

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
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P.O. Box	
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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 01.10.2019 till 31.03.2020
Date of report	28.06.2020
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.

Indicator s	Achievement of objectives (Assess using indicators)	Planned activities for the reporting period	Implemented activities during the reporting period October 2019 to March 2020 and cumulative achievement from April 2018 to March 2020
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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, 6124 families (36.5% of 16772 families from 784 active SMGs in 218 villages) have adopted more than 2 sustainable Agriculture practices and increased their incomes by atleast Rs 3000 (50 Euro).</p> <p>Mostly women farmers (>70%) have adopted the sustainable Agriculture and Drought mitigation technologies.</p> <p>The Board of Directors of all the 8 Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies consists of 52% women. They have actively participated in implementing different program activities.</p>	<p>Promotion of CBOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strenthening of CBOs with monthly meetings, savings and credit. • Participatory approach in planning and implementtion of activities. • Convergence with Government programs, Banks and Industries. <p>Sustainable Agriculture Practices & Drought Mitigation Technologies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Farmer Field Schools 2. Demonstration plots on ZBNF Practices 3. Fodder Development 4. Protective Irrigation 5. Contingency crops 6. Fruit plants for gap filling 7. Kitchen Gardens 8. Farmer shops 9. Community Managed Seed System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the reporting period, 4806 SMG meetings were conducted against the planned 9408. 73% of SMG members attended and women attendance was 70%. During the project phase from April 2018, the cumulative achievement was 17565 meetings against the planned 27375. • During the reporting period, 799 GSMS meetings were conducted against the planned 1308. 62% of GSMS members attended and attendance of women was 66%. During the project phase from April 2018, the cumulative achievement was 3653 against the planned 4186. • During the reporting period, 48 MSMS/MACS meetings were conducted against 48 planned. Attendance was 70% and women participation was 72%. During the project phase from April 2018, the cumulative achievement was 177 meetings against the planned 192. • The savings in SMGs in 6 months were Rs. 11.6 million and cummulative savings at the end of the reporting period stood at Rs. 68 million and 12,413 SMG members have borrowed loans for improving their livelihoods, crop investments, children's education or health needs. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. During the reporting period, 46 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 to March 2020, a total of 602 FFS sessions were conducted. 2. During the reporting period, 702 farmers have taken up Rabi crop demonstration plots successfully in 713 acres with Natural Farming practices. Each crop demonstration was exposed to about 100 other farmers for their awareness. During the project phase from April 2018, onwards, 2385 farmers have taken up such demonstration plots in 2522 acres. 3. During the reporting period, improved Fodder production was taken up by 57 farmers in 30 acres. During the project phase a total of 305 families have raised improved varieties of fodder in 521 acres. 4. During the reporting period, 8 water tankers were provided to 8 MACS as a custom hiring equipment for providing protective irrigation. During the project phase, 660 farmers utilised protective irrigation technology and saved the crops from drought in 1836 acres. 5. During the reporting period, 710 farmers had sown contingency crops in 1531 acres with Horsegram and Jowar. All of them got good fodder yields. During the project phase, 6152 farmers had benefitted with contingency crop in 15390 acres. 6. During the reporting period, 44 farmers have filled the gaps with fruit plants in 120 acres of Dryland Horticulture plots with 8666 fruit plants. During the project phase from April 2018 to March 2020, 1084 farmers have planted 24637 fruit saplings, as a measure of drought mitigation and improving vegetation. 7. During the reporting period, 1059 families have raised Kitchen Gardens and consumed a variety of vegetables including leafy vegetables. 8. During the reporting period, 8 MACS have started Farmer Shops and sold to the farmers the tarpaulins, contingency seed, 3 layer bags and cycle weeders at reasonable rates. 9. The 8 Mandal MACS have started procurement of Groundnut seed for AP State Seed Distribution Company Limited. The procurement process would continue for another two months.
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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, 220 rural youth were provided skill training in different trades. Among them 96 (44%) were employed earning Rs.5000/- to 8000/- per month.</p> <p>During the project phase from April 2018 March 2020, 934 rural youth (335 women and 599 men) were given trainings and of them 511 (55%) were employed with income to average 60 Euro per month.</p>	<p>Diversified/ Alternate Livelihoods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in LMV & HMV driving • Ttraining on two wheeler mechanism • Training on mobile phone mechanism • Advanced Training on Garment Making • Facilitating bank linkages & market linkages for women to set up garment making units. 	<p>During the reporting period from October 2019 to March 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 45 rural youth (38 boys and 7 girls) were trained on LMV driving; Of them 31 are from SC/ST community. • 29 young men were trained on HMV; Of them 9 are from SC/ST community. • 33 boys were trained on two wheeler mechanism, of them 10 are from SC/ST community • 13 boys were trained on mobile phone mechanism, of them 7 are from SC/ST community. • 42 rural women were provided training in cooking millet snacks and baked foods. • 58 girls were provided training in Garment making. • The two garment making micro units setup by trained women were linked with industry. • Small loans were provided to 196 women from 35 villages for petty businesses. <p>During the project phase from April 2018 March 2020, the cumulative achievement is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 317 rural youth were trained on LMV driving out of which 180 are employed. • 117 men were trained in HMV training out of which 63 are employed • 116 young men were trained in two wheeler mechanism out of which 78 are employed • 86 youth trained in mobile phone mechanism out of which 57 are employed. • 42 rural women were provided training in cooking millet food items and 20 women have started preparing millet snacks and sell them in market. • 256 young rural women provide training on Garment making and support was provided to interested women in setting up garment making units • Also 113 women employed were provided employment in Garment industry.
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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

During the reporting period also the women ratio in SMGs has increased from 66% to 68%, i.e 11,374 families out of 16,772 families are represented by women. Also 55% of SMGs are women SMGs, i.e 433 SMGs out of 784 SMGs consists of only women members. The convenors in all SMGs, GSSs, MSSs are women. Women attendance in meetings and their active participation in decision making have improved.

In Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies (MACS) also, the President posts are held by women in all the 8 mandal MACSs. Out of 3 office bearers in each MACS, 2 are women. In Federation of MACSs, Rythunestam Farmer Producer Company, all the Directors are women. Women are successfully participating in managing the businesses of MACSs. The Board of Directors (BoD) of all the 8 Mandal MACSs consists of 52% women and are actively participating in implementing Sustainable Agriculture activities.

Strengthening of FPOs

During the reporting period, the Farmer Producer organisations (FPOs) registered as Farmers Mutually Aided Cooperative societies (MACS) have been strengthened with capacity building and institutional development for taking up farm sector business activities. The BoD meetings were conducted regularly in all FPOs with the attendance of 65%. The FPO BoDs and staff were given trainings on preparation of Business Plan. Four FPOs have started primary processing centers (PPCs) in collaboration with ICRSAT. During the months of October and November the FPOs had purchased 21 tons of Horse gram and 24 tons of Jowar seed and sold to farmers at a fair price for Contingency crops. They also sold 1500 Tarpalins to the farmers. The total business turnover of 8 MACS/ FPOs was over Rs 5 million and profit earned was Rs 400,000. With support of APOILFED (Andhra Pradesh Oil Fedaration) a Groundnut procurement centre was opened by Settur MACS. It has procured 35.95 tons of Groundnuts from 33 farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs 5090/- per qtl. At that time the groundnut prices were in the market were only at Rs. 4500/-. Thus the farmers benefitted approx. Rs. 600 per quintal.

During the month of March 2020, the 8 FPOs had taken up CMSS (Community Managed Seed System) as partners with APSSDC (Andhra Pradesh State Seed Development Cooperation) activity. They had procured 4,500 quintals of Groundnut Truthful Label Seed from the 67 farmers and supplied it to APSSDC for further distribution to farmers on subsidy. The procurement would continue upto May, 2020.

Livelihood activities promotion by SMGs:

During the last one year, AF had facilitated skill enhancement and entrepreneurial trainings to 100 women through institutions like RUDSETI, KVK. AF had also provided small loans to 196 women to support their existing petty business. It has also facilitated loans to deserving women through Andhra Pragati Grameena Bank and NABARD. This activity had good impact and as well received by women.

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)?

International Women Days

AF has been organising women days since 10 years on eve of International Women Days on 8th March. Mon March 8th 2020, approximately 3500 women SMG members participated in these women days in 8 locations and discussed the issues related to Gender and women issues. It helped to build strength and solidarity among women.

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 require support in strengthening MIS and PME systems, 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:

- It is hard to inculcate organisational culture in FPOs among Board of Directors. They tend to behave as individuals and conduct business informally as opposing to functioning as formal organisation
- Moulding the trainees of skill enhancement programs to industrial work culture is very essential. Basic communication skills, spoken English, personality development inputs and legal literacy have to be incorporated in the curriculum.
- In FPOs, providing timely services and inputs through Custom Hiring Centers (CHC) and Farmer Shops had increased community participation and sense of collective ownership.
- The FPOs when assisted to establish custom hiring services to its members enhanced the community ownership.

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.			