



**12th Project Directors Meeting (Webinar)
of
JICA Supported Forestry & NRM Projects
September 27 ~ 29, 2021**

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JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

- ***Starting in 1991***, '*Afforestation & Pasture Development along Indira Gandhi Canal Area*', in Rajasthan, was first project
- In a **span of 3 decades**, financial assistance has been extended to 31 **projects**
- **29 - ODA Loans and 2 Technical Cooperation**
- **28 ODA loan projects are state specific**, cover **15 states**, namely Rajasthan (5), Tamil Nadu (3), Gujarat (3), Karnataka (2), Punjab (2), Odisha (2), Himachal Pradesh (2), Tripura (2), Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Nagaland and Meghalaya



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India

3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

- **1 HRD project at National Level:** (completed)
For frontline staff covering 13 states – Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Kerala and Himachal Pradesh
- The project focused on:
 - Infrastructure development of State Forest Training Institutes (SFTIs) and State Forest Service (SFS) Colleges at Barnihat, Coimbatore, Kurseong and Dehradun
 - Faculty Training
 - Development of training material for frontline staff



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

- **2 Technical Cooperation projects**
 - **Capacity Building for SFTIs, CASFOS**
(completed)
 - **Natural Disaster Management in Forest Areas of Uttarakhand** (commenced in FY 2016) covering the following:
 - Implementation of Slope Disaster prevention works
 - Capacity Development in state
 - Knowledge dissemination at national level



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

- Cumulative commitment stands at **JPY 294 billion** (Rs. 20,000 crores approx. at current exchange rates)
- **JICA** continues to be the **largest donor** to the forestry sector in India with footprints in **25 states** (15 ODA &TC) + (10 HRD)



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India

3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

- Projects from following states are on the Rolling Plan submitted by DEA:
 - **Capacity Development for Forest Management and Training of Personnel in India (Phase II)**
 - **Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Greening Project (Phase 2) – 4th project**
 - **West Bengal (Phase 2)**
 - **Rajasthan – 6th project**
 - **Punjab (Phase 2) – 3rd project**
 - **Manipur**



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

- Sectoral assistance has traversed 3 decades journey and 4 generations of projects
- 1st : 1990-91 ~ 1997-98
- 2nd: 2002-03 ~ 2012-13
- 3rd: 2013-14 ~ 2018-19
- 4th: 2019-20 ~ Ongoing



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

First Generation

(1990-91 ~ 1997-98)

Majorly focused on afforestation, soil & water conservation, training, extension etc. Community participation was minimal.



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

Second Generation

(2002-03 ~ 2012-13)

- Laid more emphasis on participatory management and poverty alleviation
- Effective blending of Afforestation and community development (livelihood) activities
- PMU established in Society mode
- Adopted three phased approach



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

Third Generation (2013-14 ~ 2018-19)

All activities of 1st and 2nd generation projects with an increased focus on:

- **Sustainable community development activities** for livelihood improvement
- **Biodiversity conservation**
- **Technology** based planning, monitoring and evaluation
- Efforts made to facilitate introduction of **REDD+ Mechanism, AR-CDM**
- **Disaster Preparedness & Mitigation** measures
- Institutionalization of **Convergence**



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

Fourth Generation (2019-20 onwards)

- All activities of 1st, 2nd & 3rd generation projects with an increased focus on:
- **Strengthening Alignment** of project interventions with Climate Change measures (adaption & mitigation) through improvement of land and marine ecosystems



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

Fourth Generation (2019-20 onwards)

- **Enhancing Forestry and Natural Resources** through:
 - Forestry Research
 - Promotion of Supply Chain Development
 - Exploring possibilities partnership/collaboration with private sector
 - Promotion of Urban and Semi-urban forestry



JICA's Forestry Sector Assistance to India 3 Decades Journey (1991 ~ 2021)

Fourth Generation (2019-20 onwards)

- **Promote Intensive utilization of technology** for planning, implementation and monitoring
- **Replicate and upscale pilot/other successful interventions** of previous generations (Disaster mitigation, Agro forestry, convergence, catchment area treatment, sustainable Livelihoods etc.)



Broad Milestones Achieved

- **Forest/ Tree Cover Enhanced:** Plantation and regeneration activities, including soil and moisture conservation, have covered over 2 million hectares. Another 0.8 million plus is expected in next 5 to 7 years
- **Positive Hydrological Impact:** Soil and Moisture conservation has led to increased agricultural productivity leading to augmentation of incomes



Broad Milestones Achieved

Community Participation Strengthened

- 18,500 plus Joint Forest Management (JFM) committees have been formed/ functioning, another 2000 plus expected in next 5 years
- VFCs and SHGs have established themselves as institutions for forest protection and socio-economic development of villages



Broad Milestones Achieved

Institutional Capacities Augmented

- Capacities of the forest departments have been augmented in terms of:
 - Overall management
 - Introduction/ Utilization of Technology (MIS & GIS)
 - Nursery operations
 - Undertaking Community Development Activities including promotion of Income Generation Activities through Women SHGs
 - Biodiversity conservation, Ecotourism etc.



Broad Milestones Achieved

Gender Empowerment & Financial Inclusion Promoted:

- **25,000** plus SHGs (approx. **500,000** beneficiaries) plus are operating and engaged in Income Generation activities
- **15,000** plus more SHGs (approx. **300,000** beneficiaries) to be formed

Community Assets created

Generated Wage employment for local communities

Promoted of equitable sharing of Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP)



Agenda for the PD Webinar

The PD Webinar has two themes for discussions spread over 4 sessions:

- 1. Sustainable Livelihoods & Intersectoral Convergence** – Best Practices, Challenges and Solutions
- 2. Promotion of Technology in Management:** Geographic Management System (GIS) and Management Information System (MIS)



Sustainable Livelihoods

- **Creating alternate livelihood opportunities** is an imperative requirement to wean people away from over dependence on forests
- **Livelihood opportunities serve as incentive** to generate larger participation
- **Focused participatory approach triggers larger ownership** of the works amongst communities leading to more effective sustainable forest management



Sustainable Livelihoods

- **Feasible livelihood alternatives need to be selected** based on market survey and also linked to conservation objectives
- **Bottom up consultative approach has to be adopted** for identification of livelihood options based on value chain assessment
- **Choice of IGAs** to be need based
- **Micro Credit** revolving fund need to be established under the project
- **Provisions for value addition, processing, marketing etc.** need to be in place



Sustainable Livelihoods

- **Financial inclusion** needs to be explored by integrating CSR initiatives, linking up with financial institutions and government schemes
- **SHGs to be trained** for enhancing product quality, managerial skills and self sufficiency
- **Federation of SHGs** on product cluster basis to be created
- **Professional organizations/NGOs** to be considered for establishing marketing linkages



Sustainable Livelihoods

- **SHGs to be linked with direct markets** to eliminate middlemen
- **Synergy with Gram Panchayat** initiatives and activities for sustenance, effectiveness and convergence is imperative



Inter-Sectoral Convergence

- Inter-sectoral convergence is now **an imperative need** of the hour for enhancing project impacts
- Through Inter-sectoral convergence a **larger and holistic ecological and socio-economic development** can be achieved
- Convergence to be done with Line departments on program/scheme basis **during formulation to ensure a 'buy in'**



Inter-Sectoral Convergence

- **Field/ village level convergence** to be done through Micro Planning
- **Set up targets for convergence** for each Division
- **State Government to be requested to prioritize convergence** for project villages through an institutional set up of monitoring committees as under:
 - State Level: Chief Secretary
 - District Level: District Magistrate
 - Block Level : B.D.O.



Promotion of Technology in Management: GIS & MIS

- **Extensive use of technology** is one of the corner stones of JICA's 4th generation projects
- **GIS & MIS have been a part of 2nd and 3rd generation projects** but development and use has been varied and, at times, much delayed
- **Integration of GIS & MIS** and subsequently with Forest Dept. system has been a huge challenge



Promotion of Technology in Management: GIS & MIS

- **Setting up GIS/ MIS cell** in the Preparatory phase is mandatory
- **Close interaction with other states** is necessary to avoid duplication of efforts and expenses
- **Capacity development within Forest Department** in using satellite images for processing and interpretation is an imperative requirement



Promotion of Technology in Management: GIS & MIS

- **GIS technologies to be used** for identification and digitization of forest boundaries, planning, monitoring and assessment of forest cover change, and identification of encroachment areas
- **GPS survey of all plantation sites** need to be mandatory



Promotion of Technology in Management: GIS & MIS

- **Resource maps development for 'before' and 'after' project assessment is a must requirement**
- **Monitoring on real time basis** needs to be aimed at
- **Continuous updation of technology and integration of GIS with MIS** needs to be ensured.
- **Development of 'in-house'** dedicated Human resources is necessary



Promotion of Technology in Management: GIS & MIS

- **Integrated GIS & MIS is an imperative tool** for robust planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- **Needs to be planned during project preparation** and implemented during the preparatory phase
- **Projects must learn and incorporate 'best practices'** from other projects rather than reinventing the wheel



Promotion of Technology in Management: GIS & MIS

- **The GIS & MIS system needs to be integrated with the Forest Department facility** to ensure continuity and sustainability
- **JICA has instituted a national level study** to develop the first prototype from June 2021 ~ December 2021
- **5 states** are being covered by the study – 3 JICA and 2 Non-JICA



Promotion of Technology in Management: GIS & MIS

- **Following output is expected:**
 - A prototype system shall be developed with flexibility to make state specific/ system upgradation changes
 - The prototype can be used by projects, as a base to work upon.
- **Interim Findings** would be presented tomorrow and the Final Report is expected by December 2021.



Thank you for your attention !