
YASIDIPALEM

“END OF INDEBTED THINKING”

Acknowledgement

We would like to thank the major contributors for the book, the community of Yasidipalem & staff of CeFHA.

The immense support of Director – CeFHA Dr. Sasi Prabha Stanley, needs a special mention.

Technical backup was a major criterion and Mr. Bhaskar Nagendra and Frameboxx Vizag team have helped immensely in this regard. We would like to thank Mr. Jayarao, Mr. Sanjay Khatua, Mr. Satyanarayana, Ms.Nirmala M.D.O, Kotauratla, Dr. William Stanley and Mr Satish, KNH for their suggestions and valuable inputs.

This book would not have been possible without the women and children of Yasidipalem village who contributed their invaluable time towards the completion of the book.

The major role has been played by the funding partners of CeFHA – KNH, NMZ, SomNeed, and other contributors for continuously acknowledging, to take up the issues and help readily mobilize resources for the community.

Foreword

The moments of joy and glory in the minds, hearts and souls of the people in Yasidipalem was straight away evident with the confidence they showed in the interview sessions. They fell in love with the soil, and continue to romanticize the fields they own. They understood the importance of alternatives that would earn them a livelihood and also create a sense of charm in their lives. Why do they have to migrate? Why were they so depressed? Why, Why and WHY? is the question they now hate so much.

CeFHA and its influence has stuck a series of waves in the nearby villages. The work has been so inspiring and confidence instilling, that it has given an opportune to the community of Yasidipalem to create a knowledge based bio resource centre which is so well equipped with people centered focus and knowledge systems to recreate the ownership attitude in the other villages in the area.

It was a real experience for us to see what “Yasidipalem” was before and what it is now. There has been a marked intervention by the organization activities in the system of thought, practicality and implementation by themselves. Even the alternatives to agriculture like the dairy business and other skill based programs have had a lot of impact in the livelihood generation. Especially the inroads on organic farming and sustainable agriculture reforms have all had a specific importance within themselves. All the above activities have forced us to compile a report to show the present work of CeFHA to the rest of the world through this small but fine edition on Yasidipalem.

“A book by the community of Yasidipalem, presenting the change and demonstrating sustainable livelihood”

About the Organisation :

CeFHA TRUST (Center for Humanitarian Assistance Trust) office is located at Door. No. 50-121-20/30, FlatNo-501, Revathi Hills, B. S. Lay Out, Seethammadhara, Visakhapatnam –530013, Andhra Pradesh India. Presently, the activities are confined to Andhra Pradesh and India only covering all the persons irrespective of caste, creed, colour, religion and sex.

CeFHA is registered as a Trust in the year 2002. It has a legal status having its own FCRA registration with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, Delhi.

CeFHA worked in three slums in Visakhapatnam and villages of Kotauratla Mandal of Visakhapatnam . It is now presently working in Nakapalli and Kotauratla mandal of Vizag by empowering women and children. The Formation of women groups, training, savings and micro credit programmes slum children education programmes through motivational centers, skills training & development for the slum and communities at Kotauratla.

CEFHA initiated result oriented programme with a rights based and participatory approach in the area of Kotauratla Mandal of Visakhapatnam of Andhra Pradesh. The project created, built and promoted local existing resources and skills.

The primary objective of the project is the entire population of the area will be brought under social, economic, cultural and political awareness specially focusing on the human rights, related to education, health, cultural, land, water and forest, dalit & tribals and sustainable livelihood. The project will create, build and promote children clubs, peoples organisation and women groups and to make them aware of the local existing skill and strengthen them with specialized training through a culture, economic technical skills.

The main objective of the trust is “to work for the moral, educational, medical and development of indigenous communities like adivasis, fisher folk and dalits, children and women and to assist the poorest and the most exploited section of rural and urban slum women and children”.

Clientelle of the Trust : Fisher folk, Dalits and Adivasis, Women and Children
Population covered till date: Dalits - 428 families, Tribals - 235 families, Fisher Folk - 300 families.

Vision : To establish a just, participatory, humanitarian and egalitarian social order through participation of communities for self sustainability and self reliance of individual, family and communities.



Director Speaks:

This book, which covers the poor dalit women and community of village Yasidipalem and a study on the land usage, management of natural resources and food security through out the year. The project is designed with a new approach .The Action research methodology , focused the poor, as subjects in the process, to bring about a change in their economic and social conditions, using primarily their own creative energies, local resources and local knowledge, where there is a support system extended by the scientists, CeFHA and KNH & NMZ partners.



The concept of sustainable communities and development was strongly emphasized in the village Yasidipalem, the sustainability of every sector is important for achieving a proper perspective towards a balanced development of the economy as a whole. The village in the agricultural sector sustainability depends on the maintenance of agricultural production and incomes, the sustenance of agricultural security through organic farming and the potential of agriculture to produce. The Yasidipalem community today improved the living standards by drawing on the skills and making use of available local resources like land water and forest materials, traditional knowledge and become a small farmer self reliant, through a constructive plan and implementation of the programme. The youth and women increase the ability to make effective use of available agriculture and services. The children in the village became a very strong group and are now demanding their rights.

The cost factor

KNH, NMZ & Community Yasidipalem

- Village women meetings and trainings
- Leadership training
- Training on organic farming
- Training on animal care
- Training on soil testing, organic manure and pesticides
- Land Development
- Compost Pits
- Livestock support (Cows, Goats and Chicks)
- Training on animal care
- Irrigation
- Vermicompost unit
- Plantation
- Seeds
- Exposure
- Boards
- Marketing training
- Total 6,35,600/-

Peoples contribution has been one-third of the total budget



CeFHA Activities at Village Yasidpalem

Community Health & Nutrition

- Total PF2 Children -M + F = T 12
- Children Screening /Care & support- 24
- Supplementary Feeding - 16 c
- Village Health Clinics-M 9 + F6 =T15
- Under Five Clinics - M 3 + F 5 = T8
- Pre & Post Natal Care- 9 (6 +3)
- Nutritional Garden- 22 f

Children Education

- Parents Meeting- M-20 +F-22=T- 42
- Formation of Children Groups -1
- Enrolment of Children and Edu.Asst : 13
- Children Group, Clubs & Development activities – group -1=T- 14
- Child group fund raised
- Child Rights Protection Committees -M 5 + F6=T=11
- School plantation-35 plants
- Child plantation- 14c – 70 plants
- Fabric painting – 14 c
- Jewelry – 13 c
- Child Eco clubs -1
- Sports material Assistance -1 set

Farm based Livelihood support

- Farm Land Development- 22Acres
- Slope Land Development- 11 Acres
- Irrigation Facility - 27 Acres
- Soil Testing training-12w
- Organic Manure/ Vermi Compost-22 f
- Organic Pesticides-12w
- Farmers training-22
- Irrigation Facility-22 f
- Demonstration on Crop Varieties-17f
- Bund plantation-17f
- Community Vermi compost unit-3
- Individual vermi compost units-22
- Crop Management- 17 Farmers
- Agro Forestry Model Demonstration- 1 Acres
- Fodder Development -3 Acres

- Animal Husbandry – supply of Buffaloes -22, Goats -50 & Chicks -150
- Community Poultry Unit -1
- Bio Resource Centre -1
- Family forestry- 22f
- Farmers Exposure -17f
- Animal Support / Care/ Training- 22f
- Fodder Development- 3 Acre
- Forest Protection
- Millet & oil seed Development - 8
- NTFP Activities-Bamboobaskets/Herbal hair oil
- Marketing linkages - 17 Farmers

Skill Training

- Food Processing Training - 12w
- IGP –Vim ,Phenol & Surf - 3/F-7
- Herbal Hair oil - 12f
- Mushroom Training - 8w
- Bird rearing training - 22w
- Broom training - 6

Empowerment of Women

- Formation of Women group and Training -22
- Members in Women Network -5
- Women Enterprenuership - 22(Veg/milk/ eggs/goat/chicks)

Government Coordination

- Ration Cards-22
- C.C.Road
- NREGA job cards
- Govt.Land received - 8
- Old age pensions -13
- Houses -16
- Tube well -2

M -Male
F - Female
T - Total
f - Family
c - Children
W - women



Issues that forced CeFHA to intervene in Sustainable Development process:

Yasidipalem, was a village with lot of unused resources, it then got in to thickest of problems with the issues like migration, food security and a very peasy meager sum of money to run their livelihoods.

In the year 2005, when an initial survey was conducted by CeFHA, it was a pathetic scenario of the villages with doors closed, agriculture land abandoned, nutrition below par. The major issue that organization saw was in child development, Children were neglected, suffered from illhealth, children had been found with many nutritional disorders and no schooling. Poorest of the poor lived in this habitation that raised alarm bells for this non profit organization to deliver something very meaningful – that very meaningful, that was to be delivered had to come from the people to understand and reciprocate the activities that were planned.

The interventions started with CeFHA getting involved, with the community and make them literates on certain ill effects of migration, land alienation, etc... This paved way for the community to strengthen their bond with the organization. Organisation primarily had to address certain important issues and help generate some important activities that would contribute towards food and economic security.

Food security by agricultural produce was less than a month, Cash cropping was a major agricultural practice that needed to be changed. 22 families were below poverty line and all the adult population of the village had to leave for work. This compounded severities in the people and their families. Migration and cropping pattern was a major sought after issue that CeFHA decided to work on in the first attempt. Then, the basic idea was to train the people on certain income generating activities and increase the income diversification by introducing the livestock component. The process of overall development looked very tedious at the beginning, the planned activities have definitely built in a level of confidence and satisfaction that people would never have to leave their homes and challenge their lives in an alien surface.

Let us see what yasidipalem looks like after a couple of years intervention by CeFHA and community together, they have powered on the issues and legitimized their zeal for work in their own home. It definitely was a challenging and daunting task to get the trust of people but once that was through, success was tasted very soon.

Identified Issues in the Village

- Child Labour and Work load
- Ill Health
- Malnourishment and nutritional disorders
- Lack of Education
- High drop out rate of children from Schools
- Long distance of Schools
- Poor Sanitation
- Migration
- Drought
- Food and income insecurity
- Untouchability
- Water problem
- Land less
- Mortgage of land
- Unproductive expenditure
- Lack of Work Opportunities
- Unequal Wages & no fair wages
- Unsustainable Agriculture practices
- Soil Erosion
- No Irrigation facilities
- Lack of unity
- Battered women problem
- No proper skills and income generation
- Marketing problem
- No technology interventions
- Problem in Collection of NTFP materials and value addition
- lack of processing skills of raw materials



Yasidipalem

'Summary of the Village in Brief'

Village Profile:

This village belongs to the Gram Panchayat Chinna Bodepalli (2.5 KM). This village comes under the Kotauratla Police Station limits(24 km). The Mandal Head quarters is Kotauratla.(24 km).

Village Description:

There are 22 families in this village that belong to Dalit Community. All speak Telugu language. There are around 22 houses in this village. 17 families have recorded lands and 5 families are landless.

Education:

There is one primary school and one upper primary school in P.K. palli which is 0.5 km from the village. There are 20 students at present from the village who are studying in various schools. There were 7 students before, but now the percentage of students has been gradually increasing. There is one 10th class pass out in this village.

CeFHA has been providing educational assistance to 11 children for the past 3 years. Child group formations, individual child accounts alongside child group accounts have also been initiated. Child Right Protection Committees have been formed in this village. Sport materials have been assisted to the child group. Children have also actively participated in a couple of awareness campaigns like HIV, Child rights etc... Child trainings on yoga, flower fabrication and painting.



Health:

The Auxillary Nurse Midwife appointed by the government visits the village rarely with insufficient medical supply. The patients those who are critically ill would have to be shifted to the nearby town either Tuni or Narsipatnam, both of them are 25km away from this village, they had to hire an autorickshaw and shift the patients. People are very happy and contented by the government ambulance service that has been launched recently.

CeFHA has its own health initiatives taken up in this village, there is one ANM who visits the village twice a month and reports the health status regularly. In case of any emergency, she takes personal care of the patients. Incase the patient is very serious she even refers them to the nearby hospitals for further treatments. The children under the age of 5 years are screened for the identification of malnutrition children. Supplementary food like egg, milk and other nutritious food are even provided. Health education is provided to the elders depending on the situation. Kitchen garden seeds are provided as assistance towards the depletion of malnourishment. Fruit bearing saplings were provided to boost the nutrient and economic status of the people. Pre and post natal care is also provided. Health camps are being organized twice in a year with the support of able expertise to screen and also to treat the patients. HIV awareness camps are being conducted and special education is being provided in this aspect.

Water and Sanitation:

There are 2 borewells in the village provided by the Government. The people use this water sources for drinking as well as cooking. The agricultural land was mostly rain dependent and after the initiatives of CeFHA, it provided assistance for two bores and also motors to make irrigation feasible and thereby increasing the cropping frequency to twice a year.

Government has taken initiatives in constructing toilets for better hygiene and proper sanitation but the toilets are devoid of water supply and hence the usage of the toilets have become very minimal. Organisation is now trying to help people understand the importance of proper sanitation.

Land Details:

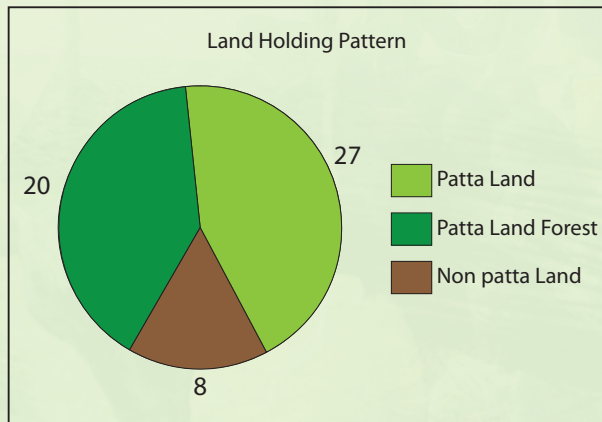
On an average the total patta land is about 27 acres of dry/wet agricultural land , 8 people have patta land amounting to 8 acres on the slopes of the nearby hill, where in,

In India, 30 per cent of children are born with low birth weight and almost 50 per cent remain underweight by the age of three. Every year, 2 million children die in India, accounting for one in 5 child deaths in the world. Where are we going wrong?



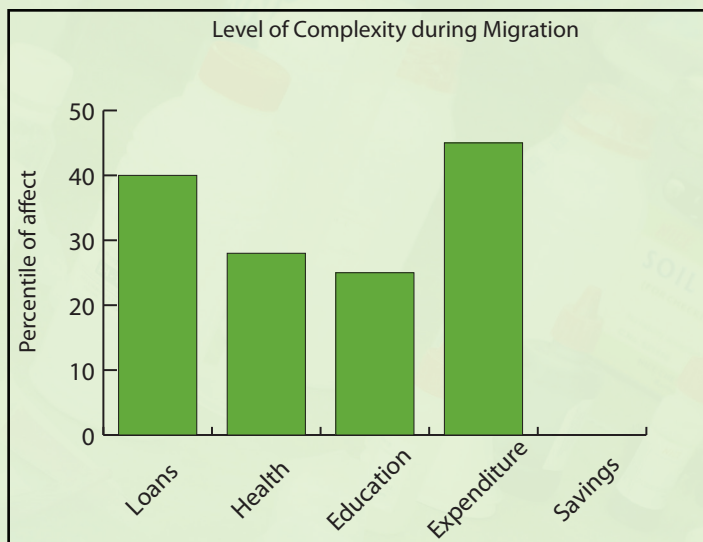
India as a nation has seen a high migration rate in recent years. Over 98 million people migrated from one place to another in 1990s, the highest for any decade since independence according to the 2001 census details. However in 1970s migration was slowing down. The number of migrants during 1991-2001 increased by about 22% over the previous decade an increase since 1951.

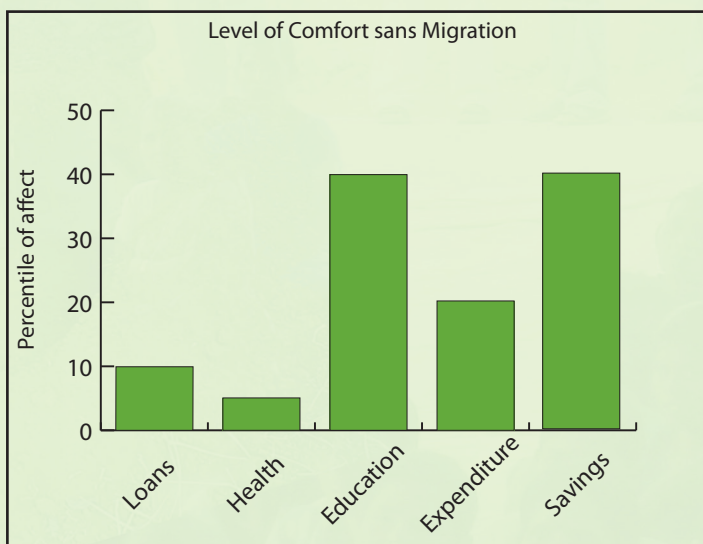
they have cashew orchard and this is one of the major income sources. The other non patta land is distributed among the others which constitutes to 20 ac on the slope land. There are 5 farmers who are landless.



Migration:

Before the initiation of the project the food security was only for 4 months in a year, hence people opted out for migration so that they could find work and earn an extra bit to safeguard the livelihood of the families. The common months for migration were October till April, almost (6 months) and they travel as far as 800- 1000 km away from their home place. The women in the families faced many problems to earn the livelihood, further migration had complicated the issues as it encouraged the people to take loans during the time of distress. Loans were given, but at very healthy interest rates, and thus the families were sans savings. The children education was also disturbed due to the migration of parents. Health was an issue again due to difference in water, climate and also air. Acclimatization was also a problem and health complications were increased. This led to the increase in medical expenses.





The rate of migration has considerably decreased after the commencement of the project. The project has slowly but surely touched the pulse of the people. This way the people have understood the aftermaths of migration. They now do not migrate and focus on the different ways to earn their income using the healthy resources they have at their home.

Government Coordination:

- All the 22 families were supported with housing grant by the Government.
- There is one CC road under SGSY scheme of Government.
- All the 22 families have been provided with NREGA job cards.
- The Government has brought in new health initiative for the Villagers by providing them with Arogyasree health card.
- Old age Pension and Widow Pension schemes are been availed.
- People also utilize the Public Distribution System

Conflict Management:

There are petty quarrels not very often, but in case there is a situation of this kind then the village head man tries to solve the problems. The accused is asked to pay a sum of

"Nothing is given to man on earth - struggle is built into the nature of life, and conflict is possible - the hero is the man who lets no obstacle prevent him from pursuing the values he has chosen."



“Relations have been a major factor in constituting a community’s component that would finally elaborate a character out of a simple man’s virtue”

money as fine. The situation if it is not solved in the village would then be referred to the panchayat and further insolvency in the issue would mean they have to refer it to the police station.

The Conflicts have been gradually decreasing due to the motivation to work together by themselves. They are being very busy in the fields. They do not hesitate to help others who require some or the other kind of assistance. This way it could be told that Agro forestry has not only impeded a new implication in their lives be it economy and food but also it has changed the communal response and inculcated a habit of mutual well togetherness amongst each other.

Relation amongst fellow Villagers:

In the past people were very self reliant and they never shared their grievances with the fellowmen as everyone was in the same situation. After commencement of the project by CeFHA, people have understood the importance that mutual understanding has for the people, through this they have started to share their work, sorrows, joys and the village now has become a far more cohesive unit than it was once upon a time.



Working towards a better secured Livelihood:

The major cause of migration was the improper food security. The food security as always has raised questions of survivability in their own land. The food security was only for four months from what they cultivated on a season specific basis. During the initial survey in the year 2005, staff of CeFHA could not believe what their eyes saw, a village with old people and small children. 80% of the adult population was out working for a cause just to ensure Food Security for their loved ones back home.

The people were low on morale, confidence and spirit. They found themselves dumped and hurt as they incurred heavy losses on agriculture front. It was high time, for the organization to intervene and subjugate the contradictory systems of agriculture. CeFHA worked on economic analysis of the commercial crop practices that were already very prevalent in the village as follows

Economic analysis of Crop Management before:

The crop management system was a unique tradition of cash crop cultivation, food crops were not cultivated much. People were very dependant on market for food crops. They were forced to monocrop as there was scarcity of water. The season which favored agriculture was only the rainy season. This made the people to cultivate only at the mercy of Rain Gods. The Crop management had five categories in itself:

1. Procuring the raw material (Seed, Manure and other essentials).
2. Land Development.
3. Sowing and Labor.
4. Maintenance
5. Marketing.

The above mentioned steps are in itself a complication unless there is a thorough understanding about the economic condition. The price instability on the raw materials, labor and even the unpredictable climate are all the factors that affected the crop management system by large.

- Cashew

Total land area cultivated : 25 cents

Total input: 1,000/-

Total Production : 160 kilos

Total cost (Sale Price) : 6000/-

Total Profit made: 5000/-

Why haven't small farmers benefited more from trade?

Small farmers and rural communities in developing countries have often not benefited from opportunities that agricultural trade can offer. Opening farm markets prematurely to international competition can further weaken the agricultural sector of a developing country, causing more poverty, hunger and harm to the environment in the long-term.

Trade reforms could make relations more equitable. Developing countries would benefit of key changes such as removing trade barriers on products for which they have a competitive advantage; lowering tariffs on imports of processed commodities; and improving their access to export markets.

The capacity of developing countries to analyze and negotiate trade agreements needs to be strengthened to allow better and more transparent decisions concerning the agricultural sector.

The environmental footprint of agriculture could be reduced by adapting market and trade policies, for instance by removing detrimental subsidies, changing taxation policies, and improving property



• Cotton Crop:

The total land area cultivated : 25 cents
Input on

- Raw material : 200/-
- Ploughing : 400/-
- Labor : 500/-
- Pesticides : 500/-
- Farm yard Manure : 500/-
- Chemical Manure : 400/-

The input which each farmer puts in for the 25 cents of land is Rs. 2500/-

The total production – 250 kg.

The price of one kg of cotton is Rs. 16/- and hence the total amount that accounts for sold price is Rs. 4000/-.

The profit made by cotton crop would be Rs. 1500/-

• Tobacco crop:

The total land area cultivated: 25 cents
Input on

- Raw material: 400/- for 2500 plants.
- ploughing : 400/-
- Labor : 500/- + 1000/- (Maintenance during Crop)
- Pesticides : 500/- + 300/- (2nd spray)
- Farm yard Manure: 500/-
- Chemical Manure: 400/-

The input which each farmer puts in for the 25 cents of land is Rs. 4000/-

The total production – 250 kg.

The price of one kg of cotton is Rs. 50/- and hence the total amount that accounts for sold price is Rs. 12,500/-.

The profit made by Tobacco crop would be Rs. 8500/-.

• Brinjal:

The total land area cultivated : 25 cents

Input on

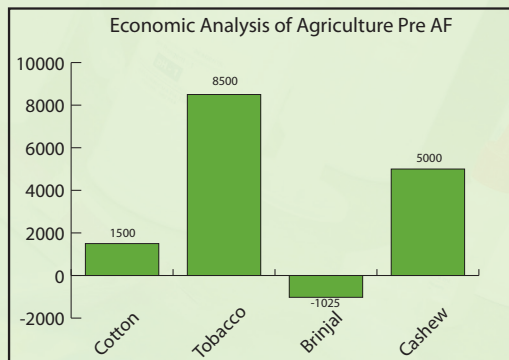
- Raw material : 100/- for 1 kilo of seeds.
- Ploughing : 400/-
- Labor : 700/-
- Pesticides : 500/-
- Farm yard Manure : 600/-
- Chemical Manure : 600/-

The input which each farmer puts in for the 25 cents of land is Rs. 2900/-

The total production – 375 kg.

The price of one kg of cotton is Rs. 50/- and hence the total amount that accounts for sold price is Rs. 1875/-.

The Loss incurred by Brinjal crop would be Rs. 1025/-.



At present the crop diversification process has been intensified, the people now understand the importance of utilizing their present resource. After identifying the issues with regard to agriculture, CBO's in the village stepped forward to implement the planned activities with the help of agriculture expert personnel. A couple of years have been passed by people now cultivate variety of vegetables, millets, fruits to strengthen their food and income security. Cash cropping, a practice that was very prevalent in the past has been slowly changing its course. The expenses that were incurred during cultivation of tobacco, cotton were far too high that encouraged money bargaining at a very high interest rates. Apart from that the usage of pesticides and chemical fertilizers went very high, hence a new model of agriculture prioritizing on self consumption has been introduced, this system has helped the community of Yasidipalem manifold.

This system of agriculture ensured soil nutrient enrichment, crop variability, multicropping and biosphere revitalization. This has induced rapport between the farming community with the soil, which was never to be seen before. Let us know what agroforestry means and how it has been demonstrated in Yasidipalem in the following chapter.



Agro Forestry

Agroforestry is defined as a sustainable land use system covering agriculture, forestry, horticulture and livestock. Integrating tree crops with agri based varieties and livestock this ensures diversity in a larger paradigm. The major reason for choosing agroforestry principles is to have both productive as well as protective functions. It addresses the sustainability, productivity and equity issues of the farmers.

Agroforestry could be generally classified into two basic types – traditional and modern. Under traditional system we have agroforestry for non forest areas which is further divided into home gardens and traditional boundary plantations. Where as the modern system of agroforestry has been improvised further with the incorporation of several components – Agri –silviculture, agri-horticulture, silvi-pasture model.

Crop management in the period of Agroforestry practice, was getting a bit tough as irrigation facility was not proper. Irrigation was then taken as a very serious issue and after discussion with the community the organisation however agreed to certain terms and conditions, to assist the farmers with 2 motors and pipelines. The organization also has introduced vermicompost units thus encouraging people to develop organic manure that would enable longevity of soil life span.

The main advantages due to agro forestry were:

1. Dual crop in an annual year and some times even thrice.
2. Maximum usage of optimum land and resources.
3. Crop diversification.
4. Soil nutrient enrichment.
5. Seasonal vegetables sufficing the need of nutrient requirement for people.
6. Economic condition being bettered.

The Vermicompost units would provide organic manure in a continous process. The advantages behind the usage of organic manure would be to retain the soil- nutrients, increase the fertility.



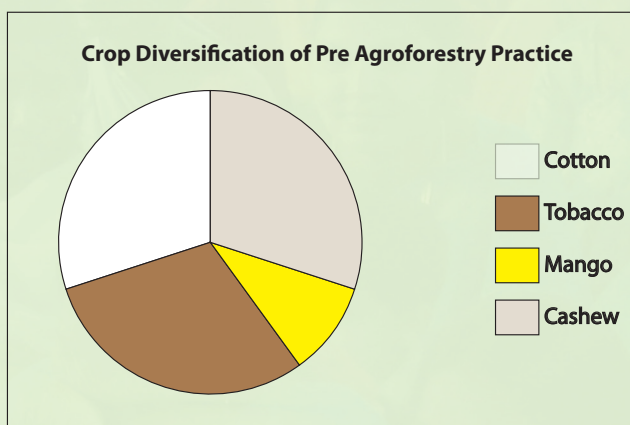
As the irrigation facility is provided the farmers are using the water on a rotational basis as decided by themselves in the community meetings. The traditional practice of growing cash crops is gradually reduced and the space has been compensated with the vegetable crops.

Food crops:

Vegetables like brinjal, ladies finger, beans, leafy vegetables, ridge gourd, chillies are being cultivated. Recently millets have been introduced in the fields – jowar, suan and ragi. The purpose of introducing millets was to suffice consumption purposes. Millet cultivation helps encourage production of traditional varieties of crops. They are also cultivated along with some of the tubers and rhizomes at present. Instead of the cash crops like cotton and tobacco, people have introduced oil crops like till and groundnut for their consumptional purposes. The input costs that incurred would amount to Rs. 1,250 and the surplus vegetables that were sold amounts to Rs. 3250/- the profit made on the vegetable cultivation had been amounted to Rs. 2000.

Comparative analysis of Pre and Present system of Agriculture:

a.Crop Diversification:

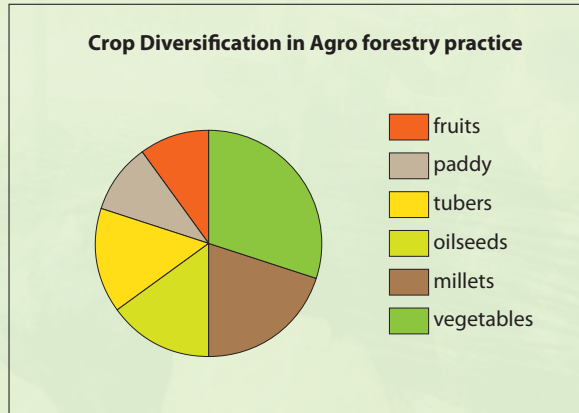


From the above graphical representation its quiet evident that the diversification of crop is not much and the farmers have been completely involved in cash crop cultivation. This was the major reason for the malnutrition amongst the children. As this system of agriculture had lacked the provision of balanced diet for the people. This also

Diversification can be defined as "D-I-V-E-R-S-I-F-I-C-A-T-I-O-N" – A synonym of alternatives that has an effort oriented plot to overcome self negligence, destruction, liability to question the mighty and the un-dutiful in the region of expatriates.



meant less of food security and income security in any case of crop failure. To minimize the risk of malnutrition, food security and income security a variety of



crops have been introduced in the fields to be able to contribute towards food security, income security thus by helping people to manage the markets and kitchens themselves.

When we look at the graph 1.2 which represents the diversification of crops. Each section is again diversified with a variety of seasonal vegetables and crops. There were many vegetable crops, millets, oil seeds, tubers and fruits that have been incorporated in to the fields thus bettering the food security and income level. Thereby even increasing the variety of nutrients and improving the health of the children in the village.

b. Soil enrichment :

When the farmers cultivated the cash crops they have been completely dependant on chemical fertilizers and pesticides, this way the nutrient status of soil has been gradually deteriorating. Thus by the introduction of agroforestry system there is a gradual decrease in the usage of chemical fertilizers, organic fertilizers and pesticides are being encouraged so as to keep the soil nutrient system intact. The usage of vermi compost and farm yard manure are very good examples of the organic manure. This way the project envisages to restore the fertility of the soil and thereby providing the farmers a future security in terms of cultivation.

c. Economic Viability and Food security:

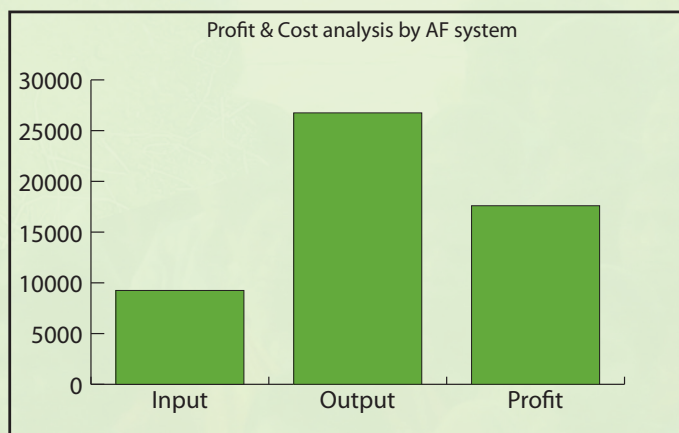
The farmers are very confident now, they can take the risks of crop failure as there has been an alternative shown with diversification of crops and multicropping seasons in a



year through irrigation support. Economic instability and minimal food security issues have been dealt with. There is a 44% increase in the profit level approximately barring the consumption crops, the percentage has been assessed only on the sale price of the crops marketed and the crops that have been consumed were not included in this assessment. The food security which was for 4 months earlier has been increased to 10 months an year by agricultural crops.

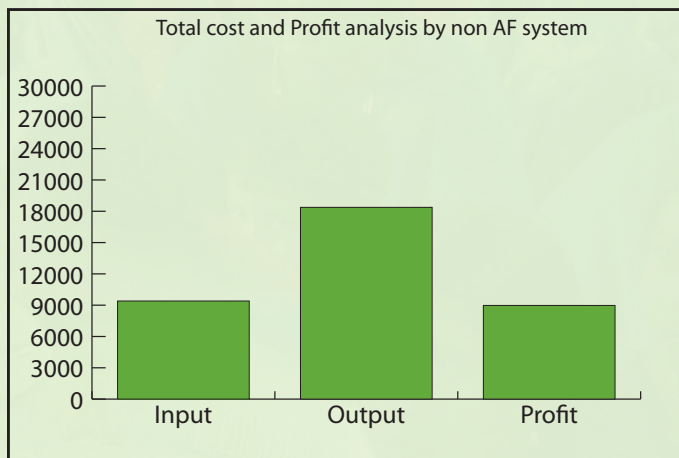
Total Cost & Profit analysis by AF system in Rs.

Input 9150
Output 26750
Profit 17600



Total Cost & Profit analysis by Non AF system in Rs.

Input 9400
Output 18375
Profit 8975



Agroforestry in this village has been designed to attain maximum yield from optimum usage of resources in a eco friendly way



The project initiated a model Agro forestry demonstration to basically suffice the following

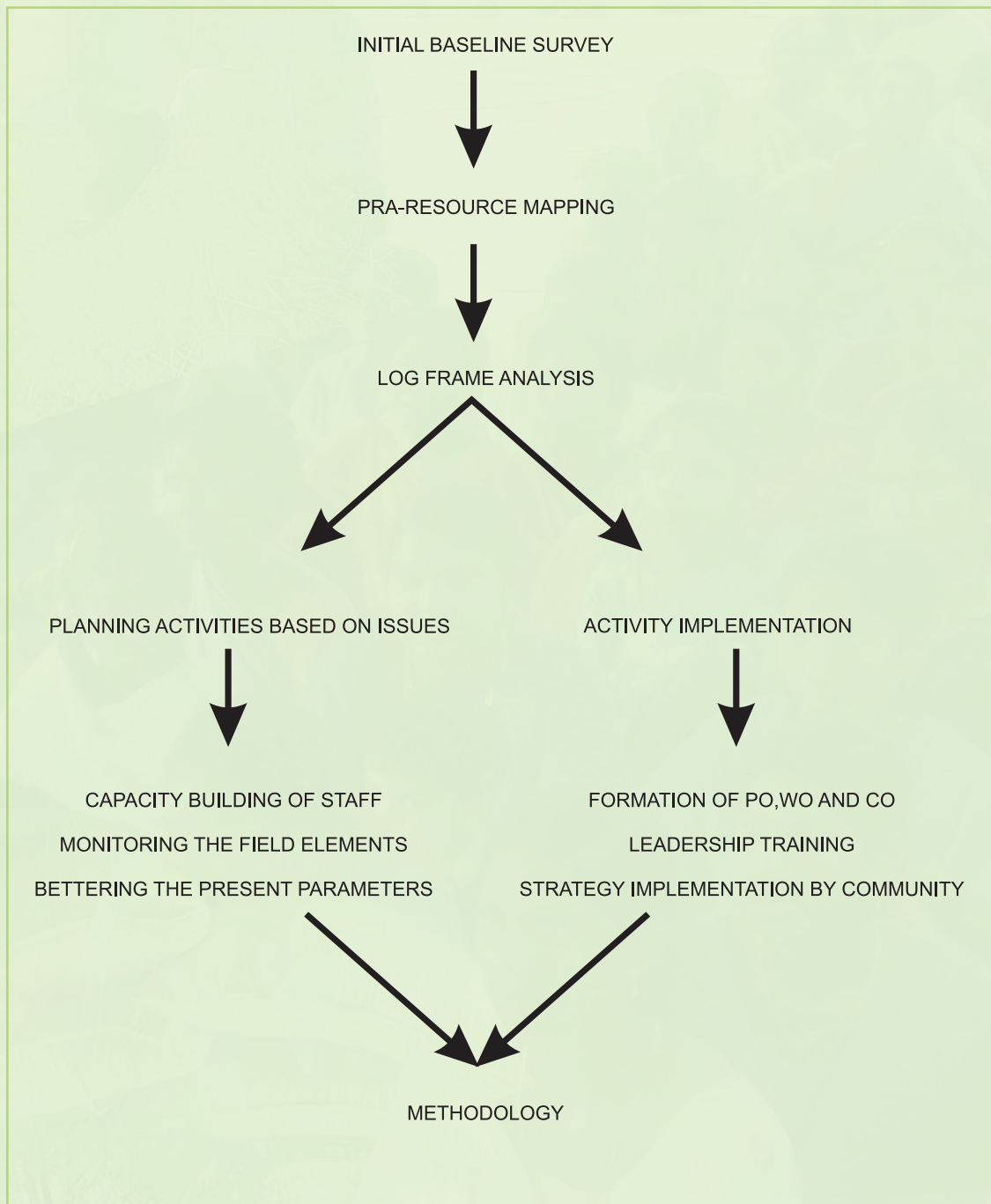
1. Mitigation of the impact of climate change.
2. Yield of agriculture products and services to the community
3. Augmentation of the carbon storage in agro ecosystems
4. Enhancing the fertility of the soils & control soil erosion
5. Providing social and economic well-being to people.

The project initiated a model demonstration plot by the women group in the village. Agro forestry model in Yasidpalem today contribute variously to ecological, social and economic functions. It has potentially provided an option for improvement in livelihoods of the families and community. CeFHA promoted and strengthened in domestication of useful species and multi crop activities in agriculture and mixed crops by introducing the new variety of vegetables in the village through organic farming for the well being of the community.

The community has under gone PRA training for three days in the agricultural crops, tree plantation and fodder as well as land management. In this village 22 dalit families are living and they always migrate outside the village in search of work for their livelihood. The project made the community to identify their own resources 17 acres of uncultivable land and 5 acres of land as community property in the village. The villagers decided in the PRA exercise to contribute 2 acres for the development of the landless 5 families, and the other land will be used for the fodder cultivation for the animal husbandry programme. The community intensively worked on cereal production, integration with livestock Enterprises, greater crop diversification, and agro forestry systems that provided higher economic value and also foster soil conservation. The project enhanced of soil fertility for the food security of children and the community and environmental sustainability. Today the community is maintaining the soil fertility of farmlands organically to grow food grains as well as tree biomass can help meet the demand in future. The women farmers are also capacitated with various inputs in organic farming.

The project introduced an ecologically sound agro forestry system like intercropping of vegetables and mixed arable-livestock systems (mulching cattle, goat & chicks), fodder development which increased the sustainability of agricultural production. Various fruit bearing plants were planted in the model demonstration plot and the bunds are covered with various rhizomes and tubers. To control the soil erosion drumstick plants were planted. The agro forestry model ensured the families with vegetable production, milk, eggs and organic manure, which the people are consuming and marketing the surplus. This has contributed to increase the 22 families' family income and ensured the livelihood and food security of 22 families children, women and the community. The major challenge & success is no more migration in the village and assured the community with sustainable farming practices, community resource sharing and food security and information dissemination through bio resource centre.





Stepping forward with alternatives to income security

Introduction of Livestock Component:

The livestock sector in India is largely dominated by small holders for whom livestock is an important source of livelihood, nutrition, soil nutrient, etc. In the face of greater climate variability, livestock act as an important buffer for livelihood, particularly in the vulnerable rain-fed areas. Due to changes in the cost of food and consumption patterns, the sector is experiencing a healthy growth and good growth potential in the future is also envisaged. This growth would benefit small and marginal farmers in the less endowed rain-fed areas. For many poor farmers livestock are also a source of fuel and an essential source of organic fertilizer for their crops, and can serve as an alternative income source in the case of crop failure.

Livestock has always been an important source of income in the rural India. The village was devoid of livestock. Hence as an initiative by the project the livestock has been introduced, this would help them either by themselves or by the products. When there was a baseline survey before the start the income level of the people in this village was very minimal, they were completely dependant on marketing of cash crops like tobacco and cotton. In the present context wherein the livestock have been introduced has helped the people to establish a very convenient mode of economic integrity. People are very busy and they have a secured feeling of being owners. The people were supported with livestock component as shown in the table below.

Organisation had decided to support the members with Rs. 2000/- for two goats and Rs.10000/- for one buffalo, staff motivated the people to contribute a certain amount of money so that the people would be benefited with a better variety of livestock. People have taken loan for that extra amount they contributed and have already started to repay the loan amount.

Poultry :

A small community poultry shed was constructed and a high yielding variety named Bonaraja or Giriraj has been introduced. 200 chicks in two batches each of 90 and 180 days have been introduced. Five chicks were given to each family.



Introducing the fodder component:

In addition to the various livestock support, the project also introduced two different fodder species of paragrass – Coimbatore Var. 1 and Coimbatore Var. 3 that could be used as feed for the livestock. The fodder crop has been introduced alongside the agricultural crops and has relieved pressure on the people to find fodder for the livestock. This way the dependency rate has reduced and helped people to restrain from purchasing the fodder from the market.

Economic analysis on livestock:

In the past the income levels were very low as they were earning Rs. 120 a day during migration. Rs. 3600 was their sole income every month. Apart from this the people in a particular season would harvest the cash crops, but the amount they spend as input for the field is way too much, they also had to spend a large sum of money to maintain the crops by having to buy pesticides and fertilizers. The amount in a particular season they earn on an average would be Rs. 2000. This amount had to be expended for the daily food, clothing, travelling, and health and very rarely for education of the children. This was a major issue for the people in terms of food and income security.

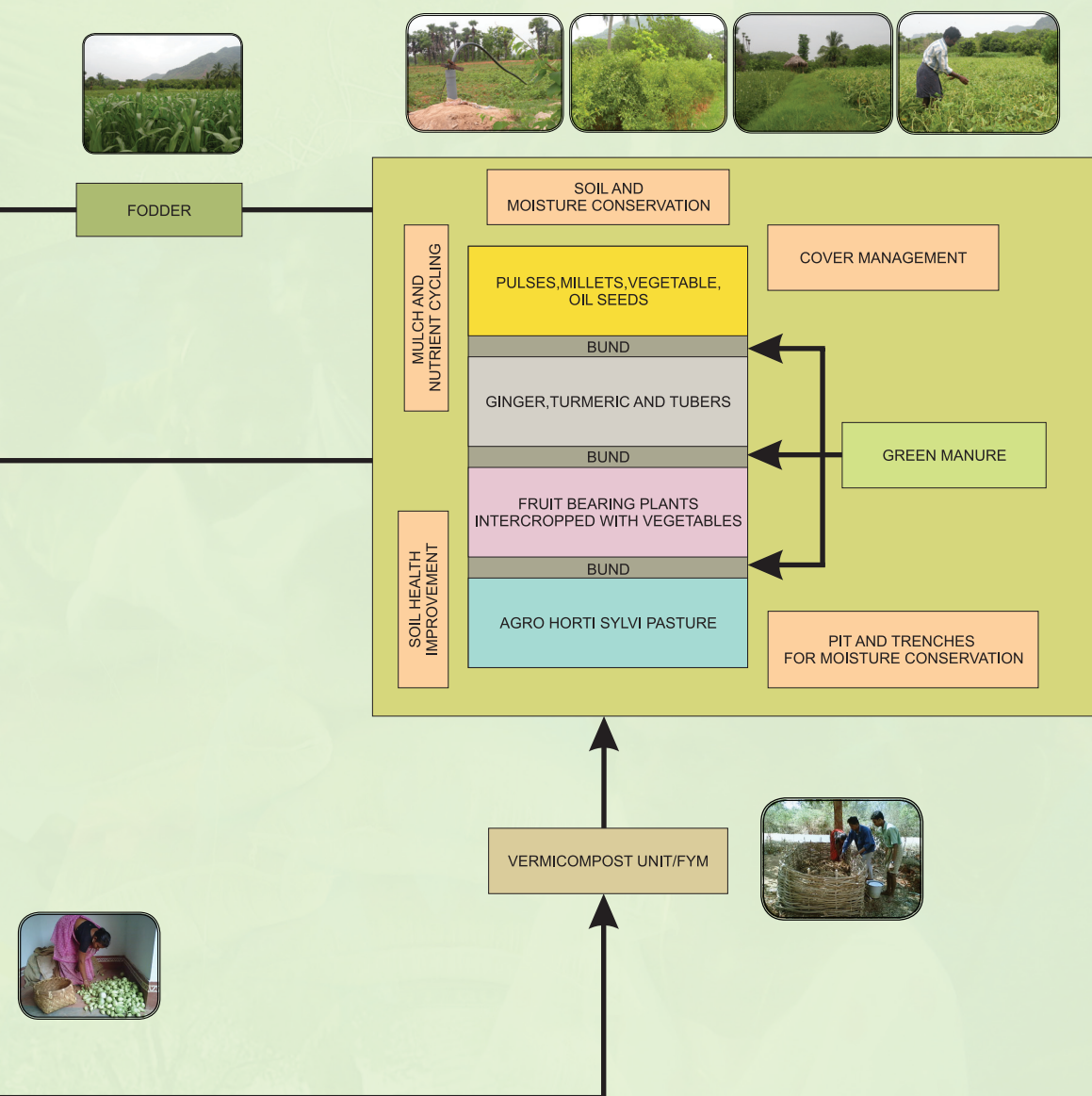
At present there have been many new components that have been introduced to counter migration, endangered food and economic security. This economic substantiality of all the factors could be brought as in the graph below. The variety of consumptional crops contribute towards food security. The food security from the agricultural produce and livestock has increased to 10 months.

As the organization has supported for the livestock, people too contributed their share towards the purchase of livestock. After two years now all the loans that have been taken by the people from the local dairy unit have been cleared off. All the people now are the proud owners of the buffaloes and goats. The goat population too has increased manifold but as of now the people are reluctant to sell them off for meat. They want these assets to be as a security during the unfortunate distress period that they may come across in the future.

People now are in a position to earn Rs 3000 from milk, very soon they would also try and make profit from the goats that they are rearing. Chick rearing too is a major economic contributor and hence the people are expected to be secure enough for the years that are yet to come by. People are earning Rs 600-700 from poultry. People now understand the value of their resources and the importance to manage it.







Training Programs:

Training programs have been imparted on various fields that relate to agriculture by expertise from other concerns. The following training programs have helped the people to capacitate themselves in various agricultural aspects most importantly to refrain slowly from the existing usage of chemical fertilizers.

1.Organic Pesticide:

There was a survey conducted on the available resources that are required for the making of pesticides and found that leaves of tobacco, neem and custard apple were present. The training programs have ensured proper dissemination of knowledge to the people.

2.Agro forestry:

To strengthen the capacities in agriculture field, farmers were trained in utilizing the optimal land to maximum by the experts in the agricultural field. Multi crop parameter and even horti – agri crop combination along with fodder components have been introduced in the field. This has diversified the cropping culture among the people and has brought in a very new dimension towards the outlook of the cropping pattern.

3.Vermicompost/ organic manure:

Organisation had to unlearn and unteach the modern practice of chemical fertilizers that would ruin the soil nutrient status in due course, hence the experts have learnt the importance of conserving the existing nutrient content in the soil and have tried to disseminate the knowledge to the farmers. The major interventions in terms of organic manure were the introduction of vermicompost and also application of farm yard manure in a low cost method.

4.Farmer Trainings – Soil testing, Introduction of new crops:

The farmers in Yasidipalem were trained on different capacities that could contribute towards the crop management and maintain soil nutrient status. Trainings such as soil testing with the ready to get results kit. Introduction of some new crop varieties and the procedures for their cultivation.



5.Seed Preservation & multiplication:

Preservation of seed is an age old tradition that the people follow to protect the fast diminishing indigenous variety. This practice is prominent in the rural agri sectors of India. This practice was envisaged to be put in practice by the staff of CeFHA in Yasidipalem. The farmers were trained on various aspects of seed preservation and the advantages of the procedure.

There have been several training programs that were initiated by CeFHA like pickles, spices, vim, surf for the women to occupy themselves in certain productive work. Women now are capable of much more than what they thought they were.

Training programs were even imparted to the children; they have shown enormous enthusiasm in learning to make soft toys, greeting cards and artificial jewelry. Children have engaged in such activities during the holidays and learnt to adopt some of these activities as their hobbies.

Training Program Details for the Village Yasidipalem			
Sno	Name of the training	Participants	
		Male	Female
1	Organic Pesticide	3	2
2	Organic Pesticide	11	9
3	Agro Forestry	11	11
4	Vermi Compost	11	11
5	Farmer Training	4	10
6	Seed preservation	10	7
7	CeFHA Exposure visit	3	2
8	Organic Pesticide	7	10
9	Soil Testing	7	10
10	Poultry Training	11	11
11	Poultry Training by BCT	11	11
12	Agriculture training for ginger and turmeric	10	7





Name	: Tiparala Devudu(30)M
Wife	: Tiparala Appalanarasa (28)F
Children	: Hemalatha (9- 3rd), F, Sruthi(4)F, Divya, (6- 1st class) , F
Village	: Yasidpalem
Mandal	: Kotauratla
District	: Vizag

Pre-intervention Status

Food Security: 3 months.

Migration: 9 Months.

Economic Status: BPL

Occupation: Labor.

Land holding: 1 acre

Cultivated: Tobacco and

Cotton.

Lost : Respect, Dignity and Value.

The Major issue that Devudu faced was forced migration and due to the scarce irrigational facilities that they possessed after strenuous cash cropping of tobacco. How do we counter the migration? It was a challenge to both the organization and Devudu. This has urged to strategize the weaknesses and strengths to overcome the basic moral evil called "Migration" that was responsible for the disowning and dispossessing of the values, respect and dignity.

Abstract:

Development through strategizing and empowering the village resources is a concept that the organization has followed. The idea was to understand their abilities, traditions and resources to carry forward a strategy and implement it which is not alien to them. The transformation was a step by step process that habituated the people to understand their strengths, able to work on them. Interventions of CeFHA have been a major criterion in developing a facular objective and create the knowledge systems within themselves to be an asset in future thought and sustainability.

Pre intervention of CeFHA:

The family according to government status was placed below poverty line. Devudu and his wife left the homes and parted away from the family to earn a livelihood. They were working for someone and for a cause that benefitted someone. Educating the children became a major burden to him, as earning a meal a day became more difficult. "Migration" had to be sorted out to improve the confidence level, quality of life, health standards, quality of child education above all the dignity and respect they received from the owners where they worked. Family has one acre of land which was cultivated with cash crops that required huge quantities of pesticides and chemical fertilizers ultimately degrading the fertility of soil. Irrigation was another barrier that they had to comply themselves with. All the above factors led Devudu to a life that tied down the basic requirements a family needs to have. Pressure mounted on him as he needed to plan for the days ahead, as work sometimes was not easy to get.



Someone had to bail them out of the issues and support them morally, instilling confidence and build a life with their resources.

Post intervention:

CeFHA has intervened and followed a principle to make people self sustainable. It has helped them understand the rich resources they possess internally as well as externally. The people were so hard working and sincere in their efforts to rebuild themselves and create a sense of dignity, respect and confidence among themselves. The project activities were designed in such a way to help sustain their present systems in a longer run.

The quality of life has changed since the intervention of the organization. The confidence level is up, they have their dignity and respect most importantly they are the entrepreneurs of their own resources. Devudu is very happy these days as he could provide quality food and life to his family and good education to his children.

The change was evident as they no more migrate. The economic condition is improving. More importantly the health conditions have been improving due to the good balanced diet they get from the vegetables they produce from the fields. The platform has been set for him to stride forward in the days to come.

Organisation Activities:

- Agriculture exposure visits and training programs on sustainable agricultural practices and organic farming.
- Introduction of Agro forestry model.
- Encourage marketing to suffice economic needs.
- Introduction of livestock like poultry, buffaloes and goats that boost the economic status.
- Irrigation support to the fields providing a motor and a bore well to pump the water into the fields.

Present Status:

- Now weekly twice the family markets the produced crops and earns Rs. 600 – 700/-.
- Family is now involved in the milk business and earns Rs. 3000 monthly.
- They started utilizing the waste land for fodder development.
- Now the families are aware of harmful effects of chemical pesticides on the soil and have encouraged organic agriculture practices.
- Family with the produce in the fields now have balanced diet to fight malnutrition.





Name	: Ravada Apparao (42)M
Wife	: Ravada Kanayamma (34)F
Children	: Sathyvathi (15- 10th F), Nagaraju(11) M ,6th; Raju, 10years, M
Village	: Yasidpalem
Mandal	: Kotauratla
District	: Vizag

Pre intervention:

Apparao belongs to Dalit community. He is from Yasidpalem village Kotauratla Mandal, Vizag district. Family totally consists of five members. He has three children. Both wife and husband were working as daily wage labours. They do palm fiber and earn 300 – 400 Rs/- a week. By these earnings it's too difficult run the family. They were indebted as they have taken land for lease, but due to less rainfall they were not able to repay the loan instead they borrowed extra money. For fulfilling the family needs and for repaying the loan parents were in migration for 6 months in a year. They don't have land.

Parents were unable to educate their children with small earnings. Beside this family members suffered from ill health. They were unable to consult doctors. Due to improper food children in the family suffered from malnutrition.

Post intervention:

Project has even supported the family with goats, chicks and buffaloes. Family is now involved in the milk business and earns Rs. 1500 – 2000 weekly. They started utilizing the waste land for fodder development. Now they started milk business and earn Rs. 1800 a week which has helped them to repay their loans. Elder daughter in the family is studying 10th standard, second one 6th standard and last child is doing 4th standard. Younger child in family rejoined schooling after completion of bridge camp course. Mother is a women group member and she is now aware on savings and migration has been completely stopped. Children are going regularly to school. Family members are able to consult doctors. Children are getting nutritious food. Animal husbandry in family has increased. Family income is improved. They started cultivation on leased land by repaying all loans. Community has supported family with small land for fodder cultivation by which they are able to feed buffalo.



Women and their impact on the development paradigm:

According to the recent census report 28% of all the working women are farmers, 46 per cent are labourers, the remaining being in non-agricultural areas. In agricultural labour, 56 per cent are men and 44 per cent women. There had to be a breakthrough mechanism to make women a part of the working society that would help them to counter the patriarchal dominance that has been striving in the country for years. In Yasidipalem women have been brought to forefront empowering themselves by managing the economic systems that have been incorporated by CeFHA. When we look at the census report 44% of the women in India are bonded by labor that means the justice for the work they do has as always been a question mark.

This system of farm integration with different factors contributing to the economy has helped especially the women to lead a life of happiness. The beauty to the equation is such that women now involve equally with the men in whatever they do. The process of empowerment has begun and it's taking its own course now. The women have been encouraged to take decisions now which was never possible in the earlier years. The women now demand for respect and are proud of their achievement as they even credit the men for their able support.

Women of Yasidipalem have re-categorized themselves as a prominent force to reckon. They are a crucial part of the governing system in the village. Women now have a say in the all important decision making meetings. Infact they share most of the works like going to the market, working in the agriculture fields, milk rearing, selling the milk. It was not so long ago that women in this village and the nearby areas were involved with much of heavy labor works in the places where they migrated to. But, now the women have learnt to utilize the strength, capability and skill that was hid somewhere deep inside to be surfaced out, and be a part of the man's earning system. The process has seen integrity, security and equality inculcated within the women. Today women are identified as farmers, they are proud in being called so.

The project intervention has addressed a few issues like migration and health that have pushed women back. Women now are stronger than ever, they have the self confidence to lead a life that has been so spectacular in the recent past. They now love to continue their favorite occupation agriculture, they are relieved of the forced migration. Women are a part of Self Help Groups and they involve themselves in the regular family savings. During the time of need and distress they would take loan from the group savings and pay it back with a very less interest rate. They also form a strong part in all the governing community based organization and would not hesitate in putting their views straight and clear. Their participation and leadership increased at all levels.

What is the role of women in agriculture and development?

Current trends in globalization and rising environmental and sustainability concerns are redefining the relationship of women to agriculture and development.

The proportion of women involved in agricultural activities ranges from 20% to 70%, a number that is climbing in many developing countries, especially where agriculture is geared towards export.

Although some progress has been made, women continue to struggle with low income, limited access to education, credit and land, job insecurity, and deteriorating work conditions. Growing competition has fueled demand for cheap, flexible labor, and conflicts over access to natural resources have added to the pressure. Poor rural households are increasingly threatened by natural disaster, environmental change and health and safety risks – this at a time of diminishing government support.



Village Yasidpalem Impact : 2010

Enrolment of children in School
 Identity of the Children as Students
 Formation of Child Group
 Child club
 Formation of Women group
 Women identified as a farmers
 Women leadership emerged
 Bargaining Capacity increased
 Women Managing the Individual Farms & Community Property Resources
 like Water resources, Fodder and Agro Forestry
 Women upgraded their Skills in financial management
 Gender consciousness raised
 Individual Family Savings initiated
 Group Fund Developed
 Community Grain Fund raised

Increased in Health Consciousness
 Decreased in Nutritional Disorders
 Consciousness in Sanitation & Personal Hygiene
 Consciousness in HIV/Aids

Land for land less issue tackled by the Community
 5 Families supported with Community Land resources
 Families stopped migration
 Initiated agriculture with multiple crops and Mixed crops
 Fodder Development and Crop Management
 Usage of Bio Fertilizers & Pesticides
 Usage of Local Indigenous seed
 Preparation of Vermi Compost
 Strengthened the Practice of Kitchen Garden & Sustainable Agriculture
 Food Processing Initiated
 Vegetable Marketing
 Participation in Panchayat & network meetings



Bio Resource centre

It was very important in the beginning that dissemination of knowledge through the experienced resource persons of the community could be carried out to their villages.

The immediate idea was to develop a bio resource centre which is owned by the community with the rich traditional agriculture and skill based knowledge of the community. As the men and women were too much into migration the people had lost the faith in their abilities. After the project intervention getting the confidence of the people back was a major challenge. CeFHA and team formed a very special strategy to inculcate the lost confidence by emphasizing on alternative method of sustainable livelihood.

The centre was established with the coagulation of different streams of knowledge and the major criteria that the centre had to deal was with basic operations like social mobilization, participatory micro level planning, natural resource management, micro enterprises & micro credit, trainings, marketing linkage, service centre and so on.

The following pointers are the major functions of bio resource centre.

- Serves as a meeting place for the farmers , exchange of experiences and sharing ideas
- Enables efficient decentralized production through the provision of key services & demonstration of crop varieties and management
- Provides the suitable production and market information
- Confers on small scale producers the power of scale in marketing
- Provides the capacity building and essential training on farming & networking
- Provides necessary facilities for the effective functioning of the bio village

Can traditional knowledge contribute to agriculture?

Many effective innovations are generated locally, based on the knowledge and expertise of indigenous and local communities rather than on formal scientific research. Traditional farmers embody ways of life beneficial to the conservation of biodiversity and to sustainable rural development.

Local and traditional knowledge has been successfully built into several areas of agriculture, for example in the domestication of wild trees, in plant breeding, and in soil and water management. Scientists should work more closely with local communities and traditional practices should have a higher profile in science education. Efforts should be made to archive and evaluate the knowledge of local people and to protect it under fairer international intellectual property legislation.



Village Governance

The village consists of two major categories of Community Based Organizations that have been strengthened time and again by the community for better governance amongst the people. As there have been tremendous linkup that has been generated from these activities it was very important for the people to associate themselves with proper governing councils within the village itself.

Organisation level:

Peoples Organisation:

CeFHA had initiated a group called peoples organization where in the members from different committees would be a part of this organization and work towards better decision making, when the community is surfaced with any kind of issues.

Self help women group:

A self help women group is present amongst the women members; the major purpose is to encourage and initiate the habit of savings among the people for any kind of need. The loan return is not very expensive too, the interest rates are very less when compared to an external debting agency.

Child Groups :

This was one of the most innovative and creative approach that has been initiated. The children have their own group, they contribute towards the child group fund. All the children very actively participate in the right based issues that children normally face in this locality. They discuss a lot on child labor and right to education. They also talk on various government schemes that have been promised and work towards regularizing of the schemes.

Child Right Protection Committees:

There is one CRPC formed that includes 3 children, 1 village leader, 2 women group members, PRI member, school teacher – The committee ensures that the child rights are not exploited and all the children are treated equally with the proper functioning of child based schemes in the village and in the nearby schools.

Village level :

At the village level there are four vital CBO's

1. Farmers committee: They discuss on the various issues with regard to agriculture and water maintenance.
2. Youth group: This group involves in the various discussions that take place during the village meetings and works on secondary line of leadership.
3. Forest committee : This committee works to ensure a proper forest cover in the nearby forest areas.
4. Dalit network: A few members of this village are a part of dalit network which works on the right based approach for the protection of dignity amongst the dalits.



Biodiversity and impact on climate:

Agricultural biodiversity of all food species is a vital sub-set of general biodiversity, highly threatened by globalisation of food markets and tastes, intellectual property systems and the spread of unsustainable industrial food production. But it still provides the basis of the food and livelihood security of billions of people and the development of all food production, including the industrial agriculture. It is the first link in the food chain, developed and safeguarded by farmers, herders and fisherfolk throughout the world. After the uncultivable land being cultivated, the people witnessed manifold increase of birds, worms, snakes etc.. as interspecific diversification was very common. This has led to the people understanding the importance of preserving the biological components as its all a natural cycle and this cycle was very necessary to maintain balance with the environment.

How is climate change threatening agriculture?

Agriculture has contributed to climate change in many ways, for instance through the conversion of forests to farmland and the release of greenhouse gases. Conversely, climate change now threatens to irreversibly damage natural resources on which agriculture depends.

The effects of global warming are already visible in much of the world. In some areas, moderate warming can slightly increase crop yields. But overall, negative impacts will increasingly dominate. Floods and droughts become more frequent and severe which is likely to seriously affect farm productivity and the livelihoods of rural communities and increase the risk of conflicts over land and water. Also climate change encourages the spread of pests and invasive species and may increase the geographical range of some diseases.

Some land use management approaches can help mitigate global warming. These include planting trees, restoring degraded land, conserving natural habitats, and improving soil and fertility management. Policy options include financial incentives to grow trees, reduce deforestation and develop renewable energy sources. Agriculture and other rural activities must be integrated in future international policy agreements on climate change. However some changes in the climate are now inevitable, adaptation measures are also imperative.



Children Empowerment Process

Impacts and factors that lead to child progress:

CeFHA with its ideology of sustainability in the thinking process of under privileged communities have taken many strides forward in trying to compensate the traditional as well as the recent knowledge systems. Categorically speaking children education and the momentum caused by the Government Programmes have made CeFHA to imbibe certain policy changes in the structure of child knowledge systems. Implementing the progressive objectives in the concerned areas has always questioned the survivability of the ongoing development measures. Due to certain untoward incidents there has been a paradigm shift in the contextual parameters of education and development in underprivileged communities.

In the realm of child and society, there have been many factors that affect the status of a society in total. Education an important and essential component in the growth structure of an individual child has brought forward a very vital prognosis of facts that could be analyzed further in creating a strategic structure in terms of regrouping the entire methodology of community development. The assessed measures have collectively phrased a certain terminology through CeFHA's approach towards child development focusing on community synthesis of sense and sensibility of individual development parameters.

The approach has seen the theoretic crisis phase into a safer and well planned phase for the child's development. Building a platform of provocative thought on the program and making it be able to sustain even after the withdrawal of the project and its activities in it shows the extent of community involvement and togetherness to leap forward in search of success.

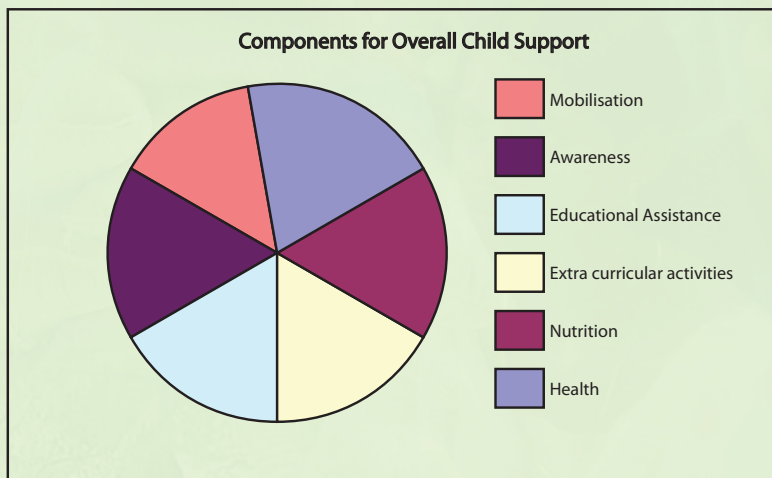
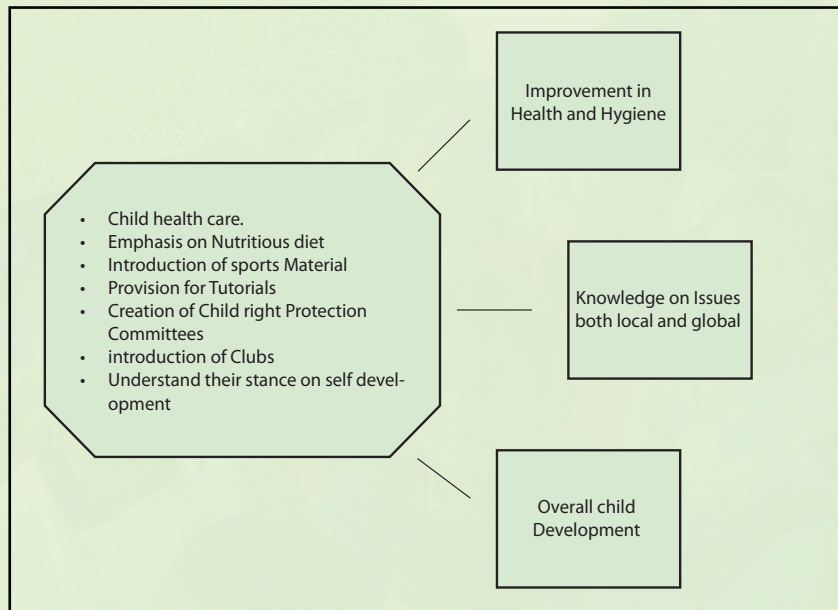
Child Development and Program Stabilization at Yasidipalem:

There needs to be an effective implementing strategy that would help create a ramification procedure in a long term methodology of development process. The organization in itself has comprehensively studied the various factors that are responsible in overall child development and community improvisation.



The following activities have essentially helped to focus on practical and ethical issues of understanding various ways to combat non developing parameters of child.

1. Child health care
2. Emphasis on nutritious and balanced diet
3. Introduction of sports material in view of allround child development.
4. Provision for educational assistance
5. Creation of child right protection committees and introduction of clubs.
6. Help them understand their stance on self development.
7. Awareness and mobilization meetings to create a sense of emergency to work on issue based platforms.



Child eco-club:

Children's eco clubs are encouraged in the village in an eco friendly manner to generate consciousness on environment and encourage participation. The children in village were provided with a place. This club was initiated for the social, educational, health and eco development activities. The main activity of the eco Club is

- To motivate the children to keep their surrounding green and clean by undertaking plantation of trees.
- To compost horticulture waste to use it as a manure for school gardens
- To induce the students to create awareness among public and sanitary workers to stop the indiscriminate burning of waste which causes respiratory diseases
- To sensitize the children & students to minimize the use of plastics/polythene bags. Not to throw them in public places. Also to encourage the use of healthier alternatives like jute, cloth and paper bags, etc.
- To arrange other awareness programmes such as quiz, essays, painting competitions, rally, role plays etc. aiming on various environmental issues.
- To celebrate various environmental days, weeks like vanmahostav, wildlife week, earth day, and world environment day etc.

To develop teamwork, the child group discussed with community to allot a plot for them to develop a garden with vegetables, pine apples and fruit bearing plants. The community gave a plot in the village the children developed vegetables and pine apple garden. This eco development activity brought children to work together towards a common goal and learn to work as a team.

The children have also learnt new skills in the village like soft toys and fabric painting, these new skills were introduced and many more opportunities were created through this club to give them a self confidence.





Name of the child:	Tiparala Bharathi, 9 years, F, 4th Standard
Father	: Krishna (36), Vegetable business
Mother	: Lova Thalli (25), Agricultural Labourer
Grandparents	: Simhachalam (48) F, Venkanna (53), M
Sisters	: Tharun (02)M; Baby (1 month) F
Village	: Yasidpalem
Mandal	: Kotauratla
District	: Vizag

Bharathi said “ when I was a small kid, I remember my parents leaving me at my grandparents house. They said they went for work to be able to buy food for us. I was very weak to even play and to study. Suddenly I see everything changing my childhood friends stay all the time with me, we play, we study and we also keep active and healthy”

Bharathi is from dalit community, aged nine years, dropped out of 2nd standard from Kodavatipudi school. She is from Yasidpalem village. Her family comprises of seven members along with her grandparents. She has one brother and one sister. Her parents are farmers now, before they used to be agricultural labourers. They also carry out palm fiber activity.

Bharathi's parents once left the village for months together in search of suitable work. Migration as has been discussed in the pages before was always a major issue that had to be dealt with. We see Bharathi, very happy and proud to see her father work in the field, depending on no one. They produce food for themselves, maintain good health, and now save money for future.

Bharathi has joined in bridge camp and was trained for one year to pursue her studies with the age group she belonged to. Now she is studying in 4th standard at school. She is very happy to rejoin and attend the classes in the school. She says her ambition in life, to be a doctor can be fulfilled now. She wants to provide good health to her village. She joined in child group and started saving some amount in the group.

A marked transformation can be seen in the life of Bharathi.



you will be in our hearts forever...





Conclusion

"We are free from indebted thinking, we have trained ourselves to support ourselves. we have learnt to utilise the resources to the maximum and have created a backup of knowledge and principles that would be passed on from now."

"We respect our land, and it respects us".

We the people of Yasidipalem are the ambassadors of sustainable livelihood approach to the neighboring villages.

We thank KNH, NMZ, SOMNEED, IRDWSI and Government agencies to have extended their support towards us.

We thank the Director and staff of CeFHA to be a part of our transformation.

"We are happy to present with joy the success story of our village".

-By the people of Yasidipalem