

**Narrative Report**  
(Standards A and A-flexible)**Financial Support**

For all projects supported by Protestant Agency for Diakonie 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
Address	ACCION FRATERNA ECOLOGY CENTRE UPPARAPALLI ROAD BANGALORE HIGHWAY ANANTAPUR – 515002, AP INDIA
P.O. Box	
Contact Person	Dr.Y.V.Malla Reddy
E-Mail	mallareddy@accionfraterna.org
Phone number	9849056555
Fax number	
Project title	Promotion of sustainable Agriculture & diversified livelihood in Anantapur District
Project number	N-IND-2017-0397

Project period	From 01.04.2018 till 31.03.2021
Reporting period	From 01.04.2019 till 30.09.2019
Date of report	20.12.2019
Author	Dr.Y.V.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:

**2.2**

related to your planning system?

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

**2.3**

related to the composition of your staff? NO

**2.4**

related to other issues?

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

### 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:

#### 3.2

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

Yes

No

If No, please describe:

#### 3.3

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

Yes

No

If Yes, please describe:

#### 4. Outcome and Impact

Project objective: With the promotion of sustainable agriculture, drought mitigation and alternate livelihoods, food and livelihood security have improved in 230 villages of Anantapur District.

<b>Indicator s</b>	<b>Achievement of objectives (Assess using indicators)</b>	<b>Planned activities for the reporting period</b>	<b>Implemented activities during the reporting period April 2019 to September 2019 and cumulative achievement from April 2018 to September 2019.</b>
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<p>1. Atleast 30% of the target population has increased their income by 20% from which 50% are women.</p>	<p>During the reporting period, <b>5622</b> families (32% of 17597 families from 821 active SMGs in 219 villages) have adopted appropriate Drought resistant measures and protected their Rainfed crops.</p> <p>70% of the farmers who adopted the sustainable Agriculture and Drought mitigation technologies were women.</p> <p>The Board of Directors of all the 8 MACS consists of more than 50% women and they have actively participated in implementing different Sustainable Agriculture activities.</p>	<p><b>Promotion of CBOs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strenthening of CBOs with monthly meetings, savings and credit.</li> <li>• Participatory approach in planning and implementtion of activities.</li> <li>• Convergence with Government programs, Banks and Industries.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainable Agriculture Practices &amp; Drought Mitigation Technologies</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Farmer Field Schools</li> <li>2. Demonstration plots on ZBNF Practices</li> <li>3. Pre-monsoon Dry sowing</li> <li>4. Fodder Development</li> <li>5. Farm ponds and Farm Pond lining</li> <li>6. Row Water Sowing</li> <li>7. Protective Irrigation</li> <li>8. Contingency crops</li> <li>9. Fruit plants for gap filling</li> <li>10. Cycle Seeders/ Weeders</li> <li>11. Three layer bags</li> <li>12. Community Managed Seed System</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the reporting period, 5106 SMG meetings were conducted against the planned 8872. 70% of SMG members attended and women attendance was 68%. During the project phase from April 2018, the cumulative achievement was 12759 meetings against the planned 17967.</li> <li>• During the reporting period, 758 GSMS meetings were conducted against the planned 1292. 60% of GSMS members attended and attendance of women was 65%. During the project phase from April 2018, the cumulative achievement was 2854 against the planned 3878.</li> <li>• During the reporting period, 44 MSMS/MACS meetings were conducted against 48 planned. Attendance was 62% and women participation was 70%. During the project phase from April 2018, the cumulative achievement was 129 meetings against the planned 144.</li> <li>• The cummulative savings at the end of the reporting period was Rupees 59.6 million and 2271 SMG members have taken loans.</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. During the reporting period, 181 FFS sessions were conducted to rainfed farmers in 46 villages. 989 farmers participated, of them 254 are women. During the project phase from April 2018 september 2019, a total of 556 FFS sessions were conducted.</li> <li>2. During the reporting period, 713 farmers have taken up demonstration plots in 736 acres with alternate crop models, millets, ZBNF practices and improved seed varities. During the project phase from April 2018 september 2019, 1683 farmers have taken up demonstration plots in 1806 acres.</li> <li>3. During the reporting period, 45 farmers have participated in Pre-monsoon Dry sowing experiment.</li> <li>4. During the reporting period, the Fodder seed was kept available in all FPOs for the farmers. During the project phase from April 2018 september 2019, a total of 284 families have raised improved varieties of fodder in 491 acres.</li> <li>5. During the reporting period, 22 farmers have lined their farm ponds with cement and protected water from percolating. During the project phase from April 2018 september 2019, a total of 92 farmers have lined their farm ponds.</li> <li>6. During the reporting period, 131 farmers sowed crops in time using Row water sowing method in 340 acres. During the project phase from April 2018 september 2019, 290 farmers have utilized Row water sowing method in 662 acres.</li> <li>7. During the reporting period, 127 farmers provided protective irrigation in 277 acres and saved the crops from wilting during the dryspell in the months of July and August. During the project phase, 660 farmers utilised this technology in 1836 acres.</li> <li>8. During the reporting period, 1859 farmers had sown contingency crops in 4795 acres with Horsegram and Jowar. During the project phase 5442 farmers had sown contingency crop in 13859 acres.</li> <li>9. During the reporting period, 46 farmers have filled the gaps in 53 acres of Dryland Horticulture plots with 2740 fruit plants. During the project phase from April 2018 september 2019, 1040 farmers have planted 15971 fruit saplings.</li> <li>10. During the reporting period, 120 families were provided cycle seeders/weeders to reduce drudgery. During the project phase, 502 cycle seeders/weeders were provided.</li> <li>11. During the project phase from April 2018 september 2019, a total of 3567 families were provided with three layer bags of different sizes for storing seed and grains.</li> <li>12. During the project phase, 4842 families availed 5349 Qls of quality Groundnut Seed in time and 6225 Navadhanya kits through CMSS program</li> </ol>
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<p>2. Atleast 50% skilled youth (girls and boys) have increased their income to average 60 Euro per month.</p>	<p>During the reporting period, 228 boys were provided training in Driving, two wheeler mechanism and mobile phone mechanism. Among them 102 (45%) were employed earning Rs.5000/- to 8000/- per month.</p>	<p><b>Diversified/ Alternate Livelihoods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training in LMV &amp; HMV driving</li> <li>• Ttraining on two wheeler mechanism</li> <li>• Training on mobile phone mechanism</li> <li>• Advanced Training on Garment Making</li> <li>• Facilitating bank linkages &amp; market linkages for women to set up garment making units.</li> </ul>	<p>During the reporting period from April 2019 september 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 128 boys were trained on LMV driving; Of them 97 are from SC/ST community.</li> <li>• 41 youth were trained on HMV; Of them 23 are from SC/ST community.</li> <li>• 30 boys were trained on two wheeler mechanism, of them 13 are from SC/ST community</li> <li>• 29 boys were trained on mobile phone mechanism, of them 17 are from SC/ST community.</li> <li>• The two garment making micro units setup by trained women were linked with industry.</li> <li>• Small loans were provided to 140 women for petty businesses.</li> </ul> <p>During the project phase from April 2018 september 2019, the cumulative achievement is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 272 boys were trained on LMV driving</li> <li>• 88 men were trained in HMV training</li> <li>• 83 young men were trained in two wheeler mechanism</li> <li>• 73 youth trained in mobile phone mechanism</li> <li>• 198 young rural women provide training on Garment making</li> <li>• 103 women employed were provided employment in Garment industry</li> </ul>
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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.

#### **Woman Participation in FPOs and SMGs**

Due to thrift activity and conscious efforts of AF, in the last one year, the women membership in SMGs has increased from 51% to 66% 1.e 11,596 families out of 17,597 families are represented by women. Also 53% of SMGs are women SMGs 1.e 433 SMGs consists of 100% women members out of 821 SMGs. The convenors in all SMGs, GSSs, MSSs are women. Women attendance in meetings and their active participation in decision making have improved.

In FPOs also, the President posts are held by women in all the 8 mandal FPOs. Out of 3 office bearers in each FPO, 2 are women. In Federation of FPOs, Rythunestam Farmer Producer Company, all the Directors are women. Women are successfully managing the businesses of FPOs. The Board of Directors of all the 8 MACS consists of more than 50% women and are actively participating in implementing Sustainable Agriculture activities.

### **Activities taken up in FPOs**

During the reporting period, the BoD meetings were conducted regularly in all FPOs with the attendance of 65%. The 2019-20 activity calendar and Budget were discussed and approved by FPO BoD members. CEOs were recruited for 9 FPOs and 2 spells induction training and book keeping training was provided to them. Share Capital data verification is done in all FPOs and Share certificates were distributed to SMG members. Account Books were updated and Audit of 2018-19 was completed for all the 9 FPOs. All the FPOs successfully completed Annual General Body meetings & Filed Returns with DCO, New Office Bearers were elected in all the FPOs.

An orientation on Business Plan is completed and the Business plan is being prepared with support of APMAS. Primary Processing Centers were established in 4 FPOs under Value Chain Development Project of ICRISAT. Seed Business activity was started in 9 FPOs. NABARD is supporting 5 mandal FPOs for 3 years @ 11.4 lakhs per FPO for taking up capacity building activities.

### **Livelihood activities promoted by SMGs:**

During the last one year, Garment making trainings were provided to 197 women in collaboration with Proskills, a professional training institute. Of them, 103 women were provided employment in Garment Industry in Rayadurgam and Bangalore with a monthly earnings upto Rs 5000/-.

Garment making units were set up to provide work to trained women near their home. AF facilitated the process of setting up these Garment making units. AF organised women, providing them training and established linkages with Banks and Industry. Bank loan of Rs 20,000 each was provided to 69 trained women for purchase of industrial Garment stitching machines. All women had purchased prescribed Stitching machines. They formed into three groups and established 3 Garment making units in Kalyandurg, Venkatadripalli and Gangavaram villages. They have collaborated with Garment makers like Ganesh Enterprises, SK Enterprises for providing regular work orders.

These units couldnot be continued viably because the women could not match the expectations of the industry in terms of timings, quality, attendance and industrial culture. Industrial work culture had to be inlcated among rural women, given their informal work culture and family responsibilities. There is need to bring change in their work attitude. Also Industry has to think differntly to accommodate these people. Inculcating professional work culture in villagers is a big challenge.

### **Bank Linkages under Convergence:**

AF has facilitated Bank linkages with Andhra Pragati Grameena Bank and NABARD to 50 deserving women farmers for taking up Diary activity in Gandlaparthi, G.Kottapalli, Bukkacherla, Sanapa villages. AF has formed Joint Liability Groups with interested members and helped them in approaching the Bank for loan. In the first phase, 50 women availed loan of Rs 50,000 each for purchasing milch animal. All the women had repaid the loans. In the second phase, 20 women have taken loans of Rs 1,00,000/- each for purchasing two milch animals. AF has facilitated training to these women on productivity and marketing through RUDSETI. AF has also provided Fodder seed to these diary farmers.

AF has facilitated trainings to women through institutions like RUDSETI, KVK and provided small loans upto Rs 5000/- for taking up small businesses. In the reporting period, more than 200 women have availed small loans for petty businesses.

#### **4.2**

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

**No Negative impact 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)?

### **Day for Combating Drought and Desertification**

AF Ecology Centre has been celebrating World Day to Combat Drought and Desertification every year on 17<sup>th</sup> June as it is very important and relevant for Anantapur. Its main objective is to alert all sections of people and Governments on increasing drought and desertification across the Globe and motivate them to act in a concerted manner. It is a forum for policy advocacy and platform to public opinion building. AF Ecology Centre has developed practices and technologies to combat drought and desertification. The campaign includes an exhibition of practices and technologies to mitigate drought and a conference. Drought Mitigation technologies and Sustainable Agriculture practices are demonstrated to farmers, Government Officials, Research Bodies, NGOs, Civil Society Activists etc. More than 1000 farmers participate in these celebrations and share their experiences in combating drought. During the reporting period World Day to Combat Drought and Desertification was organised at two locations one in Anantapur and other at Kalyandurg. The campaigns turned out to be a source of inspiration for many farmers who have been suffering from the woes of continuous droughts.

### **International Women Days**

AF has been organising women days since 10 years in the month of March, considering the eve of International women days on 8<sup>th</sup> March. Most of the women SMG members participate in these women days and discuss issues related to Gender and women issues.

### **Member in AP Agri Mission influencing policy decisions**

Dr. Y.V.Malla Reddy, director of AF Ecology Centre is appointed as member of Andhra Pradesh state Agriculture Mission on 01.07.2019. The aim of the mission is to advice on policies and programmes to overcome the crisis in Agriculture and the challenges in delivering quality and timely services to the farming community. It looks into all aspects of Agriculture production, marketing, and pricing of Agriculture and Horticultural commodities to mitigate the agrarian crisis prevailing in the state. The Agriculture Mission shall guide the Agricultural Institutions and the farming community on regular basis. Its basic objective is to provide a policy level platform that works towards providing resilience among farmers and their empowerment.

The committee is chaired by Honourable Chief minister himself. The other members of committee includes academicians, farmer leaders, ministers and secretaries from Agriculture, Revenue, Irrigation, Power, Animal Husbandary, Fisheries and Marketing departments of AP state. The committee meets once every month to guide the state government on various policy issues. During the recent Mission meetings Dr. Malla Reddy has sensitised the mission members on importance of prioritising Rainfed Agriculture in Agriculture policy. He also voiced his views on methods of increasing farmers incomes.

#### 4.4

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

The methods applied for assessing Projects outcome and impact are:

- Monthly progress reports from field
- Reports from monitoring officers
- Feedback from community in SMG, GSS and MSMS meetings
- Feedback from end users
- Data triangulation from different sources
- Physical verification of records and activities by Central monitoring team
- Individual interviews
- Focussed Group Discussions

### 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:

#### 5.2

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

We required support in strengthening PME systems and during the reporting period we had availed the services of BfdW authorised PME consultant Ms. Anke Schuermann, Germany to support us in strengthening PME systems. She assisted in aligning the PME system towards outcomes and impacts and also provided key inputs in building staff capacity in outcome oriented monitoring, data management, documentation and reporting.

#### 5.3

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

Please refer to gender equality issues also.

**Learnings:**

- Millets crop cultivation is increasing due to increasing support of Government. The support price, processing and value addition infrastructure and marketing linkages are essential to sustain this trend.
- The sasyamita groups have stabilised and atleast 50% of them are able to maintain thrift activity without support of field staff. We are planning to provide book keeper training to selected members from all SMGs so that they continue to help themselves.
- There is need to build entrepreneurial abilities among rural youth to enable them to access opportunities and benefit from the market opportunities.
- More women need to be recruited at Senior Management level to guide and support women staff at middle and grass root level staff.

**Annexe (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.			