



*Conserving Natural Resources,  
Strengthening Rural Livelihoods for 40 years*



## ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22











## OUR DHARMA

Concern for others

Work beyond duty

Pursuit of excellence in work

Reaching as many needy people as possible

## OUR CORE VALUES

Compassion, concern, honesty, sincerity,  
hard work

Equality of human beings, particularly  
women, poor, disadvantaged

Concern for nature, biodiversity, ethics  
of conservation, sustainability

Excellence in execution of activities

Inclusive, participatory in decision making,  
planning and implementation

Transparency in all transactions and  
accountable to all stakeholders







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Empowering rainfed farmers towards sustainable livelihoods through agroecology, drought mitigation, natural resources development and policy advocacy.

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

### VISION

All people in rural areas lead a respectable and dignified life with economic security, food security, social equity, gender equity, in an atmosphere of democracy, peace, cooperation and community support; and all the people and institutions live as 'Eternal Trustees of Mother Earth', and follow a culture of simple living and the ethics of conservation.

### MISSION

We are committed to promoting livelihood security, self-reliance and human dignity for poor farmers, working through their institutions, led by women and promoting drought-climate resilient agroecology, agri-processing and non-farm livelihoods.

We appreciate that we are not alone in this endeavour; that there are several stakeholders like government, CSOs, industries, media, universities, research bodies, scientists etc with whom we join hands and work together for synergic results.

## Acronyms

ADTS: Agricultural Development and Training Society

AF: Accion Fraterna

AF-EC: Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre

AF YRC: Accion Fraterna Youth Resource Centre

ALP: Alternative Livelihoods Project

AP: Andhra Pradesh

APCNF: Andhra Pradesh Community Natural Farming

APMAS: Andhra Pradesh Mahila Abhivruddhi Society

APF: Azim Premji Foundation

APSBB: Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board

ASMS: Apex Sasya Mitra Samakhya

BftW: Bread for the World

BMC: Biodiversity Management Committee

CBBO: Cluster-Based Business Organisation

CBO: Community-based Organisation

CBP: Capacity Building Phase

CDM: Clean Development Mechanism

CER: Carbon Emission Reduction

CHC: Custom Hiring Centre

CMSS: Community-Managed Seed System

CSO: Civil Society Organisation

CSS: Central Sector Scheme

DSMS: District Sasya Mitra Samakhya

FCN: Fair Climate Network

FCRA: Foreign Contributions Regulation Act

FFS: Farmers Field School

FPO: Farmer Producer Organisation

GS: Gold Standard

GSMS: Gram Sasya Mitra Samakhya

HMV: Heavy Motor Vehicle

ICRISAT: International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics

IWMP: Integrated Watershed Management Programme

KK: *Karyakartha* (village volunteer)

KVK: Krishi Vigyan Kendra

LFA: Lead Facilitating Agency

LMV: Light Motor Vehicle

MACS: Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies

MSMS: Mandal Sasya Mitra Samakhya

MSP: Minimum Support Price

NABARD: National Bank for Rural and Agriculture Development

NCDC: National Cooperative Development Corporation

NGO: Non-Government Organisation

OBC: Other Backward Class

PACS: Primary Agriculture Cooperative Society

PPC: Primary Processing Centre

PRI: Panchayati Raj Institution

RARS: Regional Agriculture Research Station

RBK: Rythu Bharosa Kendra

RDT: Rural Development Trust

RFAC: Rainfed Farmers Agro-ecology Cooperative

RMT: Running meter

RNNF: Rainfed Nutri-Natural Farming

RNFPC: Rythu Nestham Food Producer Company Ltd

RySS: Rythu Saadhikara Samstha

SADLP: Sustainable Agriculture and Diversified Livelihoods Project

SC: Scheduled Caste

SFAC: Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium

SHG: Self Help Group

SMG: Sasya Mitra Group

ST: Scheduled Tribe

UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

VWDC: Village Watershed Development Committee

WASSAN: Watershed Support Services and Activities Network



## AF-EC's contribution to global Sustainable Development Goals through its work in Ananthapuramu district, Andhra Pradesh



AF-EC's geography of work is Ananthapuramu, a drought-prone district of Andhra Pradesh. The population is largely agrarian, consisting of smallholder farms practicing rain-dependent agriculture. AF-EC counteracts the uncertainty of rains and the impacts of drought and advancing desertification by promoting climate-resilient agricultural practices, wise resource use and land and water conservation practices for sustainable farming.

Implementation factors caste, socio-economic status and gender, with success defined as incremental progress in community building, inclusivity, cooperation, skilling, poverty reduction and ecological and economic stability.

### Project SDGs

#### Sustainable Agriculture and Diversified Livelihoods Project

- SDGs 1,3,8,10,12,13,15,16,17

#### Community Natural Farming Project

- SDGs 1,3,8,10,12,13,15,17

#### Alternative Livelihoods Project for rural women

- SDGs 1,2,5,8,10,16

#### Accion Fraterna Youth Resource Centre

- SDGs 1,2,8,10

#### Farmer Producer Organisations

- SDGs 1,5,16,17

#### Accelerating Value Chain Benefits for Improved Income for Farmers and Nutrition for Consumers

- SDGs 3,5,8,10,12,17

#### Participatory Watershed Development projects

- SDGs 12,15,16,17

#### Accion Fraterna Biogas Clean Development Mechanism Project

- SDGs 5,7,13,15,17

#### Biodiversity Conservation Project

- SDGs 3,15,17



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# DIRECTOR'S OVERVIEW

By June 2022, AF-EC would have completed 40 years of strengthening livelihoods, ecology and environment with rural communities. In the course of our work, we have observed that a strong women leadership is emerging from the SMGs and moving to positions of higher responsibility in MSMSs, FPOs and Government local bodies. In this, our 40th year, we plan to shift our perspective from *'development for women'* to *'women-led development'*.



**The year began with another wave of Covid-19 in April 2021.** By now, in spite of the unsettledness, people were learning to live and work uninterruptedly with Covid. Our Covid relief, rehabilitation and vaccination interventions continued. We were able to streamline and consolidate our projects and interventions.

**This year was probably a turning point in terms of rural livelihoods and social structure.** A confluence of factors, like non-viability of rainfed farming, enhanced horticulture using borewells, a bounty of welfare schemes, Covid-relief rations to the poor and widened rural employment opportunities, all together brought a rather sudden change in the socio-economic fabric. Consequently, rural distress and distress migration showed a downtrend! Rainfed farmers began to give up farming, as it was a losing gamble, and resorted to wage employment. The younger generation, increasingly, looked for opportunities in off-farm and non-farm livelihoods.

Given the fast-changing scenario, we intensified our efforts to promote livelihood diversification options. We encouraged SMGs to utilise their group funds of approximately Rs. 9.5 crores in new livelihood ventures rather than consumption. The Alternative Livelihoods Project (ALP) provided a push in exactly this direction. Under ALP alone, 1575 women initiated new means of earning in 418 SMGs. All these women were able to add an additional Rs. 4000/- to Rs. 6000/- to household income per month. The SMGs, with the available funds at their disposal, were able to provide credit support to at least another 3000 women to explore alternative livelihoods.

**As part of our 40-years celebration,** we will, with the community and other stakeholders re-examine our relevance and refresh our priorities and strategy, especially in view of the changing local context. However, we are clear with regard to our participatory approach: it will be development led by women and their organisations. We will strive to integrate the feminine into the process of development. This will include emphasizing and integrating concern, peace, inclusiveness, equity, collectivity, non-violence as against individualistic, aggressive self-centredness.



NABARD selected AF-EC as a Cluster-Based Business Organisation (CBBO) in Andhra Pradesh for promoting Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs). The Prime Minister had called for the formation of 10,000 new FPOs under Central Sector Scheme for doubling farmers' income. In its role as CBBO, AF-EC promoted five new FPOs.

AF-EC received prestigious awards like the Biodiversity Conserver Award from the Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board, Rythu Nestham Award by Rythu Nestham Foundation and the Best Watershed Award from NABARD, for the Yerraborepalli watershed.

On behalf of the people, staff and the Board of Trustees, I express my heartfelt thanks to Bread for the World, our core partner, for their understanding and continued support of SADLP. I thank the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Azim Premji Foundation, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, Walmart Foundation, NABARD, Fair Climate Network, Agricultural Development and Training Society, Rural Development Trust, Watershed Support Services and Activities Network, Mahila Abhivruddhi Society, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Regional Agriculture Research Stations and a number of activists, friends and well-wishers from CSOs, Government, practitioners and experts who have been with us in our efforts.

I thank all the people, the SMGs, their federations, Farmers' Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies, Watershed Development Committees and other participating groups, who have worked with us during the year.

Last and most important, I thank our Board of Trustees and all our personnel for working with passion in pursuing the organisation's goals and objectives.



Dr. Y.V. Malla Reddy  
Director, Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre

14.10.2022  
*Ananthapuramu*





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Strengthening Rural Livelihoods for 40 years*



## ACCION FRATERNA ECOLOGY CENTRE

**2022-23 will be a year of celebrating AF-EC's achievements of 40 years.**

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre (AF-EC) was founded in June 1982 by Father Vincent Ferrer. It has been serving the rural people and the environment in this chronically drought-prone, arid and semi-arid Ananthapuramu District of Andhra Pradesh.

AF-EC's aim is to achieve livelihood security for drought-affected poor farmers and farm labourers. AF-EC has been working on drought mitigation, climate change resilience, natural resources development, regenerative agriculture and diversified livelihoods to achieve this objective.





## Context of AF-EC's work

**Ananthapuramu District, in the rainshadow of the Deccan plateau, is highly drought prone.** And yet, 90% of rural households are small and marginal farmers or farm labour with approximately 1 million hectares land under cultivation, and supporting the main livelihood of about 0.7 million farming households. 85% farmland is rainfed and vulnerable to the exigencies of uncertain rain and climate change impacts. This makes Ananthapuramu one of the chronically poorer districts of India.

AF-EC's work has been to promote agricultural practices and economy suited to rain-dependent agriculture, drought mitigation and slowing the impacts of desertification. This has meant reversing or halting trends that were detrimental to soil and water usage, including mono-cropping of groundnut, practiced for almost 30-40 years. AF-EC has been encouraging behaviour change with respect to cropping decisions and sustainable farming methods through scientific demonstrations of results, resource access favouring wiser resource use, and through education outreach. The combination of drought and soil degradation has made agriculture a gamble for farmers. There have been only two good crops in the last 20 years, 18 years being drought ravaged.

The demography of Ananthapuramu marginal farmers is Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Other Backward Castes (OBC). They are at the bottom of the social pyramid. There is high vertical economic dependency, which AF-EC is now trying to replace with horizontal, by strengthening mutual cooperation and participation in thrift and credit schemes managed by community-based organisations.

With Covid-19, restriction of movement, and forced reverse migration, farmer families have had to look at their farms for sustenance, even while more farmers, youth and women opted for livelihood diversification as a strategy to cope with uncertain agricultural income. AF-EC's role has been to persuade households towards self-sufficiency. The effort has been to strengthen coping and sustenance mechanisms by encouraging all household members (focus on uneducated, unskilled youth and women) to becoming productive, earning members of society.



## MILESTONES

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1982

**Af-EC founded. Begins work with community organisation:** awareness of government schemes and social mobilisation for collective action. Focus on Dalits and tribal communities.

1986

**Upward social mobility:** landless to landed farmers. AF-EC helps dalits and tribals reclaim and develop virgin, uncultivable land to mainstream them into farming as an enterprise.

1995

**Landscape level ecological** improvements with integrated micro-watershed development following ridge-to-valley treatment covering all farmlands and common lands in a village.

2007

**Sustainable agriculture perspective with focus on long-term goals.** Watershed development with NABARD, IWMP and MGNREGS support.

2008

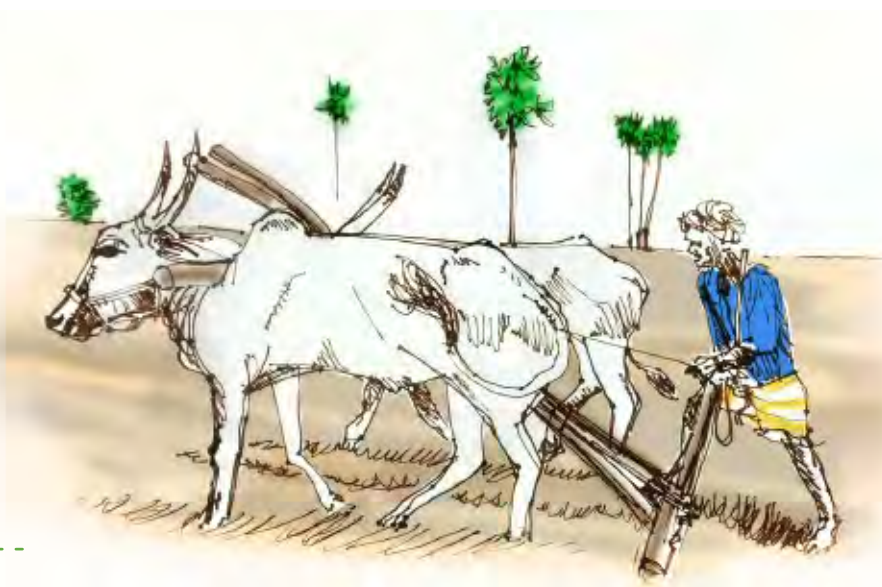
**Livelihoods diversification** to reduce sole dependence on agricultural income. Under-educated youth provided skills training to develop financial self-reliance.

2010

**Consolidation of drought mitigation and climate resilience components** of sustainable agriculture.

2014

**Climate change mitigation** by reducing carbon emission practices. Initiated biogas project under Clean Development Mechanism to generate Carbon Emission Reduction units as carbon revenue for farmers.





1982 to 2022

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*Conserving Natural Resources,  
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— | **2016**

**Income enhancement:** supplementary income from non-farm by women and under-educated youth, and market value chain enhancements for farmers via government schemes and FPOs.

— | **2017**

**Promotion of low chemical input, natural farming** projects.

— | **2018**

**Initiation of agriculture value chain development** project.

— | **2020**

**The year of Covid-19.** Covid relief and rehabilitation. Development of agro-ecological landscapes through rainfed farmer cooperatives.

— | **2021**

**Development of agro-ecological landscapes** through rainfed farmer cooperatives. Vaccination project for Covid-19 prevention initiated.



## Core principles and approach

### Participatory approach, women led

**Developing agro-ecology-based farming systems and practices** to be chemical free, low external input, drought-resilient, food secure, regenerative and remunerative to rainfed small and marginal farmers.

**Promoting natural farming, to be sustainable** in terms of income for farmers, food security, public health, agro-biodiversity and farm-ecology. The focus is to reduce dependence on chemical intensive inputs in irrigated farms.

**Representation to policy forums** for favourable and eco-friendly policy environment, in general, and for farmers, particularly on issues concerning rainfed agriculture, drought mitigation, climate change.

**Diversification of family livelihoods** into new off-farm, non-farm and skill-based sectors with particular focus on women and under-educated youth.

**Promoting farmer owned social enterprises** for agri-processing, value addition and marketing in order to augment farmers income.

**Demonstrating effective agro-ecology rainfed farming systems and practices** to policymakers, CSOs, research bodies and other farmers and lobbying for their scaling up across the state.







## Development led by women

Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre believes that its 30-year focus on *development OF women* must now be termed *development BY women*.

Director, Dr. Malla Reddy, said that development was about more than income enhancement, it was about non-violence, comradery, social and gender equity; economic self-reliance; compassion and caring; it was about unity and collective voicing of concerns; and about using natural resources sparingly and sustainably, nurturing, conserving and protecting Mother Earth. The Director felt that women were best suited to fulfil these objectives.

### Growing women leadership

AF-EC has been transforming its CBOs to women-led, women membership organisations.

- More than 1000 emerging women leaders and change agents
- 91% SMG members are women
- Women leadership at village (Gram Sasya Mitra Samakhya), mandal (MSMS) and project (ASMS) federation levels
- Women leadership and participation at over 60% in Farmer Producer Organisations



Women leading these institutions are enabling participatory development processes. They organised FPO General Body meetings (*Mahasabhas*) and Women's Day and Constitution Day celebrations.

With increased participation in Panchayats and Farmers' Organisations, women get a platform to voice concerns and access government programmes to realise entitlements. These institutions are emerging as the voice of the poor and marginalised, negotiating with government agencies on issues of concern.

### **Women volunteers as facilitators**

A young educated woman is trained to volunteer with her village Sasya Mitra Group and District Sasya Mitra Samakhya. She learns to organise communities, facilitate groups, talk about new technologies in drought mitigation and sustainable agriculture, and can advise on off-farm and non-farm livelihoods and government programmes. These *karyakatha* drive collective action and solidarity among women leaders.





## Visible trends and changes

Participatory approaches that involve informing, educating and persuading all sections of society, take time. We share with you hard-earned wins, which make us happy, after our 40 years of work in Ananthapuramu.

### ↓ Mono-crop of groundnut

The 10 -mixed food crop model with pulses and vegetables is replacing the mono-crop of groundnut in many rainfed plots. This new trend of crop diversification with mixed crops has also brought variety to the family food basket with nutritious millets, pulses and vegetables.



### ↑ Contingency and relay cropping

Fodder crop is being adopted on a large scale as a second crop by farmers. Shepherds and dairy farmers are using leased fallows to cultivate horse gram and jowar. This has reduced summer migration of shepherds for fodder.

### ↓ Use of agro-chemicals

More and more farmers are reducing the usage of hazardous agro-chemicals and shifting to natural farming practices. The process of adoption is slow because of lack of readily available inputs required for natural farming.

### ↑ Conversion to natural farming

Farmers, who have seen the effects of bio-fertilizer Jeevamritham have started preparing and applying Jeevamritham to their crops. However, this process needs facilitation to build farmer confidence and there is severe deficit of sufficient trained staff. Newly recruited staff needs intensive training before they can guide farmers make the switch to natural farming methods.

### ↑ Occupational shifts

More and more rainfed farmers are abandoning agriculture every year because of the uncertainty attached to timely rains. They prefer wage employment, which provides them a comparatively stable, assured income. There is a shift from farming to part-farming and part-labour and wage labour has become the main income source for 80% of rainfed farmers. However, they are willing to grow drought-tolerant tree crops, if provided sufficient support. We need to explore more alternative livelihood opportunities for rainfed farming communities.

### ↑ Livelihood diversification

The dependence of households on farm income, alone, is decreasing. Youth are keen to shift to skill-based occupations. Women are taking up nano-businesses on a part-time basis, with support.



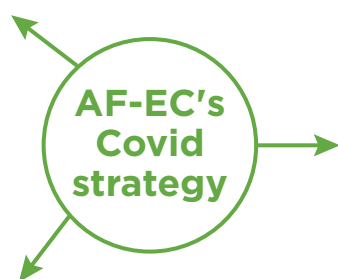
## Covid awareness, relief, rehabilitation

April 2021 onward, there was an upsurge of second wave COVID-19 cases in rural areas. Andhra Pradesh reported more than 20% positivity rate for some time. The rural population had a casual attitude towards precautionary measures and many were hesitant to get vaccinated, swayed by anti-vaccination propaganda and rumours.

### Government-NGO coordination

The Government of Andhra Pradesh designated AF-EC as a nodal NGO for facilitating cooperation and coordination in Covid-19 relief activities in Ananthapuramu District. AF-EC coordinated with 40 NGOs, 1000 CBOs and government functionaries at all levels, including the State Covid Control Office. The AP Government commended AF-EC's contribution to the Covid effort.

**Balanced diet and nutritional security** through nutritional mixed crop farming and kitchen gardens



**Prevention** through promoting awareness on Covid protocols and motivating for vaccination

**Relief and rehabilitation** for those battling Covid or unemployed due to it





## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**1,200 needy households**

provided dry ration kits

**2,100 symptomatic persons** mobilised for testing

**600 medical kits** provided to patients in home isolation

**122 Covid-positive** persons mobilised to Covid Care Centres

**2,00,000 reusable cloth masks** distributed

**2,38,186 individuals**

vaccinated, covering 97% of eligible population

**10,072 farmer households** consumed nutritious balanced diet from home grown crops

**8,216 landless families** consumed vegetables from kitchen gardens

## HOW WE ACHIEVED IMPACTS

**Relief and rehabilitation activities were taken up with the support of Azim Premji Foundation. This included:**

- food rations and health consumables to the most affected households
- creating awareness on Covid-Appropriate Behaviours to prevent spread of infection
- mobilising government support for affected families



### **Mobilising for vaccination**

AF-EC, in collaboration with Azim Premji Foundation, coordinated with NGOs, CBOs, village leaders over a six-month timeline, to help the government achieve vaccination targets of two vaccination doses to those eligible, in the AF-EC project area of 230 villages.

Women *karyakartha* visited 90,398 households, reaching out to every household in their village, and identified 2,45,393 persons eligible for vaccination. By end-March, 2022, they ensured that 97% eligible citizens got both doses of vaccine through vaccination camps, set up in coordination with local health staff. Data on vaccinated individuals enabled follow-up for booster dose.



**Kundurpamma, a volunteer in Kundupi village said,** *“Our survey identified 6458 people who did not want to get vaccinated. Along with Asha workers and SMG leaders, we went to each household and explained to them the need for vaccination, told them about others who had been vaccinated. We could mobilise most of them for vaccination. By end of March 2022, we had 99.5% compliance. We were really happy when our village was declared 100% vaccinated.”*

### **Nutritional security**

AF-EC promoted mixed food crop models with rainfed farmers, and kitchen gardens with the landless, in order to improve the nutritional intake and immunity of the rural families. Read more about this in the next section, on pages 27 and 29, respectively.



## Awards and recognitions



Biodiversity Conserver Award for 2021 to AF-EC from Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (APSBB) on International Biodiversity Day, 22 May 2021, for sustainable use of bio-resources and protecting biodiversity with people's participation.



Yerraborepalli won the Best Watershed Award for 2021-22 from NABARD. The watershed committee received a certificate of appreciation on 18 July 2021, on the occasion of NABARD's 40<sup>th</sup> year celebrations.





Rythu Nestham means *'farmers' friend'*. Dr. Y.V. Malla Reddy was pleased to accept the Rythu Nestham Award from the Vice President of India, Sri Venkaiah Naidu, on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021. This award is given by Rythu Nestham Foundation.

# PROJECTS



## Sustainable Agriculture and Diversified Livelihoods Project

**Brot**  
für die Welt

SADLP is the core project of AF-EC. It is supported by Bread for the World, Germany. SADLP works with small farmers and farm labour in Ananthapuramu, to reduce their vulnerability to drought and improve livelihood security. It employs a participatory approach to implementation, through CBOs led by women and federated at village, mandal and project levels.

SADLP develops and propagates low-cost, drought-resilient agricultural practices and technologies. Interventions that build climate resilience in this drought-prone area—mixed cropping systems, protective irrigation and rainfed horticulture— have been scaled up by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The project also supports livelihood diversification into off-farm and non-farm areas by women and youth, to improve household income flow.





## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**938 Sasya Mitra Groups** in 230 villages

**18,000 women farmers** directly reached through SMGs

**1,00,000 farmers** indirectly benefit

**Rs. 9.5 crores revolving fund** raised through SMG thrift and credit activity

**8,487 farmers** adopt contingency/relay cropping in **8200 ha** of rainfed lands

**5,700 farmers** with irrigated lands adopt natural farming practices for high-value fruits and vegetables, in **3200 ha**

**10,072 farmers** plant a mix of millets, pulses and vegetables with RNNF model

**8,216 landless families** raised homestead kitchen gardens

**1,480 farmers** used protective irrigation to mitigate effects of drought

**900 women** used low-cost farm equipment to reduce drudgery

**18,000 families** improve self-reliance through mutual cooperation

**2,426 youth and women** explored alternative livelihoods



## HOW WE ACHIEVED IMPACTS

### Improved group self-sufficiency

The Rs. 9,50,34,810/- revolving fund has reduced the communities' vertical dependence on exploitative money lenders.

Exchange of labour, inputs and equipment is encouraged among SMG members. This mutual cooperation has enhanced self-reliance and autonomy of poor farmers.

As per the monitoring survey conducted at the end of the year, because of mutual cooperation and the community's ability to access timely input services and credit at low interest rates:

- 10% (1820) farmers saved 15% per annum in cost of agri-operations
- 20% saved 10-15% per annum
- Remaining farmers saved up to 10% in agri-operation costs

### Reduced vulnerability to drought

10,240 small/marginal rainfed farmers adopted at least four of the seven recommended drought mitigation measures, reducing their helplessness in face of drought, and reducing input cost of agriculture. The drought mitigation measures promoted by the project were:

**Rainfed Nutri-Natural Farming (RNNF) model** (*for sustenance and nutritional security*)

**Natural farming practices** (*for lower input costs and lower chemical footprint*)

**Drought resilient crop varieties** (*crop suitability to conditions of soil and water availability*)

**Contingency and relay crops** (*livestock survival through fodder migration months, and second returning monsoon potential*)

**Protective irrigation** (*for critical growth stages of crop during dry months*)

**Farm equipment** (*to reduce drudgery*)

### Enhanced livelihood security through livelihood diversification

- 2426 rural youth (including 1543 women) were provided skills trainings, livelihood support or both. 1480 youth now earn Rs. 3000/- more than they used to
- 27% (655) earning an additional Rs. 6000/- per month
- 34% (825) earning an additional Rs. 3000/- to 6000/- per month



## Drought mitigation interventions for reduced vulnerability

**Rainfed Nutri-Natural Farming:** RNNF is a drought-resilient mixed-food-crop model for rainfed lands, as opposed to crops that require assured water for survival. It was developed by AF-EC to meet household food security and nutritional needs by promoting production of multiple food grains and vegetables on a farm, using natural farming practices.

10,072 farmers adopted this crop diversification model, growing millets, pulses and vegetables in 5,157 ha of rainfed lands. This yielded food grain worth Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 15,000/- to each farm, adding to household nutritional food basket and enriching agro-biodiversity.



Onnuramma from Cholasamudram village in Kuderu mandal is a farmer leader who adopted this cropping model. She said, *“We were all used to monoculture with groundnut crop, until the Ecology Centre made us realize the benefit of mixed food cropping. This year, all SMG members followed the RNNF model on at least one acre. We were able to harvest a variety of food grains, which we are using to meet our domestic needs, and sharing with relatives and friends. Some of us have sold surplus grain. RNNF is far better than groundnut crop, economically, nutritionally and also ecologically.”*

**Contingency and relay crops:** These are a strategy to maximise incomes by growing a second crop for late rains.

8,487 farmers grew horse gram and jowar on 8,200 hectares, which provided adequate fodder for cattle and small ruminants. Shepherd and dairy farmers, who opted for relay crops, saved up to Rs. 10,000/- per hectare. Shepherds did not have to migrate in search of greener pastures in the summer months.

Muthyalanna from Yerragunta village in Dharmavaram mandal has been able to stay on for two seasons. He says, *‘The horse gram crop provides nutritious fodder for four to five months; the animals also gain weight and can thus be sold for a higher price.’*



**Natural farming:** 5,700 farmers adopted natural farming practices in 3200 ha of irrigated lands for high value crops like vegetables, groundnut and fruits.

AF-EC made bio-inputs available in 199 project villages, for practicing farmers, with construction of 644 cow urine pits and 30 NPM shops. AF-EC also provided seed for intercrops.

Almost all the 5700 farmers made an additional income of Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 15,000/- per acre with multiple crop yields and savings on cost of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.



Konda Reddy from Kondapuram village in Rapthadu mandal is a progressive young farmer who is not only practicing natural farming but also advocating it to other farmers. He said, *“Soil fertility improved as we stopped using chemical pesticides and fertilizers. The cost of cultivation came down by at least Rs. 10,000/- per acre. We get to eat healthy food every day, which is a great blessing these days. Though it involves some extra work, natural farming is the best way of farming.”*



**Kitchen gardens:** 8216 families raised homestead kitchen gardens, not using any chemical pesticides. Each family consumed and shared about Rs. 1000/- worth of vegetables per month for 5-6 months. This improved the family's nutrition. AF-EC provided 10,000 kitchen garden seed kits containing 18 varieties of vegetables to these households.



Mrs Jhansi, a SMG leader from Ipperu village in Kuderu mandal, said, *“Thirty families in our BC colony raised kitchen gardens with support from AF-EC. We now have plenty of fresh vegetables to eat and share with neighbours and relatives. We haven’t purchased vegetables since we started kitchen gardens. We saved money; enjoy health and good relations. We also share seeds and help each other.”*

**Protective irrigation:** 1480 farmers saved their crop from moisture stress during long dry spells by providing protective irrigation, practised across 1520 ha. Crop yields were higher by 30% in plots following PI, as compared to control plots. FPOs promoted by AF-EC are providing the protective irrigation equipment on rental basis to farmers in all eight mandals.



**Farm equipment:** 900 women utilized ergonomically designed low-cost farm equipment like cycle weeders, tarpaulins, three-layer bags etc. which reduced drudgery and farming costs. This equipment is available for sale and rent at FPO farmer shops in all eight mandals.



## Buddaiah doddi villag—a model for sustainable livelihoods

Buddaiah Doddi, a remote village in Settur mandal, has 124 households and a population of 435. Of the 496 acres cultivated, tubewells supply irrigation to 121 acres. Groundnut used to be the main crop grown in rainfed lands. Like most of the villages in Ananthapuramu District, rain-dependent farmers in this village too suffered consecutive crop losses due to drought. Fed up with this situation, some families abandoned agriculture and migrated to cities to make a living, others depended on wage labour. Even farmers with irrigation facility were facing losses due to high cost of cultivation.

AF-EC started work here in 2018, forming two SMGs with 40 women members. Monthly thrift and credit was encouraged. Two more groups were formed in 2021, with 30 members. The SMGs have a fund of Rs. 6,00,000/- which they use as revolving credit, a far better option than high-interest money lenders. Members share labour, cattle and farm equipment.

AF-EC facilitated farmers to adopt sustainable agriculture practices, providing onsite training to women farmers through Farmer Field Schools, with essential inputs like



improved seed, on subsidy. The sharing of labour in key operations like sowing, weeding and harvesting, added to farmers' savings on these costs. Every farmer adopted at least four of the recommended seven sustainable agriculture practices promoted by AF-EC.

In the kharif season of 2021, 49 farmers sowed mixed crops with millets and pulses like jowar, bajra, little millet, red gram, cowpea, green gram and field beans in 122 acres. 58 farmers adopted natural farming practices in 142 acres of land. 62 farmers adopted crop rotation. 26 farmers used cycle weeder for weeding.

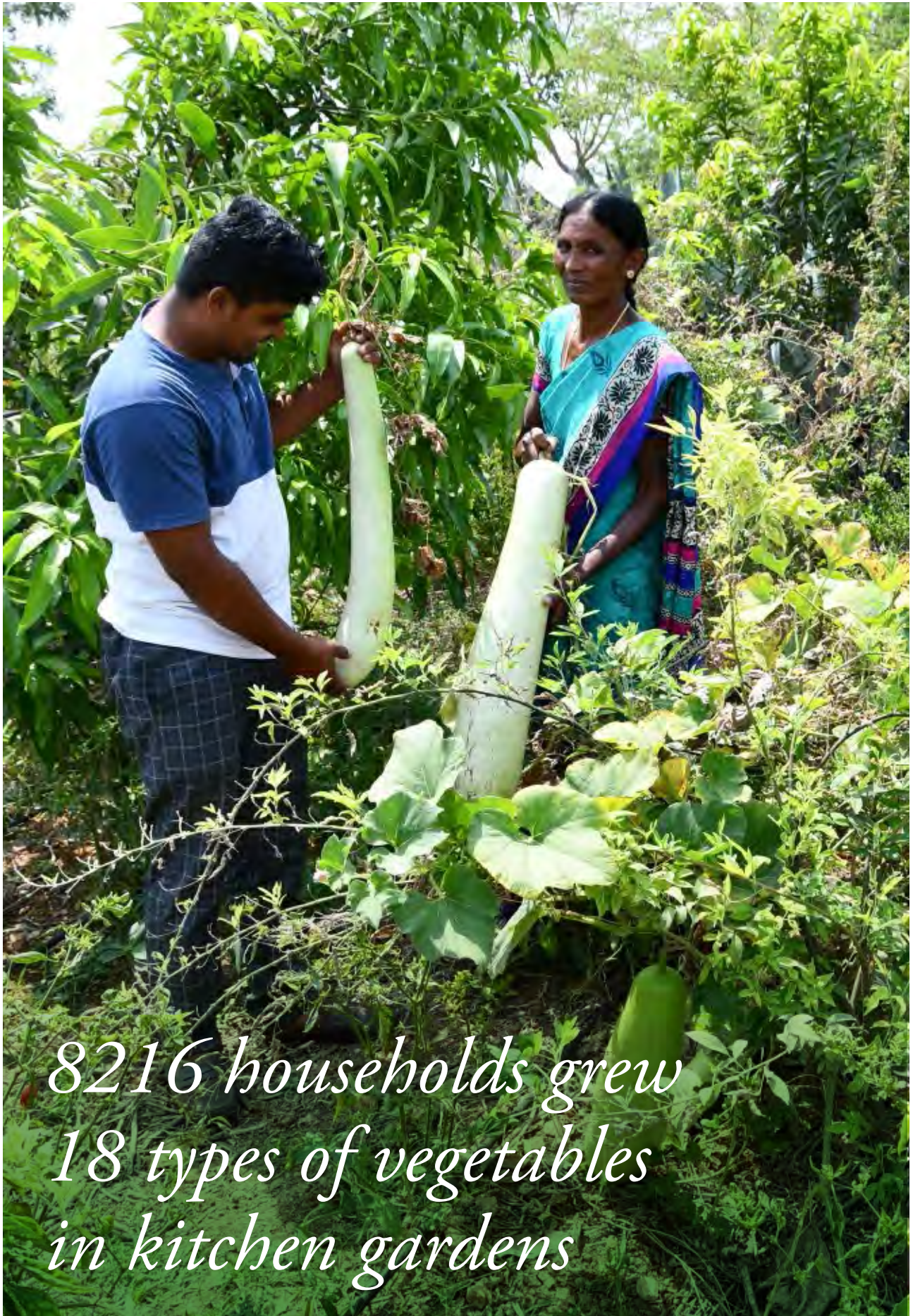
Chittakka, the convener of her GSMS said, *"In our village, we don't hire paid labour for farm operations, but work in each other's farm. We divide into small groups and complete all the work on time in the whole village. This year, in one acre land, I sowed groundnut with red gram, green gram, cowpea, jowar and vegetables. I saved Rs. 6000/- in wage labour. Our family consumed vegetables for five months and a variety of food grain the whole year."*



33 farmers grew horse gram crop as relay crop in 72 acres, calculated to get enough fodder for sheep in summer months. Nagaratnamma, a sub group leader, said, *"After harvesting groundnut, I sowed horse gram as a relay crop in my three-acre plot. We got a good amount of fodder for our sheep and also some grains for the home."*







*8216 households grew  
18 types of vegetables  
in kitchen gardens*





Yerrakka, a SMG member said, *"I raised a kitchen garden in 4 cents of land. AF-EC supplied 10 varieties of vegetable seed at subsidised price. Our five-member family had healthy, chemical free vegetables throughout the year and we saved about Rs. 1200/- every month that we would have spent on vegetables. My husband praised me for providing fresh, tasty and healthy food. My family's health has improved and my children are growing sturdy."*



Nagaveni a SMG member said, *"I took a loan of Rs. 15,000 /- from my SMG, purchased three young ram lambs and reared them for four months. I sold them at Rs. 30,000/-, repaid the SMG loan and purchased three young ram lambs again with the remaining money. I will continue this activity and support my children's education."*



## Community Natural Farming Project

The CNF project aims to bring a paradigm shift from the present chemical-intensive, high-tech, high-cost, green revolution mode of farming to agro-ecology based natural farming, which is low cost, climate-resilient, chemical-free, eco-regenerative and remunerative to farmers.

The project is supported by Azim Premji Foundation, Bengaluru and is part of Andhra Pradesh Community Natural Farming (APCNF) programme implemented by Rythu Saadhikara Samstha (RySS), Guntur. AF-EC is implementing this project in 35 villages in three mandals of Ananthapuramu District with 9,941 farmers, on 37,300 acres of land.







## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**742 farmers**  
converted to natural  
farming across  
**2,528 acres**

**366 acres** of  
agro-ecological  
landscapes  
developed

**2775 farmers**  
partly adopted  
natural farming  
across **8,946 acres**

**5 RFACs**  
facilitated, with  
**87 farmers**

**11,474 acres** of  
land under natural  
farming

**1 FPO** exclusively  
for farmers  
practicing natural  
farming

## HOW WE ACHIEVED IMPACTS

### Promotion of natural farming

**Conversion to natural farming:** Natural farming inputs were made easily available to farmers, at a fair price, through bio-resource centres. Knowledge and skills required were imparted through trainings, Farmer Field Schools and field demonstrations. Farmers report a reduction in input costs and improvement in the quality of produce.



K. Sanna Mallanna from Mahantapuram village in Kundurpi mandal who has been following natural farming methods for two years attests to this, *“I sprayed Jeevamritham every 15 days for the tomato crop. The quality of fruit (colour and shine) improved, which fetched me a better price in the market.”*

**Natural farming in horticulture:** 73 farmers adopted natural farming practices in 148 acres of mango orchards. Manohara, a farmer from Kairevu village in Settur mandal said, *“I adopted natural farming in two acres of mango crop and saved Rs. 20,000/- just by avoiding chemicals pesticides. I did pruning, mulching and applied Jeevamritham every month. The pest incidence has drastically reduced. The quality and quantity of mango yield have improved.”*

**365-days green cover plots:** Promoted in 35 acres of rainfed land belonging to 43 farmers. The objective was to enhance soil fertility, and achieve sustained production of food crops and assured income to farmers through the year. The crops are grown in a continuous relay of millets, pulses and vegetables. This model is technically feasible and economically viable but needs some refinement on practicality for farmers.



Ramakrishna, an enthusiastic farmer from Nijavalli village in Kundurpi mandal has adopted this model in one acre of land. He said, *“We use the vegetables, pulses and millets at home. The soil is rejuvenated, we see earthworms everywhere. It is a feast to the eyes to see flush greenery, colourful birds and friendly insects in my farm.”*

**Rainfed Nutri-Natural Farming:** This mixed food crop model was promoted in 1215 acres of rainfed land belonging to 886 farmers. The farmers had a nutritious diet of food grains like millets, pulses and vegetables. They earned up to Rs. 10,000/- per acre from sale of surplus grain.

### Marketing of natural farm produce

**Formation of FPOs:** Farmers using natural farming methods have one dedicated FPO for processing and marketing of natural farm produce like millets, pulses, groundnut and fruits. The FPO, Sree Anjaneyaswami Sendriya Vyavasaya Raithu Utpathidarula Paraspara Sahayaka Sahakara Sangham Ltd. (Organic farming Farmers’ Mutually Aided Cooperative Society Ltd.), works with organic farmers in five villages of Settur mandal. So far, 382 farmers have been enrolled as shareholders in the FPO, with paid up capital of Rs. 4,20,000/-.

**Market linkages:** 120 farmers from 14 villages of Kundurpi and Settur mandals were linked to Big Basket Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru to sell their naturally grown produce. The farmers realized a 15-20% increase in prices.



## Rainfed farmers Agro-Ecology Cooperatives

*(A new, innovative initiative)*

The objective of Rainfed Farmers Agro-ecology Cooperatives (RFAC) is to make rain-dependent farming drought-resilient and viable for small and marginal farmers. It is a self-sustained, landscape-based, cooperative system of agro-ecological farming, managed by farmers themselves. It helps farmers overcome diseconomies of scale through labour exchange, bulk procurement of inputs, pooling and selling of farm produce etc.

Five RFACs represented by 15 to 20 women farmers were formed in three villages. Two have been registered and three are in the process of registration. Farmers in each RFAC are divided into 3-4 sub-groups for planning farming activities that need mutual cooperation.

Each RFAC developed one landscape of 60 to 115 acres with multiple fruit tree crops in a five-layer model i.e. with three species of fruit plants and two annual crops. In this way, agro-ecology principles were applied across five landscapes, adding up to 366 acres of rainfed land belonging to 87 small farmers. The fruit saplings (mango, jamun, gooseberry, guava) were supplied by SayTrees Environmental Trust, Bengaluru, an organisation working on promotion of agro-forestry.

## The making of a model natural farming village - the case of Kairevu village

Kairevu village of Settur mandal has 522 households, 373 farmer families owning 1293 acres of rainfed land and 282 acres of irrigated land.

### Before 2017 -----

More than 80% farmers cultivated groundnut, incurring losses year after year due to droughts. 30% of these farmers abandoned farming and became wage labourers. Some migrated to cities in search of a living.

### 2017 -----

AF-EC started promoting climate-resilient cropping and natural farming methods in the rabi season and introduced rainfed farmers to climate adaptation practices like crop diversification with mixed cropping systems, protective irrigation, use of drought resistant varieties etc.

- 87 farmers (23%) joined, using 360 acres of land
- AF-EC trained 14 master farmers, who in turn guided other farmers on the practices of climate-resilient natural farming
- 12 farmers raised five-layer fruit tree plantations in 43 acres of rainfed land and provided protective irrigation through farm ponds



## Rabi 2020

AF-EC promoted climate-resilient natural farming more persuasively with awareness campaigns, wall paintings and exposure visits. Regular Farmer Field Schools, trainings and participatory field demonstrations were conducted. A Bio-resource Centre was established in the village for technical support and timely supply of organic inputs like solid and liquid Jeevamritham, pest control mechanical devices and herbal concoctions. AF-EC provided inputs like seed, bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides on subsidy to motivate farmers.

## March 2022

- 282 farmers (76%) are now practicing natural farming in 1,180 acres.
- Cost of cultivation has come down from about Rs. 16,000/- to Rs. 11,500/- per acre
- Gross income has increased from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 25,000/- per acre
- ROI increased from Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 11,500 per acre
- Cost-benefit ratio,  $\sim 0.25$  for an average crop year has gone up to 0.92
- 162 kitchen gardens feed the village nutritious, chemical free vegetables. Surplus is sold. Farmers have added chemical-free millets and pulses to their food intake
- AF-EC expects to convert 90% farmers to climate-resilient natural farming by end of 2023





**Mr. Setla Gangappa** says, *“I have two acres of rainfed land. I incurred losses in groundnut crop for six years continuously and left my land fallow for two years in 2019 and 2020. I worked as wage labourer to support the family. My self-esteem took a nose dive!*

*In 2021, with guidance from AF-EC, I decided to try the mixed cropping model promoted by them. AF-EC provided me seed, Jeevamritham, neem oil and herbal concoctions at subsidised prices. I grew castor with red gram, green gram, cowpea and sesame as intercrops. My investment was Rs.15,500/- and crop income was Rs. 45,200/-. I earned a net profit of Rs. 29,700/-, because of which I could support the education of my two children and provide them food and clothes. I will happily follow this cropping model in the years to come.”*



Another rainfed farmer, **Mr. Sampath**, said, *“The mixed cropping system with food crops, five-layer fruit tree model, natural farming practices and protective irrigation, all the four put together have helped me in drought years. The farm pond in my land filled twice last year from which I could provide protective irrigation to the fruit plants. I am happy that I have found a way to get crop yields even in drought years.”*





G. Anusuyamma is a woman farmer adopting natural farming practices. She said, *"I raised a kitchen garden in 10 cents of land. AF supplied nine varieties of vegetable seed and liquid Jeevamritham at subsidised price. Our five-member family consumed Rs.8,000/- worth of healthy, chemical-free vegetables throughout the year, besides earning an extra income of Rs. 8,740/- from sale of vegetables. My family health has improved; my children are growing. I also earn enough to pay for my family's petty expenses."*

## Alternative Livelihoods Project for rural women

Supported by  
Mrs. Anupama V Nadella

Promoting Alternative/Additional Livelihoods for Rural Women from Families of Rainfed Farmers and Farm Labour in Ananthapuramu District or, the Alternative Livelihoods Project. Mrs. Anupama V Nadella supports this project. It aims to build social standing, self-respect and dignity in rural women.

The goal of the project is to help SMG women members supplement household income with entrepreneurial non-farm and off-farm income generation activities. It strengthens SMGs by creating opportunities for them to improve financial resources, function effectively and access government programmes and other opportunities for their development.

Direct project objectives are:

- To generate additional income of Rs. 60,000/- per year per woman, for 3000 SMG women
- Strengthen and consolidate 600 SMGs in the process





## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**150 women** initiated non-farm enterprises and improved their household incomes

**Rs. 2.26 crore funding assistance** for women's non-farm initiatives

**Rs. 3000/- to Rs 7500/- additional monthly income** earned by women

**100%** revolving **loan recovery rate**

**418 SMGs** with 8300 women members strengthened





## HOW WE ACHIEVED IMPACTS

### Additional income generation

The project provided funding assistance of Rs. 94,65,000/- to 1301 women from 418 SMGs in 147 villages for establishing off-farm and non-farm income generation activities. The SMGs contributed an equal matching amount from their savings. This made Rs. 1,89,30,000/- available for setting up income generating initiatives.

The category of ‘most vulnerable’ women—widows, single women and physically challenged—was prioritised. 152 such women were supported for income generation activities.

A monitoring survey at the end of the year revealed that

- 6% women are earning more than Rs. 6000/- per month
- 37% are earning between Rs. 3000/- and Rs. 6000/-
- 57% women are earning Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 3000/- per month

The additional monthly incomes increase progressively, as women gain experience in running their business.

Loan recovery rate is 100%. The recovered amount is revolved as loan to other women in the group, for livelihood activities. 204 women from 93 SMGs in 58 villages were provided such loans from the ALP recovery amounts. Thus, a total of 1505 women got a boost to begin a new way of earning.

110 women were given skills training in tailoring, phenyl making and millet-based snacks. These women too took loans from ALP to start their own ventures.

The women feel empowered because they are now not dependent on only wage labour. They feel more respected at home. Their opinions and ideas carry importance in family decisions like crop choices, children’s education, health and other financial matters. Many of them are able to feed their children better and send them to better schools.



ALP has raised the aspirations of rural women. They now see themselves as entrepreneurs, not as vulnerable daily wage labourers. Some women have approached banks for bigger loans to further improve their businesses. Their knowledge, skills and business networks have improved. They are able to negotiate better and assert themselves with confidence.



## Strengthening of SMGs

Of a total of 938 SMGs, ALP covered 418 'A' grade SMGs in FY 2021-22. The assessment of SMGs is a continuous process and achieving 'A' grade makes an SMG eligible for ALP. About 300 SMGs are expected to achieve 'A' grade soon.

The project promotes self-sufficiency: the reasons for loans are, increasingly, for income generation than for consumption. SMGs are managing thrift and revolving credit more effectively, exhibiting improved participation in group meetings. Group discipline has improved and members cooperate with each other, resolving conflicts amicably. Members feel a high sense of ownership and belonging.

*"I am Peddamma from Borampalli village, Kalyandurgam mandal. There are five Sasya Mitra Groups in our village. At one time they had irregular meetings, thrift activities and loan recoveries. I took the initiative and discussed with SMG members about the importance of proper functioning. I participated in all SMG meetings. Gradually the SMGs started functioning regularly. I was selected as representative for the Mandal Sasya Mitra Samakhya from our village. I spoke to the government's Rythu Bharosa Kendra staff and facilitated RBK schemes for our sangha members. I encouraged young people to join skills trainings provided by AF-EC. Now these youth, including my son, are employed and earning well."*

## Social impact of ALP

Women make up 91%: 16,526 of 18,197 members, and more are coming forward to join or form new SMGs; and SMGs are proactively addressing problems faced by women.



*"I am Ramakka from Pampanuru village, Atmakuru mandal. There are six SMGs in our village. I am the convener of SC labour group and also board member of FPO, Atmakuru mandal. I am illiterate but can talk to any officer, regarding anything. I learnt this by attending meetings and participating in them actively. My family considers AF-EC as our well-wisher and supports me when I need to attend meetings. Our village has benefitted a lot from AF-EC interventions with ICRISAT, NABARD, the SADLP programme, ALP loans etc. Any officer, who comes to our village, first meets me. I am grateful to AF-EC for training me and motivating me to become a leader in my village. I will keep learning and also work for the betterment of my community."*

Thrift and credit activity in SMGs have augmented the financial resources at the groups' disposal to Rs. 9,50,34,810/-. Horizontal dependence, with mutual cooperation and CBO services, is overtaking dependence on money lenders and big farmers. There is a feeling of solidarity and collective strength. Along with socio-economic status, women's self esteem has also improved. They have begun to play a more assertive role at home and in the community.

*"I am Vanuramma from Yerraborepalli village, Settur mandal. I have been actively participating in AF-EC programmes for ten years. I am a member of the watershed committee and also a board of directors member of Settur FPO. I actively participate in all meetings. There are five SMGs in our village. Sixteen women have taken ALP loans for businesses. All the women in our village respect me as I stand by them in difficult times, especially when they have marital problems. I am getting old, so I am encouraging new women leaders. I take young women to MSMS and FPO meetings."*



## Emerging women leadership in CBOs, FPOs and PRIs

There are more than 1000 women change agents and leaders in SMGs. Some of them hold key positions in Gram Panchayats, Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies and Farmer Producer Organisations. Women leadership has strengthened in SMGs and in federations at village (Gram Sasya Mitra Samakhya), mandal (Mandal Sasya Mitra Samakhya) and project (Apex Sasya Mitra Samakhya) levels. Women leadership and participation has increased to over 60% in FPOs. These community institutions, led by women, are enabling participatory development processes at all levels.



*“My name is Peddakka. I live in Ipperu village in Kuderu mandal. I am convener of the MSMS and FPO leader in Kuderu mandal. I am illiterate and belong to the SC community. With AF-EC’s support, I could lead the sangha federations and actively conduct businesses through our FPO. I have an identity and respect in the mandal. Sangha members regularly come to me for advice and support. I encouraged my daughter and daughter-in-law to work as karyakarthas in AF-EC villages. I talk to Government officers and get entitlement and schemes for our sanghas and FPOs. I am respected in my family, am consulted in taking family decisions. If not for AF-EC, I would have remained a shy, unconfident daily wage labourer.”*

*“I am Hanumakka from Apilepalli village in Kundurpi mandal. I am the convener of Father Ferrer Rainfed group and also co-convener of Kundurpi MSMS. Earlier, I used to argue in the sangha only for something I wanted. I learnt through trainings how to prioritise. Now, as a leader, I give precedence to single women and physically handicapped in programmes.”*

## Lessons learnt and aspects to be improved

- Rural poor women lack education and exposure and are hesitant to start something new. They prefer wage employment, which involves no risk. It is a challenge to build an entrepreneurial attitude among them.
- Some businesses, like petty shops, tailoring etc., are reaching saturation level in villages. We are exploring new opportunities at another level like agri-value chain development, garment business etc., by converging with government and banks.

*“I am Nagalakshmi from Kalagalla village in Kuderu mandal. I am a smallholder farmer owning four acres of rainfed land. We own three buffalos and 15 sheep.*

*I am a member of Harika SMG, which consists of 30 women like me. Our SMG has been saving monthly and lending internally since 2015. Our group fund has increased to Rs. 11,83,000/-.*

*We provide loans of more than Rs. 50,000/- to members, as per their needs. The Alternative Livelihoods Project also opened up loans for new businesses. So every member in our SMG now has two or more income sources, one from agriculture and another from off-farm or non-farm activities. We need not go to any bank for loans as we have adequate funds available with us... Our group is like a family, we support each other in times of need and in celebrations. We have learnt a lot from the sangha. Our family incomes have doubled and livelihoods are secure.”*





*Mrs. Lakshmakka, another member said, “My family has five acres of rainfed land, which we had left fallow following consecutive crop failures. My husband and I used to work as wage labour to support our family. Two years back, I took a loan from the group and dug a borewell. We got sufficient water for two acres. We grow vegetables, groundnut and red gram, providing micro irrigation. In the remaining land, we grow mixed food crops of millets, pulses and oil seeds. The group provided me a loan to purchase three milch animals and 15 sheep. Now I have multiple income sources: from agriculture, dairying and from sheep. We have enough to do in our farm and need no longer need to seek wage employment. The SMG has changed my life and my family’s.”*



*Another member, Mrs. Nagamani, said, “We don’t own land. I raised a kitchen garden in 20 cents near our home. This year, our five-member family consumed Rs. 10,000/- worth of healthy, fresh, chemical-free vegetables, besides earning an extra income of Rs. 5,740/- from the sale of vegetables. I took a loan from my sangha and purchased a sewing machine. I also sew clothes and run a saree business. Now I earn enough to send my children to school and pay for the family’s petty expenses.”*

## Accion Fraterna Youth Resource Centre

The AF Youth Resource Centre aims at creating better employment opportunities for educated and under-educated rural youth, making them productive members of society, broadening income sources of drought-affected farming households, and improving household income security.

AF YRC's two-step strategy is to provide rural youth with vocational and life skills, then support them in finding employment or starting their own enterprise. AF YRC maintains a database of rural youth and conducts regular job fairs to bring trained youth and potential employers on the same platform for placements.





## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**13 job fairs**  
conducted

**13 recruiting firms**  
participated:  
Arunachala  
Logistics, SELCO,  
Navgurukul  
Foundation, HCL,  
Nudge Foundation,  
ICICI Bank,  
Apollo Hospital

**1080 youth**  
**participated** in  
job fairs

**401 youth placed**  
at job fairs, at  
emoluments  
ranging from  
Rs. 8,000/- to  
Rs. 25,000/- per  
month (**251 men +**  
**150 women**)

**683 rural youth**  
trained by AF YRC

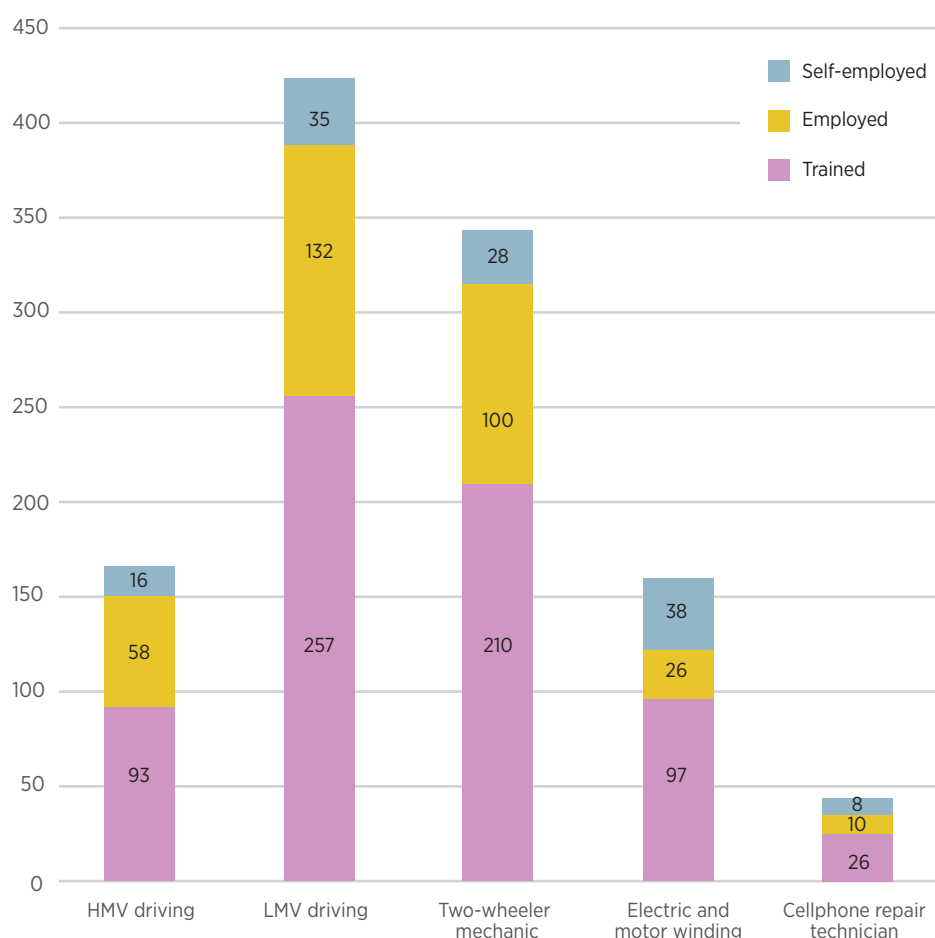
**475 skilled youth**  
earning Rs. 5000/-  
to Rs. 15,000/- per  
month (332 wage  
employment + 125  
self employed)



## HOW WE ACHIEVED IMPACTS

There is a high demand for AF YRC's short-term vocational courses, conducted at its training centres in Ananthapuramu and Kalyandurgam. The courses cover:

- Driving school for HMV and LMVs
- Mechanic's course
- Mobile phone repair course
- Electrician and motor rewinding



Trainees also undergo personality development, work behaviour, spoken English, customer care, first aid, awareness on AIDS, soft skills and work-related training to help build confidence and understand job priorities.

B. Obulesu from Vasanthapuram village, Dharmavaram mandal comes from a very poor family. Both his parents work as daily wage labour. Obulesu could not complete graduation due to financial problems. He is married and has three children. His wife also works as agriculture labour. Obulesu worked as assistant to a lorry driver for four years. He joined HMV driving at AF YRC in September 2021 and got a heavy vehicle driving license after completing the course. Then he took a loan from a finance company and purchased an Eicher truck for transporting goods. He earns about Rs. 50,000/- per month and pays an EMI of Rs. 30,000/- per month.



B. Mahesh is from Kondapuram village. His father Pullanna, sells milk and mother, Jayamma works as daily wage labour. His brother runs a *kirana* shop in the village. Mahesh discontinued his studies after 10th standard and worked as a helper in a two-wheeler repair shop, earning Rs. 6000/- per month. Then he joined two-wheeler mechanic training at AF YRC, Kalyandurgam. After completing the course, he opened his own shop in his village. AF YRC provided him a tool kit and he purchased some more equipment for the workshop. He now earns Rs. 15,000/- to Rs. 18,000/- a month. He is planning to buy an air compressor and shift the shop to the main road for better business.



B. Sathyanarayana Reddy from Beluguppa village completed his graduation but was unable to find a job due to lack of skills. His father is a small-acreage farmer and sole earning member of the family. Reddy learnt mobile phone repair at the Kalyandurgam centre, and developed confidence in himself. He says, *“My shop is called Venkat mobile showroom. It is in Belguppa. I sell mobiles and do servicing and repair for all kinds mobile phones. I earn Rs. 1000/- a day and also provide employment to one person.”*



## Farmer Producer Organisations

AF-EC is promoting FPOs as social enterprises. In the last five years, AF-EC has promoted nine FPOs in its operational area of eight mandals and enrolled 5688 SMG members as shareholders. These FPOs are registered as cooperatives under Andhra Pradesh Mutually Aided Cooperative Act. A federation of these FPOs is registered as Rythu Nestham Food Producer Company Limited (RNFPCL) under Producers Companies Act.



The objectives of the FPOs are:

- to provide timely farming-related services at a fair price
- to get farmers better prices in the market through better bargaining power and value addition to agricultural produce
- to link farmers to government schemes that benefit them
- to increase farmer participation by promoting cooperation and a sense of collective ownership





## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**9 Farmer  
Producer  
Organisations**

**4 primary  
processing  
units**

**5 new FPOs**  
promoted as  
CBBO under  
CSS

**1 secondary  
processing  
unit**

**7300  
shareholders**



## HOW WE ACHIEVED IMPACTS

### **Institutional linkages**

FPOs provide fair price services and inputs to farmers through Custom Hiring Centres (CHC) and farmer shops. They are registered on online marketing platforms like Origo, e-mandi and agri bazaar. This year, market linkages were made with buyers like Swach Khadyam and Safe Harvest for commodity trading.

NABARD supported five FPOs with equity grant and management assistance. ICRISAT supported the remaining four FPOs and RNFPCCL, primarily for value chain development i.e. processing and value addition.

RNFPCCL got approvals to construct a secondary processing unit for value-added groundnut-based confectionary items, ready-to-cook millets and pulses-based products at Muddalapuram village in Kuderu mandal. The construction is nearing completion and the unit aims to be functional from August 2022.







### Cluster Based Business Organisation for promoting FPOs

AF-EC was selected as one of the CBBOs in Andhra Pradesh for promoting FPOs. As part of Atmanirbhar Bharat, the Prime Minister called for formation of 10,000 new FPOs under the Central Sector Scheme of doubling farmers' income. NABARD, NCDC and SFAC were appointed as implementing agencies. These agencies have, in turn, selected NGOs as CBBOs, following a competitive bidding process. The CBBOs will work with FPOs for five years and promote FPOs as per the guidelines of the CSS.

As CBBO, AF-EC facilitated the formation of five FPOs.

FPO Sree Anjaneyaswami Sendriya Vyavasaya Raithu Utpathidarula Paraspara Sahayaka Sahakara Sangham Ltd has been established in five villages in Settur mandal. It is organic farming focused and has 306 shareholders.

Srama Jeevana Raithula Paraspara Sahayaka Sahakara Sangham Ltd works with groundnut and horticulture farmers and has 391 farmer shareholders across five villages in Kuderu mandal. Both have acquired licenses to start farmer shops for providing services to farmers. The baseline and diagnostic study were completed for both these FPOs and the first instalment fund has been received.

NABARD sanctioned three new FPOs, to be formed in Kundurpi, Beluguppa and Atmakuru mandals. Community mobilisation and organisation work has started. The promoters' board has been formed and application for registration has been submitted to the District Cooperative officer.

For more details on FPOs, turn to page 87 in Annexures.

# Accelerating Value Chain Benefits for Improved Income for Farmers and Nutrition for Consumers



The project aims to enhance the livelihoods of smallholder farmer producers through interventions at various levels in the agriculture value chain. It works with FPOs and their 6000 member-farmers to accelerate benefits through new agricultural technologies, agri-processing, value addition and improved access to nutritious food.

ICRISAT is the project lead, AF-EC is the implementation partner, and Walmart Foundation is the funding partner.





## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**9 FPOs** with **6832** shareholders

**146 participatory demonstrations** organised with improved seed varieties and mixed-crop models

**1034 farmers** with irrigation practiced natural farming and intercropping in **1266 acres**

**4 primary processing units** for groundnut and red gram at a capacity of **18 MTs** per day

**1 secondary processing unit** with six value added product lines and capacity of **3 MTs** per day will start production from July 2022

**1210 kitchen gardens** provided chemical-free vegetables to **6200** individuals

## HOW WE ACHIEVED IMPACTS

### Agri-processing and value addition

- The four Primary Processing Centres (PPC) procured 130.5 MTs of groundnut and 14.72 MTs of red gram from 86 farmers, processed and sold it for a profit of Rs. 3,61,754/-. The PPCs also processed 96.3 quintals of groundnut for 18 shareholder farmers with service charge of Re. 1/- per kg. This year, the PPCs provided 494 days of wage employment to FPO members.
- Rythu Nestham Food Producer Company Ltd, registered in 2019 under Producer Companies Act, is a federation of nine FPOs led by women farmers. It got all its approvals and started construction of a secondary processing unit at Muddalapuram village in Kuderu mandal. The construction, in built-up area of 1,016.54 sq mts, is nearing completion and expected to be functional from July 2022. This unit will support farmers from the district with new livelihood and market access opportunities through value-added groundnut, millet and other nutritious products. The facility will be equipped with six processing lines, which will produce highly nutritious millet- and pulse-based ready-to-cook and ready-to-eat products such as traditional khichdi and upma mixes, high oleic groundnut products—nutrition bars (chikki), cookies, snacks and savouries, and healthy cold pressed groundnut oil.
- Eight FPOs were registered on online marketing platforms Origo, e-mandi and agri bazaar. Agreements were made with two buyers, Swach Khadyam and Safe Harvest, for purchase of agri produce directly from FPO shareholders.
- Two surveys were conducted: *Covid-19 induced disruptions along the value chain: recovery and resilience building among the Walmart project beneficiaries*, with 140 FPO members; and *Changes in rural non-farm livelihoods post Covid-19*, with 270 women members.







### **New technologies and practices for improving crop production**

- Introduced two new foxtail millet varieties, Garuda and Renadu, with 38 farmers in 39 acres of rainfed lands in kharif 2021. The average yield per acre was 2.5 quintals, which is 60% higher than other foxtail millet varieties. These new varieties have shown better resistance to drought and gave better yields. These will be scaled up with more farmers.
- Seed multiplication of high yielding groundnut variety, Kadiri Lepakshi-1812, was carried out with seven farmers in ten acres of rainfed land. The average yield achieved per acre was three quintals, which is 20% higher than other groundnut varieties. This variety has better pod yield and good resistance to diseases and pests.
- Natural farming practices and intercropping was promoted with 1034 farmers in 1266 acres of irrigated lands in the rabi 2021 season. Usually farmers sow mono-crop of groundnut crop in irrigated lands. The project motivated farmers to practice biological pest control and agri-biodiversity with intercrops like sesame, mustard and cowpea; bajra and jowar were border crops. This helped to manage pests and diseases effectively without pesticides, saved costs and fetched an additional income of Rs. 6,000/- to Rs. 8,000/- per acre.

### **Improving food security and nutrition**

- Mixed cropping system was promoted with 100 farmers in 100 acres with pulses, millets, and vegetables, to improve food and nutritional security.
- Kitchen gardens were promoted with 1210 farmers, with leafy greens and vegetables, to improve food and nutritional security.
- Training on nutritional aspects like balanced diet, importance of millets and fresh vegetables was provided to 1295 women farmers. Of them, 1160 have started nutri-kitchen gardens with project support. These families consumed chemical- and pesticide-free, vegetables and saved Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 1200/- per month.

## Participatory Watershed Development projects



AF-EC is facilitating two participatory watershed development projects with financial support from NABARD. The Yerraborepalli watershed received the Best Watershed Award for the year 2021-22 from NABARD.

Project objectives are:

- To develop and conserve natural resource endowments like water, soil and vegetation
- Improve the carrying capacity of eroded or degraded lands
- Promote climate-resilient cropping systems, including fruit trees
- Promote natural farming
- Promote innovative farming technologies and practices
- Build the capacities of farmers and watershed committees





## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**2 Village  
Watershed  
Development  
Committees**

**5 villages**

**1250  
households**  
included in  
2250 ha of  
catchment area  
to be treated

**952 ha** of land  
treated

**8000 RMTs** of  
earthen  
bunding

**130 stone  
outlets**  
constructed

**10 farm ponds**  
constructed

**4 check dams**  
constructed

**150 acres** of  
climate-resilient  
dryland  
horticulture  
established



## Project details

### Yerraborepalli Watershed

*Project period:* July 2020 to June 2024

*Cost outlay:* Rs. 1.92 crores

*Villages covered:* Yerraborepalli and Kambalapalli

*Mandal:* Settur

*Treatment area:* 1150 hectares

*Target group:* 600 households

*Status:* Capacity Building Phase completed, Full Implementation Phase (FIP) begun

### Apilepalli Watershed

*Project period:* July 2021 to June 2025

*Cost outlay:* Rs. 1.85 crores

*Villages covered:* Apilepalli, Janampalli and Mandalapalli

*Mandal:* Kundurpi

*Treatment area:* 1100 hectares

*Target group:* 650 households

*Status:* In the Capacity Building Phase. Treatment works have been completed in 100 acres with the first instalment of Rs 12,00,000/-. Feasibility report and proposal for FIP is being prepared.









## HOW WE ACHIEVED IMPACTS

### **Inclusive approach**

A participatory approach was adopted. An inclusive Village Watershed Development Committee (VWDC), with due representation from all sections of the village like SCs, STs, small farmers and labour, was formed by the Gram Sabha.

### **Autonomous body**

VWDCs are registered bodies responsible for planning and implementation of the project (including its financial management). The VWDCs in both villages, unanimously selected by Gram Sabhas, comprise entirely of women members. VWDCs have bank accounts (operated by office bearers) which receive the project funds directly from NABARD. AF-EC provides technical and facilitation support to VWDCs.

### **Implementation**

Soil and moisture conservation, gully treatment, rainwater harvesting, farm forestry, dryland horticulture with indigenous fruit trees, fodder development, diversified cropping systems, crop rotation, natural farming, protection of common lands through social fencing and seed dibbling were taken up in both watersheds.

These projects have helped conserve top soil, improved surface water storage, revived groundwater table, enhanced land under irrigation and improved soil organic carbon and crop productivity, achieved through activities listed above, and through farming decisions suited to the conditions of rainfed, like climate resilient horticulture, agro-biodiversity with mixed crops of millets and pulses, improved green cover through farm forestry. To address the risk associated with drought, the project also promoted off-farm and non-farm livelihoods to stabilise farmer livelihoods.



*“My borewell is recharged after the construction of a check dam near my farm. I started farming again, after five years. My wife and I also work as wage labour in the watershed project and together earn Rs 16,000/- per month. We do not feel the need to migrate to Bangalore anymore,” said Bhuswami, a smallholder farmer from Yerraborepalli.*

*“I have one hectare of rainfed land, but left it fallow and was working as daily wage labour. The watershed project provided me with 150 mango grafts and 20 tamarind plants, which I look after with mulching, fencing and regular watering. I feel proud owning a mango garden and am confident that it will protect my family with assured income in future,” said Manjunatha, another smallholder farmer from Yerraborepalli village.*



## Accion Fraterna Biogas Clean Development Mechanism Project



United Nations  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change

This is an ongoing climate change mitigation project started in October 2014. The project objective is to generate tradable Gold Standard Carbon Emission Reductions (CERs) by replacing fuelwood, used for cooking, with renewable biogas. AF-EC had registered the project under Clean Development Mechanism with the UNFCCC.

This project has been financed through the forward sale of 66,523 yet-to-be-generated Gold Standard CERs, to the Fair Climate Network for a sum of Rs. 8.5 crore, of which Rs. 7.85 crore has been received and spent in the project. The arrangement is that these GS CERs will not be traded in the international carbon market. Instead, they will be retired in the UNFCCC Retirement Registry, acknowledging the contribution of IndiGo, India's largest domestic airline, for them to demonstrate their commitment to maintain climate integrity.





## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**173 villages**

**93%  
functioning**

**15,000  
population**

**63,608  
tCO<sub>2</sub>-e  
generated**

**3,356 rural  
households**

**40,397 CERs  
verified and  
retired**

**3,356 biogas  
units** replace  
fuelwood



This project is managed by a climate team comprising five case workers supported by the FCN facilitator. Apart from daily monitoring through village volunteers and regular village visits, they found 4,180 minor and major problems and fixed 3,766. The overall functionality of biogas units stands at 93%.

The mandatory third-party verifications are conducted by UNFCCC accredited carbon auditors. The climate team has assisted in three such verifications for evaluating the generated CERs, last being in mid-2021. For more details, please visit <https://fairclimate.com/projects/af/>

*“Biogas has removed the drudgery of collecting firewood and saved us cost of LPG. With more free time, I stitch clothes and also work as village volunteer. This increase in income has allowed us to send our kids to an English Medium school. It has been my dream to send my children to a convent school. I am also able to help my children in their studies,” said R. Nirmalamma from Yerronipalli village in Battalapalli mandal.*

*“Biogas has eliminated air pollution in the home and improved our family’s health. Now the smoke does not make our eyes water. I don’t have to kneel over an open fire, blowing through a pipe continuously. Cooking is easier, enjoyable and takes lesser time. I have time to attend events in the village, where I can socialise. Biogas has made my life happier,” said Anusuyamma, Kanumukkala village of CK Palli mandal.*

*“Biogas provided a clean kitchen with less smoke and made cooking a pleasure. Life has become easy with access to energy at the turn of a knob. I spend less time in the kitchen and have time to take care of children and elders in the family. My husband is using the biogas slurry as manure. He says that it is far superior to farmyard manure and boosts crop production,” M. Ramanjinamma from Malempalli village in Kothacheruvu mandal.*

*“The biogas has changed my life. Now I cook in half the time without burning my eyes and lungs. I am able to provide my children with hot meals without any smoke in the kitchen. There is no worry of fuelwood and I am able to spend time with my family. I am concentrating on generating additional income for my home,” said C. Sunitha from Obuladevarapalli in Kothacheruvu mandal.*







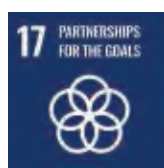
## Biodiversity Conservation Project



AF-EC received the Biodiversity Conserver Award for 2021 from the Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (APSBDB) on 22 May 2021, International Biodiversity Day, for promoting conservation and for protection of biodiversity with people's participation. The award included a grant of Rs 2,40,000/- for promoting home herbal and nutritional gardens in Ananthapuramu District, in order to improve health and nutrition in the rural population.

AF-EC promoted herbal home gardens in Kalyandurgam, Beluguppa, Kundurpi and Settur mandals, mainly with landless households of SC/ST communities. AF-EC ran an awareness education campaign with women, provided a kit of 12 herbal seedlings and 15 varieties of vegetable seed to each household. Gram Panchayats and Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) helped identify the families and establish the herbal gardens.

APSSB also assigned AF-EC a nursery project to raise 1,20,000 native medicinal plants for distribution to BMCs in other mandals of Ananthapuramu. AF-EC raised 15 varieties of medicinal plants in its central nursery and supplied them to concerned BMCs.





## IMPACTS ACHIEVED

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**20 Gram Panchayats** covered

**4260 households** raised home herbal gardens benefitting a population of **20,000**

**50,000 medicinal herbs** raised in home herbal gardens

**120,000 native medicinal plants** supplied to other BMCs in the district



# HUMAN RESOURCES



Our organisation is a dynamic social system evolved to work with disadvantaged people and nature. Our approach to work is based on personal concern for the well-being of people and nature. AF-EC is a repository of deep-rooted values, culture and ethos of development thinking and practice. Our organisational systems, culture, and practices have been developed and upgraded over five decades of work with the people and natural resources of Ananthapuramu District. Participatory decision making, honesty, sincerity, transparency, accountability, sensitivity towards gender, social equity, team work and inclusiveness define our culture and values.

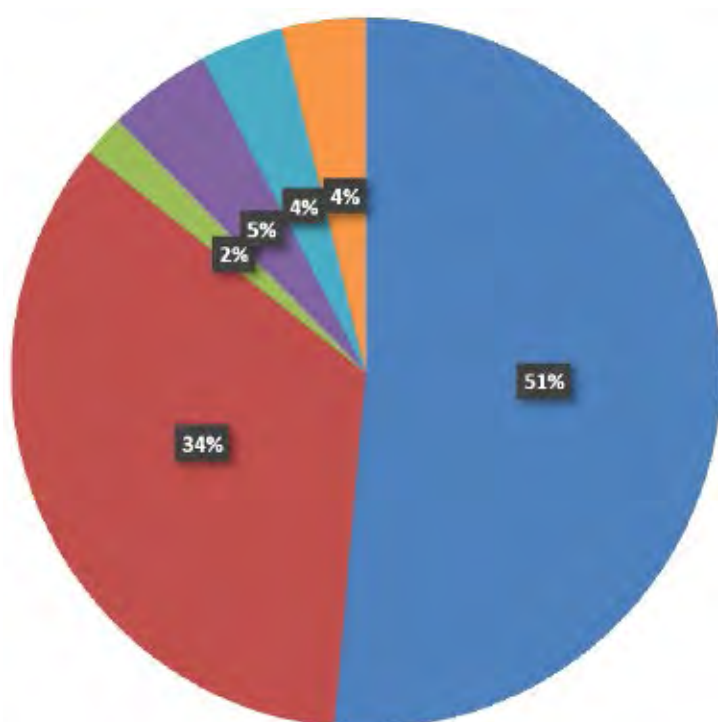
We believe that human resource is the most precious resource of the organisation. We believe in an inclusive and strong participatory approach in decision-making and management. In following a 'system thinking' approach, we recognised the interconnectedness between the roles of personnel and sectors of their work. Thereby a continuous process of cordiality, communication, coordination, confirmation, conflict resolution between personnel is inbuilt at all levels, horizontally and vertically.

Our second line leadership includes a dozen qualified multi-disciplinary professionals with convergence of complementary strengths. It has conceptual clarity and hands-on experience in natural farming, drought mitigation, natural resources management, watershed development, people's institutional development, community organisation, gender, rural livelihoods, human resources management, project management, monitoring and evaluation, financial management etc. Our middle level and grassroots staff are trained and experienced in social skills, social mobilisation and CBO facilitation as well as in technical aspects of interventions. They are all from rural backgrounds and are rooted in the rural communities.



Being a dynamic and learning organisation, we continuously reflect on our experiences and draw lessons for improvement. We are open to new ideas, technologies and learning from others' experiences as well. We pursue innovations relevant to our context. We change and adapt to be ever relevant as per the changing situations and needs of the people with whom we work.

## AF-EC staff by salary range



Salary (CTO) range for month (Rs.)	Number of staff engaged
14,000-20,000	54
20,001-30,000	36
30,001-40,000	02
40,001-50,000	05
50,001-60,000	04
60,001-70,000	04
<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>

As of March 31, 2022, we were 105 full time personnel, with 32 women. We have about 200 women village volunteers, who work part time. AF-EC is an equal opportunity employer offering equal opportunities to women, persons with disabilities and others at all levels.









# MAJOR FUNDING PARTNERS

Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board, India

Azim Premji Foundation, India

Bread for the World (BftW), Germany

International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, India

M/s. MJR Builders Private Ltd, (CSR Grant), India

Nadella Anupama, USA

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, India

National Cooperative Development Corporation, India

SayTrees, India



राष्ट्रीय सहकारी विकास निगम  
**NCDC**  
*Assisting Cooperatives. Always!*  
सहकारिताओं की सहायता में सदैव तत्पर!







# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Abridged Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on 31 March 2022

Particulars	Current year 2021-22 (Rs.)		Previous year 2020-21 (Rs.)	
INCOME				
Grants from foreign source	5,10,04,575	40%	5,17,72,325	48%
Grants from Indian source	5,78,79,126	46%	4,64,66,384	43%
Bank interest and other income	1,81,90,661	14%	1,02,86,770	9%
Total	12,70,74,362	100%	10,85,25,479	100%
EXPENDITURE				
Programme utilisation—foreign source	4,89,21,124	47%	5,31,58,876	68%
Programme utilisation—Indian source	5,57,33,736	53%	2,47,24,889	32%
Total	10,46,54,860	100%	7,78,83,765	100%

### Income 2021-22



- Grants from foreign sources
- Grants from Indian sources
- Bank interest and other income

### Utilisation 2021-22



- Programme utilisation—foreign source
- Programme utilisation—Indian source



## Abridged Balance Sheet as of 31 March 2022

LIABILITES	Current year 2021-22 (Rs.)	Previous year 2020-21 (Rs.)
<b>Fund Account</b>		
Capital fund	4,62,30,919	4,50,39,273
General fund	9,97,73,075	8,13,05,036
Corpus fund—Youth Centre	40,41,597	38,78,090
<b>Current Liabilities and Provisions</b>		
Specific grants	10,00,303	9,96,915
Fund account (Health and Gratuity)	1,84,35,782	1,87,27,886
Current liabilities	87,18,596	1,65,87,290
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,82,00,271</b>	<b>16,65,34,489</b>

### ASSETS

Fixed assets	4,62,30,919	4,50,39,273
Specific grants	16,57,259	16,57,344
Fund account (Health and Gratuity)	2,92,36,114	1,77,49,919
Loans and advances	1,18,02,004	1,70,65,640
Current investments	7,20,30,723	7,23,18,403
Cash and bank balance	1,72,43,253	1,27,03,911
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,82,00,271</b>	<b>16,65,34,489</b>

## Grants received directly by affiliated agencies from donor agencies: facilitated by Accion Fraterna

Name of the donor	Current year 2021-22 (Rs.)			Previous year 2020-21 (Rs.)	
Grant from ICRISAT for FPO working capital	37,32,000	11%		13,74,100	7%
Grant from NABARD—WDF and FPOs	87,72,447	26%		43,47,690	21%
Mobilisation of savings—CBOs	1,68,14,065	50%		1,48,38,837	72%
SayTrees (in kind—71,866 Plants)	39,32,586	12%			
Other grants/ income—AP MASS	5,78,540	2%			
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,38,29,638</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>2,05,60,627</b>	<b>100%</b>

# ANNEXURES

## MAJOR INTERVENTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OVER 40 YEARS

Intervention/activity	Units achieved	Families benefitted
<b>WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Soil and moisture conservation and soil fertility development	1,40,850 ha	60,000
Restoration of old tanks	326	2,216
Construction of percolation tanks	436	3,128
Construction of check dams	1,576	4,452
Construction of farm ponds	595	595
Dryland horticulture development	28,00,000 plants	16,000
Forest plantations	1,81,65,888 plants	66,014
Farm forestry (biomass development)	1,59,210 ha	62,898
<b>SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE</b>		
Crop diversification (food and fodder crops)	12,456 ha	31,140
Border crops (millets and pulses)	1,27,776 ha	73,850
Vermi-compost units	12,121	12,121
Farm bio-compost units	7,842	7,842
Bio-pest management	29,020 ha	15,623
Biogas units	3,163	3,163
Natural farming practices	2,562 ha	5,128
Kitchen gardens	12,000 plots	12,000



Intervention/activity	Units achieved	Families benefitted
<b>DROUGHT MITIGATION</b>		
Mobile protective irrigation (to protect rainfed crops)	12,000 ha	10,000
Farm pond with lining (harvesting rainwater for protective irrigation)	595	595
Row water sowing (timely sowing when soil moisture is inadequate)	1300 ha	1,500
Groundwater sharing	210 ha	186
Agro-ecological landscape development in rainfed lands	150 ha	87
Drought-climate resilient five-layer multiple fruit tree crops	260 ha	150
Drought resilient mixed food crop models (millets, pulses and vegetables)	12,000 ha	10,000
Contingency/ relay cropping (for fodder)	20,000 ha	15,000
<b>FARMER PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS</b>		
Farmer Producer Organisations promoted	18	15,680
Primary Processing Centres	4	6,200
Secondary Processing Centre	1	15,680
<b>DIVERSIFIED LIVELIHOODS</b>		
Number of women who took up non-farm IGPs	12,400 women	12,400
Rural youth trained in employable skills	8,500	8,500
Number of women provided loans for taking up business activities	4,200	4,200

## COMMUNITY NATURAL FARMING PROJECT: CUMULATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS OF JULY 2017 TO MARCH 2022

Activity	Units achieved	Families benefitted
Farmers fully converted to natural farming	2,853 farmers	2,853
Partial conversion of farmers	3,217 farmers	3,217
Construction of cow urine pits	189 pits	600
Village-level bio-resource centres (NPM shops) established	9 shops	900
Suryamandalam models	27 plots	27
Pre-monsoon dry sowing experiments (PMDS)	109 plots	109
Nutri-kitchen gardens	2,638 plots	2,638
Backyard horticulture	24,470 plants	2,447
Rainfed five-layer crop models	76 acres	76
Protective irrigation	183 farmers	183
Rainfed Natural Farming - mixed cropping system with millets, pulses and vegetables	2,136 farmers	2,136
Landscape development with five-layer agro-forestry models	366 acres	90
Biomass development on farm bunds for growing of biomass and fodder	396 acres	120
Formation and registration of Rainfed Farmer Cooperatives	5 RFCs	90



## ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS PROJECT: WOMEN SUPPORTED FOR ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD INITIATIVES: APRIL 2020 TO MARCH 2022

Mandal	Number of women assisted, category-wise					SMGs covered	Support amount from ALP (in Rs.)	Matching loan from SMGs (in Rs.)	Total assistance (in Rs.)	Loans made from recovery amount
	SC	ST	BC	OC	Total					
Kuderu	78	32	77	23	210	61	15,31,500	15,31,500	30,63,000	43
Kundurpi	31	1	111	6	149	51	11,17,500	11,17,500	22,35,000	38
Dharmavaram	67	15	94	19	195	61	13,68,000	13,68,000	27,36,000	24
Beluguppa	30	4	76	5	115	39	8,52,500	8,52,500	17,05,000	25
Rapthadu	45	2	63	7	117	37	8,47,500	8,47,500	16,95,000	6
Atmakuru	64	59	82	5	210	58	15,40,000	15,40,000	30,80,000	30
Kalyandurgam	42	4	89	6	141	52	10,12,500	10,12,500	20,25,000	26
Settur	42	4	117	1	164	59	11,95,500	11,95,500	23,91,000	12
	<b>399</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1,301</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>94,65,000</b>	<b>94,65,000</b>	<b>1,89,30,000</b>	<b>204</b>



## RURAL YOUTH TRAINED AND EMPLOYED: CUMULATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS OF APRIL 2008 TO MARCH 2022

Training	Year of inception	Candidates trained /facilitated			Total candidates	Candidates employed	Candidates self- employed	Total employed and self- employed	Percentage employed and self-employed
		SC	ST	Others					
LMV driving	2008	1,305	156	1,199	2,660	1,457	104	1,561	59%
HMV driving	2011	146	38	260	444	233	30	263	59%
Auto driving for women	2015	50	5	46	101	12	15	27	27%
Two-wheeler mechanics	2017	194	15	244	453	169	46	215	47%
Mobile phone repair	2017	82	6	102	190	30	23	53	28%
Electrical	2021	36	2	59	97	26	38	64	66%
Job fairs and collaborations	2021				1,080	401	0	401	37%
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,813</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>1,910</b>	<b>5,025</b>	<b>2,328</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>2,584</b>	<b>51%</b>

## TRADE-WISE EMPLOYMENT 2021-22

Trade	Number trained	Number employed	Number self-employed
HMV driving	93	58	16
LMV driving	257	132	35
Two-wheeler mechanics	210	106	28
Electrical and motor winding	97	26	38
Cell phone repair	26	10	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>125</b>



## FARMER PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS PROMOTED BY AF-EC

FPO	Date of formation	Number of shareholders	Share capital (in Rs. lakhs)	Supporting partner	Infrastructure available with FPO	Business grant received (in Rs. lakhs)
Atmakuru Mandala RUPSS	15/07/2016	486	4.86	ICRISAT	2 groundnut processing units, 1 dal mill, 2 water tankers	17.33
Beluguppa Mandala RUPSS	15/07/2016	501	5.01	NABARD	3 water tankers	0
Dharmavaram Mandala RUPSS	15/07/2016	307	3.07	ICRISAT	2 groundnut processing units, 1 dal mill, 2 water tankers	17.33
Kalyandurgam Mandala RUPSS	15/07/2016	874	8.74	NABARD	3 water tankers	5
Kuderu Mandala RUPSS	15/07/2016	589	5.89	ICRISAT	2 groundnut processing units, 1 dal mill, 2 water tankers	17.33
Kundrupi Mandala RUPSS	15/07/2016	727	7.27	NABARD	3 water tankers	5
Rapthadu Mandala RUPSS	15/07/2016	370	3.7	ICRISAT	2 groundnut processing units, 2 water tankers	17.33
Settur Mandala RUPSS	15/07/2016	606	6.06	NABARD	3 water tankers	5
Bhumata Women RUPSS	27/03/2018	514	5.14	NABARD	2 water tankers, 1 chop cutter, 1 multi crop thresher	5
Dharani RUPSS	New FPO	12	0.12	NABARD		
Pragati RUPSS	New FPO	12	0.12	NABARD		
Sasyamitra RUPSS	New FPO	12	0.12	NABARD		
Srama Jeevana RUPSS	20/10/2021	386	3.82	NABARD		
Sree Anjaneyaswami RUPSS	20/10/2021	302	3.01	NCDC		
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,698</b>	<b>56.93</b>			<b>89.32</b>

### **Board of Trustees**

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**Accion Fraterna Trust is registered  
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**\* It is registered under 12A & 80 G  
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**\* It is registered under FCRA  
upto 31.03.2027**