job fairs conducted during HY-1.  AF started exploring opportunities to link the trained girls with garment making industry to get piece-work assignments by staying at home. Livelihood coordinator has been on regular visits and negotiations with the industry for the purpose.</p>	<p>1.2.1.1 Training in LMV driving  1.2.1.2 Training in HMV driving  1.2.1.3 Training women in garment making  1.2.1.4 Facilitating vocational trainings in other vocational training insitutions  1.2.1.5 Organising job-fairs under educated rural youth</p>	<p>1.2.1.1) 76 youngsters were trained on LMV driving and 10 of them got employment  1.2.1.2) 12 youth completed training on HMV at the end of the reporting period. Their employment status will be reported in the next half year.  1.2.1.3) 252 girls were trained on garment making. It takes time for them to purchase sewing machines and practice at home before starting to earn income. The progress will be reported on cumulative basis.  1.2.1.4) women's micro enterprises: A garment making cooperative enterprise was set up at Kudair with 10 girls who got advanced training in garment making. The business is in its very initial stages and the results will be revealed during the next 6 months.</p>
--	---	--	--

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)?

A break through in drought mitigation in Andhra Pradesh: Protective Irrigation becomes a state policy.

AF Ecology Centre has been mobilising public opinion and lobbying for favourable policy environment particularly for drought mitigation and generally for reviving rainfed agriculture rural livelihoods etc.

Our efforts in building public opinion and policy advocacy on protective irrigation created a breakthrough for drought mitigation in Andhra Pradesh. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has favourably responded to scaleup and fund the “protective irrigation” for drought mitigation. AF has been advocating and demonstrating the concept and practice of protective irrigation to the farmers, Govt. agencies, CSOs, NGOs Research Bodies etc. During this year AF organised live demonstrations particularly to the Hon’ble Chief Minister, the Minister for Agriculture, the Special Chief Secretary (Agriculture), the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Joint Director, Agriculture etc. The live demonstrations involved various technologies and practices that are practicable for protective irrigation during the droughts(dry spells). Following the live demonstrations and lobbying at various levels, the Government called for a special workshop involving all the stakeholders for formulation of a policy to scale up the protective irrigation not only in Anantapur District, but also across the state of A.P. AF Ecology Centre played a key role in the workshop and drafted the policy. Now the policy will come into effect from this crop-season i.e., June 2016. This policy will benefit about one million rainfed farmers across the state of A.P.

It is a very significant development that would positively contribute to the development Goal of AF.

#### **4.4**

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

The outcome was assessed using the following methods:



1. Focused Group Discussions: 23 FGDs were conducted in the project area involving 211 persons to assess the use of output and outcomes, particularly the benefits of drought coping technologies & practices and women's participation at family level in adopting these practices.
2. Physical random verification of use of output and outcome on land based agricultural activities and assessment of crop yields at the end of the crop season.
3. Data consolidation and analysis from village level records:  
The data was also collected and consolidated from village level records maintained in each of the 230 villages through Village Activity Registers, Minutes of Meetings, Monthly progress reports etc. and analysed to identify the trends and patterns in the outcome.
4. Individual and Group interviews: Interviews with some specific farmer & farm labourer families were organised to assess the outcome for certain activities.
5. Triangulation: 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.
7. Implications and lessons: The action learning cycle was used to reflect, learn and drawn lessons for improving planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Please refer to the annexure 2 - A brief report on the outcome of FGD exercise.

## **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:

Consulting:

Consultancy services are required in the areas of documentation and reporting as per the norms of BftW. An orientation session for PME & Core teams and extended support in effective presentation of project progress from the consultants is needed.

### **5.3**

Which are the most important lessons learned during the reporting period?

Please refer to gender equality issues also.

Lessons learned:

1. AF's recommended drought mitigation technologies and practices proved effective and scalable to mitigate droughts among farmers. policy advocacy efforts with policy makers proved to be very fruitful. However, the activities could have been more effective if a set of such practices were converged at farm or farmer house hold level. For eg. Row Water Sowing technique was introduced for widely spaced crops of castor and redgram. In some cases it helped in germination but the crop wilted during prolonged dry spells those followed. Hence, AF plans to converge and integrate the drought mitigation activities at farm level in order to enhance the outcome.

2. Internal Complainants Committee (ICC) (for redressal of grievances of sexual harrasment) was constituted at the end of the previous phase. Two complaints were dealt by the committee during the reporting period and stringent action of terminating the services was taken against the guilty. It is learnt that such stern disciplinary actions have built confidence in women employees and improved gender sensitivity among staff at all levels.

**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.			