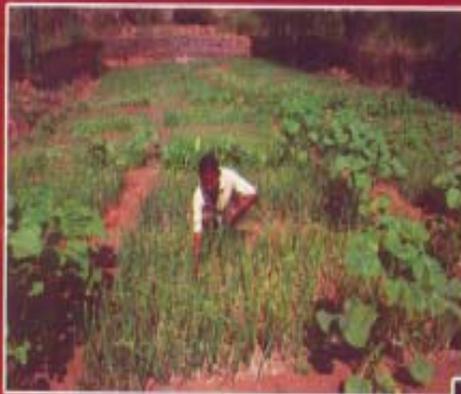


# Annual Report

2007-08



agragee

Director's Note

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2007-2008**

# **AGRAGAMEE**

Kashipur - 765015, Dist - Rayagada, Orissa, India  
Phone : 0674-2551123, 2551130, 06856-222588, 06865-285174  
Fax: 0674-2551130, 06865-285174  
e-mail: agragamee@satyam.net.in, info@agrgamee.org  
Website: <http://www.agrgamee.org>

## Director's Note

Looking at the shifting Development Paradigm in the Tribal Regions of Orissa, one is tempted to go for introspection. Do tribals need to redefine their own way of lives and livelihoods when the basics of Food and Nutrition, Water, Ecology, Energy related securities are threatened and how do we as a Civil Society Organisation support and encourage their efforts in the given context? This is with reference to the local-global situation.

Two things in the Tribal Regions have been of paramount importance; Natural Resource Management and the System of Governance. The Development of a Tribal village in this region will depend entirely on the success and failure of these two components. We in Agramee have been working hard on how to ensure Food Security and a Voice of Empowerment for the poor and marginalised through a range of interventions – running night schools, forming community grain banks, implementing watershed development projects, imparting training on organic farming and sustainable agriculture, electrifying villages by installing solar pvs and micro-hydels, campaigning for better implementation of NREGS, RTI, FRAs etc. We have got a few lessons to share in the Public Domain. We have taken up effort to realize Gandhiji's dream of Gram Swaraj by promoting the concept of eco-village in these tribal regions, where all the natural resources are accessed, controlled and managed equitably by the village community, and the basic needs of every family and every person are taken care of. As a first effort in this direction, we have been encouraged by the enthusiastic response of the people to the idea of family farms for ensuring household food and livelihood security. It is heartening to note that we are not alone in these efforts, and that all over the world, there is a movement to develop eco-villages. The small land holders in the world are coming together to offer the best alternative to global food crisis. The future of the Rural Areas and in fact human beings in general depends on this, as time and again it has been proved that it is the small farmers who farm most efficiently. Agramee has started working in these two areas and would underscore this in future. Natural Resources like Land, Water Forest, Renewable Energy, Bio-mass and their management with equity and sustainability will be the key to the best form of participatory development and action.

Agramee has also realized that a collaborative framework is needed to harness maximum synergy in solving problems that cripple the poor. One such problem is related to water. A collaborative framework has been initiated by Agramee, through the 'Orissa Water Forum' to create a space for dialogue and also for debate and action on issues concerning local communities and this is most crucial of all natural resources. Whether it is the Water Policy or Ground Water Recharge or Water Harvesting or Study of River Basins and associated conflicts, there has always been a challenge to take a plunge into the heart of the issue knowing fully well that water security for all has become a distant dream in the given situation.

Achyut Das  
Director  
1-10-2008

# Introduction

There has been a reminder that Agragamee in action has completed 25 years of its formal and informal existence one year back in 2006 and there has to be some kind of Silver Jubilee Celebration. Some friends had proposed to have a grand get together of friends and well-wishers, colleagues present and past, adversaries and critics and make it really big. But we thought, it is better to have a series of publications to highlight the work done and experience earned. Agragamee had published three newsletters – **AROHAN** on Women's Empowerment, **AGRADUTTA** for night school students and **NUA PATHA AND NUA BATA** for night school teachers and animators. All these newsletters published regularly had a lot of good articles. After a careful selection, three books have been published. Documentation has immense strength to reach out to the communities and to the outside world. Whether it is Primary Education, Natural Resource Management, Watershed Development, Organic Farming, Renewable Energy Projects, Bio-diversity Conservation, Advocacy Campaigns and many other activities, the experience in one village is a learning for others. All these programmes have been fine-tuned over long years and one knows why they succeed or fail.

This year, there was a Cholera outbreak in Kashipur ( Rayagada Dist.), Dasmantpur ( Koraput Dist.) and Th. Rampur ( Kalahandi Dist ), the area being a triangle of poverty, hunger and starvation deaths. Agragamee brought the epidemic to the notice of the administration and offered to assist the Administration. The initial warning was not taken seriously resulting in death of hundreds of people. The spectre of death was haunting everybody in the area. Even Agragamee which has not got much experience in health programme was forced to organise health camps and distribute medicines. It was a unique experience.

The Govt. Agencies with a range of Programmes like NREGS, NRHM, PDS etc., the Panchayati Raj Institutions with decentralised system of Governance, the NGOs with their own resources and the corporates with their money and professionalism are under scrutiny because of the epidemic deaths. It is a clear indication that one organisation cannot do much to tackle a host of problems associated with Cholera epidemic. It also demands the necessity to build a collaborative framework to work hand in hand.

What NGOs can effectively do is to set Models and examples of people's action in different locations. Agragamee has always followed this path. All the programme contents are not the works of a Contractor but demonstration of community mobilisation. Whether Mukta Gyana Kutir as School for Tribal Girls or NRM for Women or Tribal Women's Federation, all these have become symbols of women's empowerment.

Policy Advocacy and Campaigns have been a core area of Agragamee. Agragamee has organised a number of Public Hearings and similar such events at different locations with the participation of the communities and civil societies, PRI functionaries and media persons. People-centred Advocacy has been a strength of the organisation.

There has been tremendous emphasis on Organic Farming. Going systematically to increase Production by introducing low cost technologies, ensuring Certification and Marketing are certain areas of concern. Based on past experience, it has been a conscious attempt to scale up the Organic Farming areas and number of farmers. From 15 villages, it has been increased to 40 villages in Kashipur and also 15 villages in other blocks. Now more than 2000 farmers are part of the Organic Farming Project. It is hoped that 2000 + vermicompost bins will be constructed. It is also required to have a pragmatic collaboration with the Govt. of Orissa and Govt. of India (APEDA National Horticulture Mission). Agragamee has emerged as a Resource Centre for Organic Farming.

# Contents

---

	<b>Page</b>
<b>1. Primary Education</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. Empowerment and Sustainable Livelihood through Grassroots Action and Training</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>3. NRM &amp; Watershed Development –towards Sustainable Livelihood</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>4. Organic Farming, Food, Nutrition &amp; Ecological Security</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>5. Combating Energy Poverty and Social Economic Deprivation by effective use of Renewable Energy Resources</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>6. Empowering Women through Institution Building</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>7. Bio-diversity Conservation for Generation of Sustainable Livelihood</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>8. Advocacy, Governance and Research Generating Impact on Livelihood Issues</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>9. Grameen Vikash Andolan</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>10. Village Resource Center</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>11. Publications</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>12. Organization Structure</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>13. Financial Summary</b>	<b>43</b>

# 1. Primary Education

Aragamee believes that elementary education is a fundamental right of every citizen. With this conviction, Aragamee has sought to address the problems confronting universalisation of primary education in tribal areas in several ways, including advocacy, campaigns, and alternative schools that provide access in some of the remotest regions of Orissa state. Over the years, Aragamee has facilitated more than 3000 children for further education, beyond the primary stage, in tribal areas, where census literacy percentages have been below 20%. The visible and tangible impact of its efforts in education has encouraged Aragamee to take up a programme of education for tribal girls, who are the most educationally deprived section of the population. In addition, Aragamee also continues with the programme of village schools in the Kandhmals, in Panchyats, which can be accessed only on foot. Aragamee's programme of primary education presently taken up in the tribal Blocks of Phiringia in Phulbani, Kashipur in Rayagada, and Thuamulrampur in Kalahandi seeks to develop a model of qualitative education for tribal children, who are unable to access primary education due to a complex set of reasons, including poverty, systemic failures, and inefficient delivery.

## 1.1 MUKTA GYANA KUTIRA, AN EDUCATIONAL EFFORT FOR TRIBAL GIRLS

Seeking to address the persistent problem of poor educational levels amongst tribal girls, specially in Orissa, Aragamee has taken up three schools for tribal girls as follows:

District	Block	Gram Panchayat	Student Strength
Kalahandi	Thuamulrampur	Padepadar	70
Kalahandi	Thuamulrampur	Adri	50
Rayagada	Kashipur	Kashipur	150

## 1.2 INTRODUCTION

At the end of three years of the Programme the three Mukta Gyana Kutira Schools, under the Progressive Education In Remote Tribal Blocks: An Effort Towards Education For All" project Funded by Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, show tangible improvements at several levels. The children are bright, much more communicative and confident than before, and the sense of community ownership has increased, as parent contributions have come in steadily, and meetings have been very well attended. The children have also lost the look of malnourishment, which makes us feel that the mid-day meal supplement has played a definite role.

The surrounding villages have also been able to perceive these differences, and there is an increasing demand to admit more children. We have been compelled to refuse more parents this year, than the previous years together. The major pressure however, has been to admit boys, which indicates more than anything else the inadequacy of the existing government schools.

The increased interaction with the community has also provided the basis of looking into other issues, including NREGA. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has been discussed in

detail with the village community, and systematic effort has been made to help people apply for job cards, as well as for hundred days of employment. Children of older classes have also been given lessons on the Act, and now monitor and report on its implementation in the villages.

Support from other sources have helped to build up infrastructure. Writing desks and benches have been provided to all children, in both Padepadar and Kashipur centres, through constructive support from the Belgian student group, ROSE. They have also assured additional support for construction of Classrooms. This will be taken up in Kashipur, where there is an acute shortage of classroom space.

### **1.3 EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

For the smooth running of "Mukta Gyana Kuttir" a 13 member education committee taking parents as representatives is formed. Both men and women members of this committee take responsibility of day to day activities. The committee members selected collectively by the respective village take up various responsibilities as follows:

1. The attendance of the girl students and the teachers.
2. Regular village visits of the school teachers;
3. Performance of children, beginning with attendance and going on to problems that children face,
4. Evaluation and school reports;
5. And discuss other problems of the school or center are prominent.

The committee members have taken their responsibilities quite seriously, and raised different issues at various points of time. They have also taken the responsibility of ensuring payments come in time, though not all parents have been able to contribute. This is a big challenge, and it is to be appreciated, that even in the several cases where parents have to do daily wage earning, the contributions have been made.

### **1.4 TEACHERS' MEETING**

Regular teachers' meetings help to monitor the progress of the children, as well as the overall progress of the schools. Teaching learning materials, extra-curricular activities, different needs of the children from different villages, with different languages, etc. are discussed. The response to new material introduced as also improved methods for teaching and communication, uses of innovative aids, teacher initiatives, etc. are encouraged in these meetings. Students who are slow learners are also identified and extra classes organised for them to help them catch up.

### **1.5 PARENTS AND TEACHERS MEETING**

Regular parents teachers' meetings have been continued on a monthly basis. The meetings encourage parents to look at the lessons and learnings of the children even if they themselves are illiterate. Parents are encouraged to talk to the children about what they learnt, and ask them to write out the names of the different family members their village, etc.

These meetings also provide the opportunity to understand developmental issues in the village, and has helped us address problems regarding the smooth implementation of the NREGA. As a result job applications from 5 villages were submitted, and 40 members who have not yet received job cards have applied for them. Subsequently, the district administration have started employment programmes in all these villages. The Podabandh village, which sends 11 children to the school, have taken the NREGA programme very seriously, and pursued the full payment of wages very persistently. The VLW has been brought to book, and people have received payments.

## **1.6 VILLAGE MEETING**

Monthly village meetings are taken up for further interaction. In these meetings, problems of non-attendance, parent response, and student performance are taken up. As students also attend these meetings, there is immediate response, and problems are discussed and addressed on the spot.

In addition, developmental issues including delivery of different schemes, like the ICDS, mid-day meal, the regularity of welfare doles like the Old Age Pension, widow pension, etc. are discussed and suggestions made as to what the people can do. Collective cash and grain savings are encouraged, to help the community have a buffer against times of need. SHGs and the servicing of loans, and the pros and cons of institutional finance as against informal sector loans are also discussed in the village meetings, and then followed up in the Parent's – Teachers' meetings.

## **1.7 MID-DAY MEAL PROGRAM**

The mid-day meal programme has helped to address caste issues as well. On Saturdays, children prepare the meal, taking turns in batches. This encourages children to accept differences of caste, breaking with traditional taboos of their villages. In several instances, children have continued with their convictions, despite objections from their parents. In some cases, however, upper caste parents have withdrawn their children.

A variety of cereals produced locally form part of the diet to enrich the food value. The parent teachers' meetings have provided a platform to discuss these issues. By and large, the community has seen that it is a greater advantage to educate their girls than to deny them on the grounds of casteism.

## **1.8 HEALTH CHECKUPS**

For health check-up of the students the help of the near Kashipur PHC is taken. A health camp in every 2-3 months are being organised to protect the students from various diseases. The weight and height measurements are taken in every month.

## **1.9 TEACHERS TRAINING**

The teachers are provided teachers training for developing their competence. The trainings are mainly based on two aspects: one is learning and other is participation. How children will be taught in primary level it is a part of the training. The medium of the teaching and the procedure of the training, the preparation of the learning materials and to create interest among the students for learning are included in the syllabus of the training. Ascertaining the level of standard of students mathematics, science, social science, language, students psychology, songs, story, game etc. All the subjects are presented through song, dance and story.

A seven days training camp was held in dated 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007 to 7<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at Shri Aurobindo Ashram, Kechla, Koraput. Five teachers of the Mukta Gyana Kuttir, Padepadar and Kashipur were participate in this camp. This programme was conducted by Pranjali Bhai, of Delhi Aurobindo Ashram and Baren bhai and Manush bhai was being taught there.

Traditional teaching does not create any progress among the students. Two years of their school life spent in only learning alphabets and counting numbers. The most important period of the mental development of the students is spent in all these traditional studies. So what is to be taught to the children which will help them to their mental development was content of the discussion.

## **1.10 LIBRARY**

In order to expand the sphere of knowledge of the students library facilities are made available to the students. A reading room specially for the children is hugely enjoyed by the senior students, as they steal time away from the noisy younger ones. Most sought after by the students are the mythologies that detail the adventures of the different deities that rule over our fates. In addition, several children also have developed a liking for adventure stories. The more popular books are quickly circulated amongst the students, and form a point for discussion after classes.

## **1.11 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

Along with bookish knowledge vocational training are provided to the students which will help them to adopt their source of livelihood. Various handicrafts such as terracotta, doll making, book binding etc. are learning here.

## **GARDENING**

Divided into three groups i.e. Indravati, Nagabali and Bansadhara children have small plots for vegetable cultivation. They are taught the principles of organic cultivation, and the vegetables thus grown supplement the mid-day meal. The Agramee Kashipur Children produced vegetables worth Rs.1500/ worth of vegetables all of which was consumed by the children in the mid-day meal. The children of Agramee Padepadar produced Rs.800 worth of vegetables for their mid-day meal.

## **HANDICRAFTS**

Patchwork seats using unused plastic sacking, and colourful wool material for embroidery enable students to liven up their classrooms. The local potters were involved to help children learn to make clay toys. Children learnt to collect and clean the clay on their own, and also make a range of toys including various animals, fruits, and vehicles have been made by the children.

## **NOTEBOOK BINDING TRAINING**

20 selected students were trained in note-book binding in two phases. These note-books and registers are used for official purposes, as also in the school. A total of 200 note-books were produced by the children.

## **SEWING**

Sewing also proved an absorbing activity for the children. They learnt embroidery, as also stitching buttons and hooks, and hemming their clothes.

## **1.12 BALSANSAD/ CHILDREN'S PARLIAMENT**

To make children a perfect citizen in future "balsansad" program are included in these syllabus by Agramee. Which helps students aware of democratic election and their rights and responsibilities.

## **1.13 ANNUAL FUNCTION**

The third foundation day was held on December 10 in the year 2007. In the annual function along with the guest, chairman, bank manager of SBI, Kashipur and all the parents were presented. All the students showed their talent by taking part in singing and dancing, which were enjoyed by one and all. The role of wild animals was very much attractive in the play staged in the annual function.

The parents on their part enjoyed the whole show immensely, and felt that the school had indeed made progress. As in the previous year, this year, as well, the progress reports cards were distributed during the annual day function. Parents who could not read and write were told what is written on the card. The contributions of the parents were also announced, and the defaulters were encouraged to pay-up. The Annual day function helped to give much local visibility to the school, and enabled the parents to realised the different abilities of their daughters more than anything else.

### 1.14 COLLABORATION WITH NIOS

Aragamee has taken all initiatives to collaborate with National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to have the accreditation on Open Basic Education (OBE) so that learners will be able to join in formal schools after leaving from Mukta Gyana Kutira without any difficulty. The same has been processed at NIOS level and expected to have the accreditation by end of 2008.

### 1.15 CASE STUDIES

Name- Parbati Jhodia  
 Father's name- Mangulu Jhodia  
 Mother's name- Radhamani Jhodia  
 Class- IV  
 Age- 12 years  
 Caste- Schedule Tribe  
 Village- Ratapada  
 Block- Kashipur



Twelve years old Parbati Jhodia is the daughter of Mangulu Jhodia and Radhamani Jhodia of Ratapada village. Parvati lost her father at a young age. She has four sisters and no brother. All the children were studying in the Government Primary school, but the financial burden on her mother was enormous, so her sisters dropped out. Then when Mukta Gyana Kutir started in Agramee, Parvati was more than happy to join. The difficult financial conditions prevent her sisters from joining. They along with her mother make a living out of wage labour.

Parvati says that the government schools were absolutely inadequate providing just one teacher for more than 50 students. Initially, Parvati's mother was reluctant to allow her to come to Mukta Gyana Kutira, and Parvati had to sneak out with the other girls. However, when she saw Parvati's interest, Parvati's mother took the initiative to have her admitted with due procedure. Parvati is a regular student, and loves mathematics more than any other subject.

### STUDENT ENROLEMENT

Community	Class I - A		Class I - B		Class II		Class III		Class IV		Total	
	Kspr	Pdp	Kspr	Pdp	Kspr	Pdp	Kspr	Pdp	Kspr	Pdp	Kspr	Pdp
ST	28	3	18	-	26	1	11	2	13	0	96	7
SC	5	1	17	-	10	6	8	5	5	5	45	17
OBC	2	11	1	-	-	6	1	9	-	13	4	43
Total	35	15	36	-	36	13	20	16	18	18	145	67

Name: Susmi Jhodia  
Father's name- Ram Jhodia  
Mother's name- Bel Jhodia  
Age- 7 years  
Caste- Schedule Tribe  
Village- Parajasila  
Block- Kasipur



Susmi Jhodia, is the daughter of Ram Jhodia and Bela jhodia of Parajasila village. Her father has 2 acres of dry upland. With no irrigation, yields are poor, and the family depends on wage labour for four to six months in a year. Yet, Susmi's parents are eager that their children also have education, and send Susmi and her younger sister to school regularly.

Susmi used to be very frightened, and like a mouse in class, afraid to make mistakes, and afraid what her teachers would say. However, Mukta Gyana Kutir has helped her come out of her shell, and shine. She has proved her ability in class as well as in play, and loves to answer class tests set by her teachers, where she usually scores top numbers.

Name- Sharada Jhodia  
Father's name- Mayadhar Jhodia  
Mother's name- Tara Jhodia  
Brothers: Das Jhodia, Gullu Jhodia  
Village: Parajasilla



Sharada is the eldest amongst her siblings, and takes her responsibilities very seriously. Being the only daughter in the family, she has a hectic time in the morning and evening helping her mother with the household chores. Her younger brothers love Sharada a lot, and beg to go to school with her. The village school is run very sporadically, and children learn very little there.

Sharada's parents are landless, and depend on wage labour. Her mother cooks the meal in Mukta Gyana Kutira, which helps them have a small but steady income. Her father shares crops land, and at other times, depends on agricultural wage labour. She takes all her subjects very seriously and performs nicely in all of them but she finds Mathematics much more fascinating and interesting.

## HEALTH CHECK UP

DATE	VENUE	DOCTOR	PARTICIPANT
22.04.07	Mukta Gyana Kutira Aragamee, Kashipur	Dr. Ghadei Govt hospital, Kashipur	75
06.11.07	Mukta Gyana Kutira Aragamee, Kashipur	Dr. Padhy Govt hospital, Kashipur	107

## VOCATIONAL TRAINING

DATE	Training	VENUE	PARTICIPANTS
10.06.07 to 20.06.07	Book Binding	Training Hall Aragamee, Kashipur	20
21.6.07 to 30.06.07	Book Binding	Training Hall Aragamee, Kashipur	30
14.12.07 to 20.12.07	Designing & Printing	Training Hall Aragamee, Kashipur	45
Throughout the Year	Organic cultivation	Respective Schools	215
Throughout the Year	Sewing	Respective Schools	43

## PARENTS' CONTRIBUTION

No of Parents	Total Rupees
127	Rs 42,880

## TEACHERS' TRAINING

DATE	VENUE	Collaboration	PARTICIPANTS	TOPIC
01.01.07 to 05.01.07	Kechla, Koraput	Auroville Group	20	Method of Teaching

### 1.16 NIGHT SCHOOLS FOR WORKING CHILDREN

#### INNOVATIVE EDUCATION CENTERS

Aragamee has been facilitating education programs in remote locations of Orissa with an innovative approach for socio-economic development of people. There are 15 education centers running in Luisingi & Pairaju Gram Panchayat of remote Phiringia block of Kandhamal district. Around 516 learners have been enrolled in all those 15 no. of innovative education centers. Other than this education intervention, sustainable development approaches in the line of land development & promotion of family farm have been pursued in the areas. This project has been supported by Terre des Hommes(TdH), Germany.

#### 1.17 CASE STUDY: A MODEL EDUCATION CENTER AT TALADANGADANAM

Taladangadamui is one of the backward villages of Luisingi Gram Panchayat of Phiringia block, Kandhamal district where an education center is running. The center is opening in both day & evening time. So far as the literacy level is concerned, it is far below of National & state level status. The village is completely cut off from other parts of the block. Village is comprised with 26 schedule caste hhs out of total 31 hhs. Agriculture & collection of NTFPs are major livelihood source of all of them.

The adult members are also used to come to center for enhancing their reading & writing habits. Villagers use this platform to discuss various development issues and also develop action plan for the village. Quarterly examinations are conducted to learner's progress. The same progress report is used to share with parents. Eight of them have joined in higher classes in Charbhata residential school of Subarnpur district. This is one of the key achievements of the center.

# **2. Empowerment & Sustainable Livelihood through Grassroots Action & Training**

Aragamee has sought to address the high food insecurity of tribal communities through integrated efforts by combining education for rights with efforts for conservation, regeneration and development of land and water resources. With fund support from Concern World Wide, and Christian Aid, the present effort seeks to address the survival and subsistence needs of the more vulnerable families in a village through community efforts. It hopes to bring about a multi-layered transformation at the village level by addressing issues of resource management and conservation while helping the tribal farmer take up better agricultural practices, and also improve land security, by actualising the provisions under the PESA, and other pro-poor and pro-tribal acts. The effort prioritises women's needs and perceptions, with the all interventions being implemented through the Mahila Mandal.

## **2.1 PROBLEMS PERCEIVED**

The perceived problems addressed under the present project can be outlined as follows:

- Food insecurity
- Environmental Degradation
- Poor Agricultural Productivity
- Poor Understanding of Anti-poverty Policies & Programmes
- Exclusion & Inequity

## **2.2 GOAL**

Empowerment and sustainable development by encouraging women centred initiatives for natural resource management.

## **2.3 OBJECTIVES**

- a. To develop holistic alternatives through a systems approach based on community initiative and existing and traditional knowledge systems to improve quality of life of local tribal communities and check the present trend of ecological and environmental degeneration;
- b. To strengthen and equip local people's organisations at the village and higher levels to take up the protection, management and development of the natural resource base in a sustainable and equitable manner;
- c. To generate livelihood options for the landless and vulnerable section of the community through effective NRM planning and sustainable resource use;

- d. To help develop a people's plan for the sustainable use and management of natural resources through a combination of local knowledge and modern know how and information in NRM systems
- e. To build women's capacities in particular and the community in general in the project area and to facilitate advocacy for sustainably planning using and managing natural resources;
- f. To facilitate processes of entitlements to landless and marginal farmers to improve their food security and check distress migration
- h. To improve agricultural output as a demonstration and a livelihood alternative so as to enhance the protection and conservation of village commons.
- i. To develop an understanding of laws on natural resource in the tribal regions as an effort towards the empowerment of local communities.
- j. Ripple Effect that would influence other development agencies and institutions to adopt the successful approaches and strategies for other tribal blocks:

## 2.4 ACTIVITIES

### MICRO-PLANNING

32 villages have been taken up for people's micro-planning which has helped develop a detailed picture of the socio-economic situation, the resource base, the land use, cropping, and degradations patterns, and the historical background of the village. A people's micro-plan exercise consists of the following:

- Social Map: this includes a detailed picture of the village community, including their economic condition, the benefits they have received from the government, the wealth ranking by the community, the political status of each family in the village.
- Village Maps: The revenue maps provide the basis of this exercise, helping to superimpose the water-flows, the cropping and land use patterns, and the proposed plan for village, and land development.
- Detailed land Use Mapping: There is a detailed land use mapping, which seeks to record the present encroachment patterns, and understand the land issues vis-a-vis the power relationships and socio-economic conditions of the villages. This is followed by a dialogue with the people for improved land use, land distribution, and better equity within the community.
- Village history: Attempt is also made to understand the village history, with the help of the people in order to document their traditional production systems, and other issues that have affected them;
- Micro-plan: The effort leads to the formulation of micro-plans, which prioritises the problems of the different economic and interest groups within the village.



## RESOURCE MAPPING & MICRO-PLAN EXERCISES

District	Name of the Block	Panchayat	Nos. of villages	Status of Micro planning presentation
Rayagada	Kashipur	Chandragiri	4	Village level micro planning presentation in 1 village
		Talajhiri	4	
Kalahandi	Th. Rampur	Padepadar	4	1 panchayat level & 2 village level presentation completed
		Gopinathpur	3	
		Maligoan	1	
Kandmal	Phiringia	Luisingh	4	2 village level completed
		Pairaju	4	1 village level presentation completed
Koraput	Dasamantpur	Chikamba	4	2 village level presentation Completed & 2 panchayat level completed
		Dumbaguda	4	2 village level presentation Completed & 1 panchayat level completed

### 2.5 ENSURING PEOPLE'S OWNERSHIP

The people's micro-plans have been presented at the Panchayat level, to help other village communities understand the use of micro-planning, and more importantly to facilitate acceptance of the micro-plan for Panchayat plan formulation. The fact sheets as well as the visual presentation of the village socio-economic conditions have created much interest, and the proposals have been accepted by the Gram Sabhas as part of the Panchayat development plans.

The positive impact of these presentations have encouraged village level mahila mandals to articulate their demands and priorities for inclusion in the Panchayat level plans.

Wall-paintings of village resources and social maps have been taken up in the different villages enabling people to have a point of visual reference, for their micro-plans, as also providing evidence of the efforts and the people's priorities to people from outside the village including government officers, elected representatives like the Sarpanch, etc.

### 2.6 PANCHAYAT LEVEL MICRO PLANNING PRESENTATION

Date	Title	Participants	Venue
15.08.07	GP Level presentation	70	Dumbaguda panchayat
15.08.07	GP Level presentation	85	Chikamba panchayat
30.12.07	GP level presentation	56	Padepadar , Kalahandi

## 2.7 STRENGTHENING WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS

Women's organisations have been strengthened at different levels by encouraging formation of Mahila Mandals at the village level, bringing together members of women's federations, and identifying the priority areas where women's groups can take actions.

## 2.8 NRM ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Date	Title	Participants	Venue
28.12.07	NRM Association meeting	50	Aragamee, Padepadar
20.12.07	Panchayat level Mahila Mandal meeting	45	Aragamee, Adri
24.12.07	Panchayat level Mahila Mandal meeting	42	Aragamee, Chandragiri

## 2.9 MAHILA MANDALS

Systematic effort has been made to help women in the villages organise into Mahila Mandals, through village meetings, training programmes, and mobilisational inputs.

The emphasis here is on an inclusive organisation at the village level, that seeks and prioritises everybody's participation, rather than a small critical mass for managing savings. The savings encouraged for every mahila mandal, are more an entry point, and a means of enabling mahila mandals have their own capital which would give them a sense of empowerment, rather than forming SHGs, within the rules, and regulations, prescribed by the banks for thrift and credit.

The village level Mahila Mandals keep record of work undertaken, and contributions made, as also ensure equitable distribution of work and benefits. This ensures controls at the village level, and does away with tedious record keeping proceedings such as work attendance registers at the project level.

## 2.10 COLLECTIVE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMONS

Mahila mandals have taken up collective effort to develop commons and waste lands for income generation, as well for a demonstration effect. Village commons for such effort have been negotiated with the village community, and institutional processes like the Gram Sabhas, and Palli Sabhas have been brought into play for ensuring sanction in keeping with the PESA Act. In addition, village landlords, with occupying unused and underused lands have also been requested for donations of land to Mahila Mandals, for such efforts, and the negotiations are on.

This has also played a key role in helping women within a village come together. It has also enabled the village as a whole to realise the importance of community action.

## 2.11 FURTHER LINKAGES

Linkages have been established with resource institutions to further this initiative. CTCRI (Central Tuber Crop Research Institution) have provided seed material for tuber crop nurseries in 20 villages to for crop diversifications efforts that would improve food security and also enable tribal farmers to keep their own seeds, and not depend on markets. They have also provided training supports for success of the tuber crops. The (CHES) Central Horticultural Experimental Station will provide training inputs for development of improved varieties of fruit trees, that can be grown in the backyard by the tribal families.

## **2.12 FAMILY FARMS**

To enhance productivity in the uplands, decrease the fallow cycle and the area under shifting cultivation, improve soil management, increase crop diversity, and have a system of buffers against crop failure, the concept of family farm has been introduced.

The family farm encourages every tribal family to take up one acre of land for developing mixed cropping systems, combining perennial and permanent tree crops with subsistence crops consisting of the locally cropped varieties of millets, cash crops such as tubers and pulses, and seasonal crops such as vegetables. The effort seeks to provide a demonstration model that can be subsequently taken up on other cropped land by the farmers themselves, ensuring sustainability, and long term conservation. Land use, and land management inputs are combined with better village organisations, which would introduce controlled grazing of cattle, fencing, and recognition of permanent rights of the landless over wastes or commons, allotted specifically for them thus increasing equity in resource access.

As a first step, willing beneficiaries have been identified to take up land development, which would improve soil management by checking erosion. In tune with the season, nurseries for the various crops would be taken up, which can be planted during the monsoons for development of Family Farms.

Land entitlement processes are also being initiated through family farms. Landless, who have encroached on Government land are encouraged to take up permanent cropping on these lands through family farms and subsequently apply for permanent title deeds.

5 villages have so far taken a decision over allocating land to landless families. 30 villages have decided upon commons which will be collectively owned and managed by the women's group in the village. The process of moving palli sabha resolutions to the effect is on.

## **2.13 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE**

Efforts for helping farmers improve soil fertility, through crop diversification, re-cycling waste through composting, and other organic manures, pest reduction through organic means has been introduced in the irrigated areas, so that farmers can have a better crop, and cut down on the extensive shifting cultivation practices. Back up support is provided through training and capacity building programmes which has helped the farmers internalise organic farming concepts, and take up non-chemical techniques of cultivation using mulches, green manure, and crop rotation in addition to the vermin-compost and digesters to have better yields.

This has also helped to link up the efforts with institutions like APEDA, which have assured certification for organic onions to enable farmers get a better price by supplying to the export market.

To facilitate demonstration, Mahila Mandals have been encouraged to take up organic cultivation in a collective manner. The demonstration of organic techniques with the help of vermi-compost bins, and better re-cycling of wastes has helped the community also adopt organic techniques for their rabi crops.

## **2.14 ECO-VILLAGE PLANNING**

The concept of eco-village is being planned in the villages, whereby each village will take care of its entire resource system in a holistic and sustainable way, while ensuring equity and a life with dignity for all including the poorest and most vulnerable sections. The concept draws much from Mahatma

Gandhi's concept of Gram Swaraj as also from the Global eco-village movement, which has taken off from the perma-culture movement by people like Bill Mollison, and Ross Jackson.

The Mahila Mandals are seen as playing a major role in taking this concept forward, as they would be the major custodians of the commons in the villages, and will also be encouraged to address issues of landlessness, and abuse of common property by the larger land holders. A concept paper has been developed, and is being translated for larger access in the villages.

Capacity building has been taken up through a series of training and capacity building efforts with village committee members, representatives of mahila mandals, as well as NGO representatives that have helped to build up an overall understanding of the project, and initiate people's action.

## **2.15 ORIENTATION TRAINING FOR MICRO-PLANNING**

This effort, taken up in the Atragamee Kashipur campus, helped to fine-tune the micro-plan process, through a discussion on methodology and approach. 24 participants attended the training programme, which enabled them to take up the process in the village ensuring people's participation, and the involvement of women to the maximum extent.

The training discussed previous micro-plan efforts, and analysed the strengths and weaknesses of the past efforts. This helped to underline what was expected of the micro-planning process that was to be taken. The importance of getting people's perception was emphasised. The training was in-house, and involved a combination of class-room discussion, and practical exercise in the neighbouring villages.

## **2.16 NRM TRAINING:**

The NRM and land use training efforts taken up have been lively, and involved cross-cutting issues of land rights, and encroachment, as also organic farming. A combination of class-room discussion, and practical demonstrations, the training also helped farmers articulate their experiences with traditional farming methods, analyse the decreasing returns from the shifting cultivation practices presently followed, and understand the arithmetic of loss that was behind traditional market oriented methods of farming.

The linkages of land development planning with the people's micro-plans were also discussed, and participants were helped to understand the need for combined and collective efforts to save their land and forest resources.

Resource institutions including Centre for Sustainable Development, Sanjojana, OUAT interacted with the participants to explain organic pest management, and the dangers of pesticide based cultivation.

The content of the programmes were primarily as follows:

- People's micro-plans, and their importance;
- Waste management, composting, and recycling;
- Importance of weeds, and mulch;
- Organic pest management;
- Crop rotation, diversification, and fertility management;
- Decreasing soil loss, and land development;
- Community effort to save the commons;
- Role and responsibilities of Mahila Mandals, and need for supporting their actions.

## 2.17 TRAINING ON RIGHTS & ENTITLEMENTS

The recently passed acts, including the NREGA, and the RTI were the major focus of these programmes. In addition to members from the community, the training programmes were also taken up with representatives from NGOs involved in grassroots activism. In addition land laws as well as PESA and governance in tribal regions were also discussed in the different training programmes, to enable people understand their rights, and the importance of making systematic effort to assert for it.

Essential to these training programmes have been follow-up efforts, which enable the participants, especially those from the villages realise that these Acts have a meaning beyond the class-room discussions.

### TRAINING & CAPACITY BUILDING

Date	Training	Participants	Venue
26 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> March 07	Micro planning Orientation Training	24	Training Hall, Agramee, Kashipur
26 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> April 07	Training on NRM & Organic Farming	57	Training Hall, Agramee Kashipur
22 <sup>nd</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup> July 07	Animator Capacity Building & Leadership Training	43	Training Hall Agramee, Kashipur
21-25 <sup>th</sup> August 07	Capacity Building training on Advocacy & issue of Rights	45	Training Hall, Agramee, Kashipur
28 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct 07	Training on Land use Management	68	Training Hall Agramee, Kashipur
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov 07	Training on Land use Management	87	Training Hall, Agramee Goudaguda
7 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov 07	Discussion on Land, water,forest & NREGA	100	Training Hall, Agramee, Kashipur
25 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec 07	Training on Women Federation members	100	Agramee, Luising
28 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> Dec 07	Capacity Building Training on NREGA , RTI & Land rights	57	Training Hall, Agramee, Kashipur

### OBJECTIVE

Ripple Effect that would influence other development agencies and institutions to adopt the successful approaches and strategies for other tribal blocks:

A series of advocacy efforts to analyse the importance of the present approach for rights and livelihoods have been taken up in different districts. These include network meetings, as well as rallies for demanding work.

The major focus of these efforts have been on linking up NRM efforts with NREGA. In this connection, three network meetings have been held in Koraput, Kalahandi, and Phulbani, and a mass demonstration by women's groups was held in Phulbani district headquarters. These efforts have successfully increased involvement of civil society groups in monitoring the implementation, as also people's participation in the NREGA works.

## NETWORK MEETINGS

Date	Title	Participants	Venue
15.11.07	Meeting on governance, NREGA & Human rights	45	Tribal Musuem, Koraput
28.12.07	Network meeting	45	Aragamee, Derakumpa, kandamal;
31.12.07	Network meeting	55	Aragamee, Padepadar
18.11.07	State level meeting on Right to information	35	Lohia Academy, Bhubaneswar.

### 2.18 TAKING UP THE ISSUE OF RIGHT TO INFORMATION

In the month of November, Aragamee was much benefited by the visit of Mag se se Award winner, Arvind Khejriwal. Along with a team of friends, Arvind visited the areas struggling against the Utkal Alumina International Limited, and provided advice on how to take the struggle forward and strengthen the hands of the local communities through Right to Information. Under his guidance, several applications for details of the UAIL project have been submitted to the concerned PIOs, and it is hoped that eventually, there will be a check on the rampant violence and repression unleashed by them in Kucheipadar.

In Koraput, and in Bhubaneswar, Arvind addressed civil society groups, during the visit, and provided advise and suggestions about the Act, and the possibilities. A lively discussion enabled people to share experiences with the Act, and the success and failure they had met with advising them about the details of the Right to Information Act, and how to ensure that people got the information they wanted. These meetings received enthusiastic support from civil society groups, and have inspired many to use the provisions of the Act to access critical information from the government.

### 2.19 EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE NREGA

In an effort to further question the misappropriation in NREGA works, a rapid appraisal of the status of NREGA in 100 villages of the KBK was taken up in the months of May – June. Done in collaboration with the CEFS (Centre for Environment and Food Security) the study revealed the huge gap in government reporting on the NREGA, and the actual situation on the ground, and drew national attention to the dismal enforcement of this right, which has huge implications for the rural poor, who migrate in desperation and under the worst distress conditions in search of work, and livelihood with dignity.

The study and report was taken up immediately after the trumpet blowing efforts of the Orissa government in being the foremost state in the implementation of the NREGA. It revealed that there was a misappropriation of Rs.500/- crores out of the reported Rs. 700/- crores spent on NREGA and provided details of the denial of rights under NREGA, which included non-provision of job cards, non-payment and underpayment of wages, harassment of labour, falsification of muster roles, lack of transparency, and a 'participatory loot' as termed by the CEFS, from the Panchayat Secretary upwards to the concerned Minister.

This large-scale and explicit study was a wake-up call to review the NREGA in Orissa as well as in different states, and the CEGC (the Central Employment guarantee Council) swung into action looking into the NREGA issues in different states including Jharkhand, Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Orissa as well. Things have not dramatically improved, but the extent of misappropriation has gone down, and where people had received only 10 to 15% of the wages they deserved, now the delivery has gone upto 60 to 70%! In addition, in several cases, payment is being made on cheques, decreasing the chances of misappropriation further.

At the district level, members of Mahila Mandals organised a rally to demand work, and proper payment of wages, in Kandhmal District. The leadership was provided by the federation 'Phiringia Anchalika Mahila Mahasangh'.

200 women from the Panchayats of Luising, Pairaju, and Balandapada, accompanied by the respective Sarpanches, went to the district head quarters, and placed a charter of demands in front of the district administration on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2007. They demanded that works be taken up immediately to meet the guarantee of 100 days, that the wage rates be paid as per the norms of Rs.70/- per day fixed by the government, and that people without job cards be provided with job cards. The response of the districts administration has been positive, and work has been started in several villages in the three Panchayats, with proper payment of wages.

## **2.20 VILLAGE LEVEL EFFORTS**

At the village level, effort has lead to increasing people's confidence in checking cheating and misappropriation in the NREGA. In the village of Bamarjodi, people were able to demand for payment, and get it on cheque. In Phatkimahul the village community applied for jobs, and when they were not given jobs on time, they were paid unemployment allowance.

## **2.21 SUCCESS STORY: BAMARJODI**

***Bhamarjodi Success Story:*** A Case in Chandragiri Panchayat, Kashipur Block work started on August 31<sup>st</sup>. 31 hhs worked. Out of them job card holders were 27. The work finished on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. Total of 14 days work. Two days the work was discontinued in between. Work: Ghat-cutting from Bhamarjodi to Dangeskal. After that, several times, villagers submitted applications to the VLW and secretary. They have gone 6 times in all. Sandhu Majhi went to the Block, and asked to see the estimate from the Asst. Engineer. He was told that the estimate for the village work was 49000/-. Out of that, they would have to have a cut of Rs.12000/-, and they would receive 36000/-. Sandhu said he would do an RTI to find out why Rs.12000/- would be deducted. The AE. Was furious, and threw the file at Sandhu, and said he could do what he want. Then in Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, the women of Gumudisupel did a dharna outside the block. Then, JE gives in writing "Payment could not be made to the wage earners of the village Gumundi Supel by the Sarpanch of CHandragiri, GP. As he has lost the Cheque issued by the BDO to him. However, another cheque will be issued to the Sarpanch after maintaining the records. The wage earners will be paid the wages by the Sarpanch befor Diwali. The payment will be ensured."SD/- Asst. Engineer. On the 5<sup>th</sup>, the VLW, Sarpanch and Secretary of Chandragiri Panchayat began to distribute the Cheques. In many cases, the cheque was made out as a 'Group cheque'. However, Sandhu and his fellow men of Bhamarjodi refused group cheques. They went to the Gram Panchayat and demanded that only 27 people had job cards, whereas 31 families from their village had gone and applied, and also worked on the NREGA. They declared that they would not accept cheques in anybody else's name. Then the Secretary gave them a slip with their registration numbers and names. (it is learnt from reliable sources that the job cards of the 'non-receipients' are there in the Panchayat office, however they are not being handed over.) They had to run to the Panchayat office (Chandragiri) for three days, and spend the whole day there. 31 families received a cheque each of Rs.1610/- for 14 days of work, according to the measurement of the work by the JE. On going to Kashipur with their cheques, they were told that there is no money in the Chandragiri Panchayat Account! The villagers of bhamarjodi had to make another trip to the SBI, Kashipur to get their money. This means Rs.25/- only in terms of TA. The job cards are blank. They have applied again for work.

## 2.22 UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE PAID TO PHATKIMAHUL

How They Got Unemployment allowance: A case study of Phatkimahul village in Kalahandi Phatikimahul is a revenue village in Gopinathpur Grampanchayat under Th. Rampur block of Kalahandi district. The villagers of this village applied for NREGA employment on 13.10.07 but received no response from the Panchayat or the Block. They waited for 40 days, enquiring time and again about their application from the VLW, and the Panchayat. Each time they received the same response, that the work sanction had not yet come. Eventually, they decided to appeal at a higher level, and made phone calls to their MPs and MLAs. Perhaps, these appeals worked, and on 21.11.07 at 11 am an inspection team from Delhi came to the village to find out about the status of the NREGA in their village. The very next day, the District Collector, summoned the Panchayat Secretary, and the VLW to the district headquarters of Bhawanipatna, and instructed that the villagers of Phatkimahul be paid unemployment allowance immediately, and employment works under the NREGA also be started at the earliest. A visit by the PD, DRDA (project Director, DRDA) followed on 29.11.07. When he found that the District Collector's instructions had not yet been obeyed, he took urgent measures, and Phatkimahul received unemployment allowance for 30 days on 4.12.07, which amounted to Rs. 525/- per applicant. Work was also started for laying a road from Chingidisar to Phatikimahul started 30.11.07, with the soil identified as medium hard, and measurement per pit of 100' x 100' being Rs.135/- .

## 2.23 LEADERSHIP TRAINING

For effective community mobilization, information dissemination and programme coordination, field level Animators have been selected from each implementing districts. The animators have been selected on the ground of leadership skill, good communication skill, rapport with the village community and above all conviction and commitment to issues pertaining to life and livelihood of people. An orientation training for the animators was organised from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July, in the Agragamee Campus. This has been followed up through monthly inputs through meetings, discussions, and informal forums. This has helped the animators emerge as organisers, taking up developmental issues in their village, as well as neighbouring villages.



# 3. NRM & Watershed Development towards Sustainable Livelihood

Land and water management requires democratisation and decentralization of decisions and the integration of traditional knowledge with innovative science to promote fair and efficient management strategies. The natural resource based Watershed development approach is a well-accepted intervention for promotion of sustainable livelihood. The integrated nature of activities generate livelihood options, protect environment and promote socio-economic development of people. The ultimate benefit eventually goes to community while adding value to the local environmental resources. Agramee has been involved in such an integrated and creative approach for the last 15 years, and has gained immense experience and insights in the process.

At present Agramee is involved in 10 watersheds in six districts as follows:

District	Block(s)	Name of Micro Watershed	Villages	Coverage	
				HHs	Area in Ha.
Koraput	Koraput	Paknajholanalla WS	1	68	401.24
	Dasamantpur	Satigudanalla WS	2	83	563.75
Nabarangpur	Tentulikhunti	Raisingiodinalla WS	3	94	543.53
Malkangiri	Khairiput	Raulijodinalla WS	3	164	401.24
Nuapada	Sinapalli	Badajorenalla WS	1	103	506.13
Mayurbhanj	Sukruli	Talabedanalla WS	1	125	346.90
Kandhamal	Phiringia	Ganjunala WS	4	168	730.80
		Suttaninala WS			
		Brusingnala WS			
		Kuermandunala WS			

## 3.1 ACTIVITIES OF WATERSHEDS UNDERTAKEN

### 3.2 INSTITUTION BUILDING

The major thrust is community mobilisation. A Watershed Users Society (WSUS) of women and men members selected by the entire village is promoted in every watershed, and supported for registration under the SRA, 1860. 8 WSUSs have already been promoted in 10 watershed areas. Similarly women SHGs are also promoted for pursuing women and IGP programs in the area.

### 3.3 BUNDING

Stone and contour earth bunding have been taken up over un-bunded sloping land over an area of 87.5 ha. The main purpose of the bundings is to conserve the soil and moisture of the topsoil from the sloppy lands.

### **3.4 GULLY PLUGS**

A total of 153 Gullies have been plugged in all six watersheds with the participation of users group utilizing local mason, local materials such as stones with the loose boulder technique to plug the gully and check the erosion. Gully plugging have been completed last year. During the course of this project period they have been filled up, providing more land for cultivation, and check the damage in the cultivated. It is expected that by the end of the project period, all the gullies will be stabilized and used for productive purposes. It is quite remarkable that the gully plug programs will be useful for productive purposes.

### **3.5 WHS / CHECK DAM**

A total of seven check dams have been constructed in six watershed areas. The total command area is 150 acres, assuring protection of the Kharif crops during moisture stress periods, as also allowing for rabi cultivation.

### **3.6 MULTIPURPOSE TANKS**

Seven numbers of Multipurpose tanks have been constructed covering a total target beneficiaries i.e. 150 farming families and 200 acres of agriculture land.

### **3.7 DUG WELLS**

To promote intensive vegetable cultivation and agriculture activities, a total of 86 dug wells have been constructed in all six-watershed areas. Around 250 farmers are getting benefited through there dug wells.

### **3.8 IRRIGATION CANAL & DIVERSION WEIR**

Looking at area & people's need, six number of Irrigation canal & three number of diversion weir respectively have been constructed in watershed areas. Around 150 farming families have been benefited through this canal & diversion weir structures in the areas.

### **3.9 PLANTATION**

Miscellaneous Multi Tire Plantation (MMTP) in 54 Ha of land, and mixed fruit orchards over 60 Ha. have been taken up. Fencing, watering & tree guarding are being ensured with the participation of community members & individual beneficiaries. The survival percentage of plants is around 80 percent.

### **3.10 VIKAS KUTIR–THE COMMON PLATFORM OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

Six Vikas Kutir commonly known as Community Centers have been constructed in six watershed areas. Out of six, four are made as low cost structure.

### **3.11 CAPACITY BUILDING & TRAINING**

The watershed program is implemented under Watershed Coordination Office (WSCO) of Agramamee to facilitate various capacity building programs at community level from time to time. Basically the capacity building programs are organized in following areas; promotion & strengthening of Watershed Users Society (WSUSs) and women SHGs, facilitation of enterprising skill development among IGP beneficiaries.

### **3.12 COLLECTION AND CONSERVATION OF LOCAL ELITE GERM PLASM**

3600 varieties of traditionally grown local germ plasms have been collected in the watersheds from the farmers' field and preserved scientifically in the glass/fiber bowls. All are traditional elite varieties, of crops such as Pulses, Oilseeds, Vegetables, Rice, & Millets. A special register has been maintained in watershed for documentation, and includes specific information about each variety provided by the farmer, as well as date and place of collection, and the specific habit and habitat etc.

### 3.13 WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT IN KANDHAMAL DISTRICT

Aragamee has been considered, as the Project Implementing Agency (PIA) for implementation of Micro Watershed programs under the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), Kandhamal. and has been assigned four numbers of micro-watersheds covering of 20 villages in Luising, Balandapada and Pairaju Gram Panchayats of Phiringia block, Kandhamal.

**Coverage:** 20 villages, 524 HHs and population covered 2915.

### 3.14 ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

- Contour bunding and gully controls have been taken up to control soil erosion and improve & expansion of agricultural land use.
- Water-harvesting structures, percolation tanks, Multi purpose tanks are constructed, allowing the water to be used for protected irrigation, water percolation for ground water recharge and drinking for animals.
- Other agriculture development activities, such as lemon cultivation vegetable cultivation have been taken.
- Promotion & strengthening of people's institutions like water users society and women self help groups for facilitation of community level programs for sustainability.
- Nine Water Harvesting Structures (WHS), four Multi Purpose Tanks (MPTs), two dug wells, two diversion weirs, 45 LBS, two staga trenches and six contour bandings, etc have been made as part of integrated watershed programs
- 15 Ha plantation, supply of seedlings and vegetable kits to each household.
- Organized 13 capacity building programs in various theme areas such as community development, SHGs strengthening, promotion of watershed users society, etc.
- One women federation such as Phiringia Mahila Mahasangh has been promoted among 35 no. of women SHGs.
- Facilitation of water and soil conservation, increase of cultivable land, secured agricultural crop through protected irrigation and enhanced land productivity. All these provide food security and reduce migration in the watershed areas.
- The project is also contributing to raise awareness, educate and inform the isolated communities on different socio-economic issues that affect them.

### 3.15 WATERSHED PROGRAMS OF AGRAGAMEE IN NUTSHELL

<b>Description</b>	<b>Coverage</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Coverage</b>
No. of WS projects	Ten	Earth Bunding	93.5 Ha
Consortium Partners	Four NGOs	Stone Bunding	29 Ha
Districts	Six	Gully control	153 nos.
Blocks	Seven		
Gram Panchayats	Nine	Irrigation canal & Diversion weir	Six Nos.
Villages	31	Vikash Kutir	6 Nos.
No. of HHs	Around 1500	Grain Banks	31 units
No. of WHS	15	IGP(goatery & oil expeller	45 Nos.
MPTs	14	CBO	Six
Dug wells	86	WSUSs Promoted	Ten
Plantation	129 Ha.		

Note: HHs – House holds; WHS: Water Harvesting Structure; MPT: Multi Purpose Tank; NGO: Non Government Organization; Ha: Hectare; IGP: Income Generation Program; CBO: Community Based Organisation WSUS: Watershed Users Society

# 4. Organic Farming, Food, Nutrition & Ecological Security

Farming has been organic for the major time that agriculture has been practised by man. It is only over the last 150 Years that chemical agriculture came into existence with the discoveries of Justus Von Leibig. Now, chemical agriculture prevails almost everywhere.

But, the farmer, atleast the majority of the farmers are wary of such magic, and stick primarily to safe, non-chemical farming. On the other hand, even many of those farmers who have given in to chemical farming also dislike it so much that they grow their own food on a separate plot where they do not use chemicals. But, how does one conquer the challenge of diminishing yields, the challenge of falling markets, the challenge of rising wage rates? Apart from these, Organic farmers and small non-chemical farmers face many challenges in the present day, and there are many issues that need to be addressed. Seeking to address many of these challenges, and Agramee took up a project of organic vegetable cultivation in three of the remotest, and most underdeveloped Panchayats in Kashipur in 2004, Mandibisi, Siripai & Godibali. With support from German Agro Action (GAA), this organic farming was facilitated in five villages of each Gram Panchayats respectively and it has also plan to expand from 15 to 40 villages of same three Gram Panchayats in next couple of months.

Key objectives of organic farming intervention:

- Create awareness on environmental friendly techniques & practices of cultivation.
- Help farmers improve cultivation practices and introduce processes of low external inputs to strengthen their agricultural economy & livelihood.
- Improve nutritional levels and provide food & nutritional security by developing multiple and mixed cropping systems that would help buffer against the vagaries of weather.

The agro climatic condition of Kashipur, with temperatures ranging from tropical to moderate and a fair abundance of water resources, makes it ideal for vegetable cultivation. 500 farmers have been identified for this effort 15 villages (five in each Panchayat)

## 4.1 CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING

Organic farming experts have been invited to share their experience and impart training on the practices of organic farming in community level as well as in Panchayat level. Specific efforts have been made to ensure women participation in all these training programs. The topics related to promotion of Farmers Organization and development of their leadership quality are covered along with organic farming training programs

## 4.2 INNOVATION & LOCAL TECHNOLOGIES

Emphasis has been placed on using local produce for producing manure, as well as fertilizers, combined with promotion of indigenous technologies through farmer to farmer sharing. Innovative methods of farmers in improving soil fertility through mulch, soil cover, and other inputs have been identified, and show-cased as alternatives to the chemical intensive methods promoted by market agents.

### **4.3 KRUSHI MELA**

Organic farmers, and organic villages (those which have fully eschewed chemical fertilizers and pesticides) are encouraged to organize annual Farmers' Convention (Krushi Mela) voluntarily with the aim of sharing & exchanging of knowledge, innovations and experience among each other. This year's, Krishi Mela drew a more than 1000 farmers to the village of Pipalpadar, where the Sarpanch, himself an organic farmer addressed the gathering, and lead the discussion.

### **4.4 NETWORKS**

linkages have been established with the Organic Farming Network in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, APEDA and with Govt. of India for quality promotion and generating of wider impact.

### **4.5 KASHIPUR ORGANIC FARMERS FEDERATION**

The organic farmers of three Gram Panchayats have formed a federation where different activities are undertaken: training, transfer of technology, certification, grading, sorting, processing and marketing of the organic products.

### **4.6 NURSERY PROMOTION**

Around 21 numbers of nurseries (six in watershed projects and 15 in vegetable cultivation project) have been taken up. All these are meant for raising seedlings and supplying to the beneficiaries for different plantation and vegetable cultivation programs. In the Nurseries the forest, horticulture species and vegetable seedlings were raised to meet the need of the beneficiaries in the project area. The nurseries in the vegetable cultivation area are seasonal, which supplied rainy and winter vegetables seedlings to the beneficiaries.

### **4.7 DEMONSTRATION OF ORGANIC VEGETABLE CULTIVATION**

During this calendar year 181 Ha of different vegetable crops have been covered. The crops as demonstrated by farmers are Onion, Chilli, Capsicum, Carrot, Cluster Bean, Runner bean, Tomato, Brijnal, Radish, Field pea, etc. a total of 408.6 Ha of vegetable crop demonstration has been taken up through project support, and 411.6 Ha. by farmer's themselves, covering around 960 plots of different sizes.

### **4.8 GRAIN & ONION STORAGE STRUCTURE**

Four grain and seed storage structures have been constructed in both watershed & organic farming villages respectively. The seed storage structures as part of seed bank have been constructed at Keskari and Dhobasil villages of Kashipur. Four Onion storage structures and one processing shed have been completed.

### **4.9 COLLECTION CENTERS**

One collection center at Dhobasil village of Kashipur i.e. the vegetable cultivation area has been constructed for collection, sorting and storage of semi perishable vegetables. Around 300 farmer beneficiaries of 15 operational villages of those three Gram Panchayats have also been benefited.

### **4.10 SOIL ENRICHMENT**

To improve the soil fertility and enhance its productivity, the soil enrichment activity was taken in all organic vegetable areas. In this activity, mainly composting, vermi composting, green manuring and use of bio-fertilizers were taken up which will enrich the soil and supply organic manure to the crops. In this activity, total 247.5 Ha of land have been covered against total target of 300 ha. It is observed that the crop production is increasing in the treated lands.

#### **4.11 PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR ORGANIC VEGETABLE**

To avoid fertilizer use the organic neem based insecticide, trichoderma viridi and bio fertilizers like Rhizobium, Azotobactor, and PSB have been provided to farmers. Since 2004, as on today cumulatively 3010 KGs of seed, 15000 cuttings, 10630 Kg and 680 liters of bio fertiliser and bio-pesticides (Rhizobium culture, Azotobactor Trichoderma viridi, multi neem, neem cake, sunhemp) seeds were distributed to 340 farming families covering 15 villages under three Gram Panchyats namely Godibali, Mandibisi, and Siripai.

#### **4.12 VERMI COMPOST**

To promote organic vegetable practices, 69 vermi-compost and 682 compost pits have been constructed for making of organic manures to the vegetable cultivation fields. This has doubled production especially for crops like onion, chilli capsicum, carrot, brinjal, tamato;

#### **4.13 CROP PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

Field level orientations for farmers have been organized for optimum crop production, dry land farming technology, new technology introduction, Organic farming etc. 182 farmers participated in 11 such orientation programs. These training programs also emphasise on seed production & storage and compost making technology for sustainable agriculture.

#### **4.14 AGRAGAMEE AS SERVICE PROVIDER ON ORGANIC FARMING BY GOVT. OF INDIA**

Government of India has appointed Agragamee as Service Provider to build up an organic compact zone covering of 40 villages, 1500 farmers and 1660 Ha in Kashipur block of Rayagada district. The target groups are small and marginal farmers, unable to afford an International Certification that would grant their organic produces a remunerative price in the market. An Internal Control System (ICS) has also been started to bring the farmers together in a group with NPOP (National Program of Organic Production) standards and initiate a group certification process. Three contiguous Gram Panchayats such as Mandibisi, Godibali and Siripai of Kashipur block have been taken up for this.

#### **4.15 COMPONENTS IN INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEM (ICS)**

##### **FARMERS GROUPS**

Three cluster groups of farmers have been promoted to share the fees for certification, participate in training & orientations and obtain better prices for their organic supplies.

##### **REGISTRATION OF FARMERS AND RECORD KEEPING**

Database of all participating organic farmers has been prepared with their land specifications and Identity cards have also been provided to the farmers.

##### **TRAINING ON INTERNAL CONTROL AND INTERNAL QUALITY SYSTEM**

Two trainings on such program were organized for 100 farmers of 15 villages.

##### **REGULAR VISITS OF THE INTERNAL QUALITY INSPECTORS (IQI) TO THE VILLAGES**

This is done to initiate quality control system through three Internal Quality Inspectors and also to provide technical guidance within its process framework of organic farming to help them in meeting the NPOP standards. SKAL International granted certification, as per the NPOP, to all the 1518 organic farmers.

#### 4.16 CORE VILLAGE INTERVENTION ON PROMOTION OF VERMI COMPOST

Farmers of these three Gram Panchayats have contributed their labour and related material as per his strength for making of vermicompost tanks. It is noticeable that people become enthusiastic in adopting the techniques that were introduced for preparation of vermicompost. Regular trainings, group discussions, sharing of experiences have resulted wide spread of the technology among the farmers of the project villages. The ideas such as preparation of vermicompost, compost, use of biofertilizer & biopesticides, preparation of herbal pesticides, adoption of organic farming have motivated the beneficiaries to go on for more areas in the villages. The neighboring farmers also are keen to adopt the same procedures in the locality. We have already promoted 30 Resource persons who use to disseminate the knowledge among the people through farmers to farmer contact, management of knowledge was well established.

Activities	Target	Achievement
No. of villages	40	36
Vermicompost	592	569
ToT on Vermi Compost	One	40
Resource person promoted	30	participants 30



# 5. Combating Energy Poverty and Social Economic Deprivation by effective use of Renewable Energy Resources

India might be into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, yet, even a basic facility like electricity is a dream for majority of the villages in the country. This is specially so in the remote tribal villages in states like Orissa, despite the fact that several large-scale power projects operate in these areas, and supply a major portion of the states electricity needs while also providing surplus for use by neighbouring states. Several obstacles are envisaged in supplying electricity, including the costs, inability of the communities to pay, etc to remote tribal villages. However, Agramee's present effort disproves the various myths of tribal development, and underlines the fact that given even the smallest opportunities, tribal communities would more than willingly participate in development efforts that would help them access improved technology and facilities. The present efforts also proves the efficacy of small decentralised technology options, that can be managed locally as against huge centralized, capital intensive efforts whose cost benefit ratios are almost always on the negative side.

## **The general objectives are as follows:**

- To generate renewable energy/power for lighting, cooking, lifting of water, processing industries.
- To be less dependent on electric grid and fossil fuels which are very costly and beyond the reach of the tribal population.
- To enhance livelihood, increase agro-horticulture production, to reduce distress migration.
- To use natural resources such as land for plantation, water for water-harvesting, solar energy for lighting etc.
- To reduce drudgery and enhance efficient use of biomass.
- To reduce pollution and ensure good environment.
- To ensure community mobilisation and show the examples of best practices in managing renewable energy sources.

## **5.1 INSTALLATION OF 1 KW SPV POWER PLANT AT USHABALI, MANDIBISI PANCHAYAT, KASHIPUR BLOCK:**

To Channel the abundant energies of the sun for our electricity needs is one of the most feasible options that can be taken up at the remotest location. The simple village community in Ushabali was more than delighted when told that they could light up their houses and the entire village at night with a little effort, and almost immediately began to collect a fund that would help in the longterm maintenance of the project. Construction of the power house with a single room, and veranda was completed on April 2007.

The SPV power plant as also the technology was supplied by SWRC, Tilonia. A few delays in transportation and other logistics notwithstanding, the project was completed by mid-June, with expertise from SWRC's barefoot Engineer, Mr. Satyanarayan.

The plant provides electricity for lighting in 30 households, 7 street lights, and most importantly, a night school, where the young gather every evening, and use their free time in the pursuit of the Rs.3/-

## **5.2 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROJECT**

- First Fully electrified village in the district.
- 30 households supplied with 2 light points each for evening and night illumination;
- 7 Street lights for illumination of the whole village;
- 41 children getting education during night time.
- Electricity supplied from 6.00 PM to 9.00 PM.
- Fully owned and maintained by the villagers.

## **5.3 MAINTENANCE FUND**

Earlier before commissioning of the project it was decided by the village people to contribute Rs.100/- per month to the village maintenance fund. Till Now the people of Ushabali village had raised Rs.30,700/- so far. Previously the people of Ushabali village had committed to contribute the money after the sale of the Onion and now they had deposited the amount in the maintenance fund account opened and operated by the Village energy committee.

## **5.4 IGP PROGRAMMEE**

In an initiative to provide more options of livelihood to the Ushabali village women, Agrabamee is being planned. As a first effort, in consultation with the village and the women's group, leaf plate stitching will be taken up. Linkages with the ITDA (Integrated Tribal Development Agency), and ORMAS (Orissa Rural Development & Marketing Apex Society) have been established, and they have assured to supply the machines in a short time. The lighting of houses will enable women to utilise their time fruitfully in the evening hours in this activity.

## **5.5 FORMATION OF VILLAGE ENERGY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND VILLAGE LEVEL MEETING**

A separate committee named "Bijuli Upabhokta Committee" has been formed for effective follow-up, and people's participation. The committee is also responsible for ensuring sustainability of the project.

## **5.6 INSTALLATION OF 15KW MICRO HYDEL SPV POWER PLANT AT KESKERI**

Do we really need big dams that displace thousands of families, destroy forests, or is there an alternative. The efforts in the remote village of Keskeri, in Siripai Panchayat provide proof that small can be not just beautiful, but quite the wondrous alternative to the hugely destructive and controversial big dams. A small tribal village of 45 households, remote, difficult to access, only fair weather roads, washed off with the rains, fallen bamboo clumps, and tress strewn across the path, Keskeri and its sister villages amidst the magnificent Sasbahumali and Basangamali hills of Rayagada would never have dreamt of a technology that would light up their nights and give them a vision of still better things to come.

A small stream gushing from the hills and a check dam across it provided just the opportunity for this village to breach the gap take the first steps towards development.

## **5.7 CONSTRUCTION OF WHS & CHECK DAM**

Initial feasibility studies indicated a good site for a 15Kw hydel power plant, from a check dam across the Mandiajholi near Keskeri village. As the project was finalised, and the villagers agreed with all enthusiasm to provide all necessary supports from their side, heavy rains and the ensuing snap floods washed the check dam away. A delay of 6 months for mobilising funds, and designing and estimating another dam that could provide the necessary head was the result.

However, the enthusiasm of the villagers provided necessary encouragement, and a 24mtr high dam was completed with all support from them including for making a road right upto the dam site to carry the cement and other raw material. Financial support for this was provided by German Agro Action. By December, 2007 a dam, improved, and strengthened was once again in place, and the earthen canal, along with the siltation tank, and the intake channel were in place.

## **5.8 HYDRO-POWER**

Meanwhile, after an extensive market survey, quotations from Villages Pvt. Ltd. were finalised, and a 15 KW cross flow turbine has been purchased, and installed in the power house at the bottom of the intake channel. The 15 KW capacity plant is targeted to provide electrification to the entire village, and a surplus that can be used for installation of machinery like rice and dal mills, and a heating machine for pressing leaf plates, for value addition.

## **5.9 CONSTRUCTION OF PROJECT OFFICE AT KESHKERI**

For better liaisoning and monitoring of the project a project office is constructed in Keshkeri village. Responding to the enthusiasm of the village community, a project office designed to accommodate a school, and a meeting place for the community was also constructed, and electricity provided to the three hamlets of the village.

## **5.10 CONVERGENCE**

Aragamee has also linked up with the district administration for NREGA support for the canal, which would provide a permanent structure to ensure that subsequent monsoons do not damage the project. The work, estimated at Rs.9 lakhs will start soon after the monsoons.

ORMAS has also taken the initiative to assure leaf-plate stitching machines, as well as a dal mill, and a pressing machine. Along with training support to the women's groups for quality products.

## **5.11 FORMATION OF VILLAGE ENERGY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

A village Energy Committee with 3 women and 7 men has been formed to monitor the progress and bettering involvement of the people's level of participation in the village.

A bank account in the name of this Committee helps to manage the community funds raised specifically for repair and maintenance of the unit. The fund is now an impressive Rs.75000/-

### **Highlights of the Project**

- Three electrical points to each of the 45 households in the 3 hamlets of the village, with a cut-off at 60 watts, as decided by the Energy Committee;
- 17 street lights providing illumination to the three hamlets;
- Electricity from 6.00 p.m to 11.00 p.m and from 5.00 a.m to 9.00 a.m every day;
- Three Kilo watt consumption, and a surplus of 12 KW available for running other machinery.
- Children reading enthusiastically in the project office, and older women and men also encouraged to learn the rudiments of literacy.

## **5.12 LOOKING AHEAD**

The experience in implementing the projects suggests there is vast scope of replicability of the process in the surrounding areas. With this the people of the nearby villages are demanding for the renewable energy devices. The Government department for development of Renewable Energy - OREDA in Orissa and MNES in Govt. of India are being approached for strategic support. The experience shows the renewable energy is the best way for ensuring the energy security of the tribal people. Taking the issue forward Aragamee is planning to construct two Microhydel at Pipalpadar and Minakhunti Villages in the same block. Preliminary survey has been done for this. Several villages have come forward to put up solar light systems and it is expected that Kashipur will show the way in harnessing the renewable energy available aplenty.

## 6. Empowering Women Through Institution Building

Community level people's institution building is the key intervention and approach of Agramee for ensuring sustainable development. In keeping with this, Agramee has promoted women's organisations at village and Block levels for initiating rights based initiatives for their livelihood, as well as demanding accountability and delivery in government programmes and schemes. It is remarkable that support to women's groups and their federations has generated demonstrable impact and also empowered the whole community, giving it the confidence and voice required to assert for their due rights and privileges. Along with social mobilization & social animation process, involvement of women members in micro enterprising activities is one more empowering process of Agramee at community level.

Agramee's efforts have enabled five Women's Federations in five districts as follows:

District	Name of Federation	MMs associated	Members
Rayagada	Ama Sangathan	87	1140
Nawarangpur	Indravati Mahila Mahasangha	40	1000
Koraput	Dasamantpur Mahila Mahasangha	100	1500
Kandhamal	Phiringia Anchalika Mahasangha	25	762
Nuapada	Ama Shakti Sangathan	16	260
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>268</b>	<b>4662</b>

### 6.1 AMA SANGATHAN – RAYAGADA

Ama Sangathan a federation of 87 Mahila Mandals (Women Organizations) in Kashipur block is the lead women's federation. Its individual membership is 1140. Ama Sangathan has taken up has micro enterprise along with community development activities for bringing about a process of holistic development and change.

### 6.2 MICRO-ENTERPRISING EFFORTS

Purchase of Raw Kandul/Arhar - 190 qtl  
Processed Arhar Dal – 147 qtl  
Wastage Dal – 43 qtl  
Sale to Block – 78 qtl  
Sale to I.C.D.S – 40 qtl  
Sale to Govt. programs – 132 qtl  
Sale to other agencies – 16 qtl  
Raw Broom purchase - 214 qtl

### 6.3 SOCIAL MOBILISATION AROUND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Ama Sangathan has taken up the challenge to initiate sustainable natural resource management in the Block of Dasmantpur of Koraput district with support from the UNDP Country Programme. Social Mobilisation around Natural Resource Management. The objective of this project is to improve livelihood opportunities and overall income of the tribal communities through women centred initiatives and community participation. An integrated systems approach will help improve production as well as build up long lasting traditions and customs of conservation.

Ama Sangathan has been able to generate people's contribution for intervention of various programs. In case of diversion weir it has been raised upto 70 – 100 percent, whereas in plantation it is 60 – 75 percent. Plantations hitherto looked on as forest department employment generation programmes, were taken up with the understanding that they play a key role in checking erosion, and providing livelihood supports, and have a complex and multi-layered benefit to the village community.

## **6.4 TUBER CROPS DEMONSTRATION**

Community members were trained for tuber crop cultivation, and supported with planting material, as an effort towards food security. More important than the production in the case of tuber crops, the village community has felt the need to preserve the seed material for planting in the subsequent seasons. Thus, there is already a visible perseverance and sustainability of the processes initiated.

## **6.5 NREGA CAMPAIGN**

Ama Sangathan has organised campaigns in nine villages of Mandibisi Panchayat to raise awareness on the entitlements provided by National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA). Villagers were mobilised and have started to demand works from the Sarpanch and the Village Level Worker (VLW).

## **6.6 DASMANTPUR MAHILA MAHASANGH**

Dasmantpur is an underdeveloped, and remote Block of Koraput district. Agramee took up the challenge of working here in the early 1990s, when starvation deaths from this region caught the headlines. The Dasmantpur Mahila Mahasangh was formed subsequently to involve women in the challenges of participatory development. The group has gone from strength to strength, taking up issues such as checking alcohol brewing, fighting money lending, and organising people to demand effective delivery of government programmes such as the mid-day meal, the ICDS programme, and other welfare activities. It has been closely associated with Ama Sangathan in the implementation of the Social Mobilisation Programme, and has played a key role in ensuring high levels of peoples participation. Over the past year, its activities include:

- Forest protection initiatives in 12 villages.
- Grain bank formation in 15 villages.
- Awareness generation on Gram Sabhas in 15 villages.
- Saving activities through Mahila Mandals initiation in 12 villages.
- Anti-liquor campaigning in 15 villages.

## **6.7 INDRAVATI MAHILA MAHASANGH**

Indravati Mahila Mahasangh is based in the inaccessible Panchayat of Padepadar, which has faced the ravages of displacement and loss of huge amounts of land due to the Upper Indravati hydropower project. This Mahila Mandal has the involvement of courageous women such as Lakhmi Majhi, Mangal Dei, and Nimai, who brave the hostile terrain created by the reservoir to mobilise women in men in more than 40 villages to stand up for their rights. The major activities of this organisation over the past year are as follows:

### **Activities undertaken**

- Watershed activities in 3 villages of Tentulikhunti Panchayat.
- 8 trainings / workshops on various themes (labour union formation, NREGA, women rights).
- Anti-liquor campaign.
- Forest protection activities.
- Formation of Grain Banks.
- Health awareness camps.

## **6.8 PHIRINGIA ANCHALIKA MAHILA MAHASANGH**

With a long history of women support that goes back to 1998, Phiringia Anchalika Mahila Mahasangh, based in Phiringia block of Kandhamal district, is engaged in different initiatives to continue their women empowerment and community development mission.

### **Activities undertaken**

- Meetings at village and GP levels to build awareness among the community on the importance of children education.
- 5 anti-liquor rallies, with over 1000 womens participation.
- 7 health camps in 4 GPs, with special focus on women and child health awareness.
- Camps to help communities benefit from fair commercial practices on Minor Forest Produce.
- NREGA village level meeting and Panchayat level meeting on 11.06.06 and 12.06.06.
- Grain Bank creation in 16 villages.
- Organic vegetable cultivation initiatives in 6 villages.
- Vermi-compost and compost pit building in 7 and 15 villages respectively.
- Leaf plate processing for income generation and saving: total savings of Rs.25,000/-.

# 7. Bio-Diversity Conservation For Generation of Sustainable Livelihood

This UNDP/GEF supported small grant program has been taken up in 24 villages of Dongasil & Mandibisi Gram Panchayat of Kashipur block of Rayagada District and Chikamba & Dummaguda Gram Panchayat of Dasamantpur block of Koraput District.

## 7.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

- To undertake research to understand and regenerate indigenous tribal systems and improve local traditional practices and innovative ideas for ensuring sustainable livelihood of the tribals.
- To enable and ensure tribal women's participation in the research and documentation, so as to develop and understanding of the relationship between tribal women and common property resource.
- To scale up the successful activities to other neighbouring villages for generation of livelihood of the tribals and protection of ecosystem and environment of the locality
- Encourage tribal communities, and specially women take constructive and systematic steps to rebuild their ecosystems for a sustainable livelihood.
- Develop a knowledge base of current best practices, and traditional systems for sharing and replication on a wider basis, and Help tribal communities learn from each other through a sharing and networking
- Involve the relevant line departments in the processes

## 7.2 BIO-DIVERSITY PROGRAM IN BRIEF

District	Rayagada & Koraput	Work done within a span of <b>three months:</b> 1. Survey, data collection and compilation 2. Preparation of inventory of indigenous agriculture practices 3. Introducing of Organic Farming in the area 4. Documentation on traditional practices of combinations conservation.
Block	Kashipur & Dasamantpur	
Gram Panchayats	Dongasil & Mandibisi of Kashipur Chikamba & Dumaguda of Dasamantpur	
No. of villages	24	
No. of HHs	120	
Use of plots for mixed cropping	240	
Mixed cropping	High land local paddy + Pulses Ragi + Pulses Maize + Pulses Vegetables mixed with leguminous vegetables	

# 8. Advocacy, Governance and Research Generating impact on Livelihood issues

## Objectives

Build the capacities of the local communities and raise awareness on their rights

Mainstream issues of rights, entitlements and sustainable livelihood of tribal and other marginalized communities through advocacy initiatives.

Develop a network of voluntary organizations, concerned individuals and donors groups to address problems & livelihood issues as affect tribal communities and their regions.

## Programs in Brief

State level Consultation on Water Security for All - Orissa Water Forum

State Level Media Sensitization workshop

Public Hearing on Right to Food & Land Rights

District Campaign on Land and Water Rights, NREGA and Governance

District Level network promotion on NRM / Governance / Tribal Rights & District level dissemination workshop

Village Level NREGA watch group developed

### 8.1 STATE LEVEL CONSULTATION ON WATER SECURITY FOR ALL - ORISSA WATER FORUM:

Aragamee organized a two days state level multi-stakeholders consultation on Water Security for all in Bhubaneswar during Dec. 22-23, 2007 with an aim to have a common consensus on issues related to water meant for common mass i.e. access to safe drinking water, agriculture and industries. Instead of getting safe drinking water, scarcity of water including contaminated water is being available for consumption of rural communities, which is a major concern now days.

#### KEY ISSUES ADDRESSED

Political economy in water in Orissa.  
State Water Policy – a critique.  
Components for water security for all.  
Orissa Water Forum for sustained dialogue.

### 8.2 MAJOR OUTCOMES

- A state level Orissa Water Forum promoted with the representation of senior govt. officials, NGOs & NGO leaders, Activists, Media people, etc with an aim to address water issues in subsequent period.

- The initiative could be organised at grassroots level and grassroots level issues could be institutionalised and highlighted at state level water forum.
- The relationship shall be established with various agencies like World Bank, ADB and different developmental organization with respect to Orissa Water Forum (OWF) strategy.
- Access to safe drinking water and information, training & documentation process shall be facilitated at grassroots level
- Organisation working on water project at different river basins facilitates their activities according to water demand in the area and considering the feedbacks with respect to issues.
- Democratisation process of water resource governance
- Initiation of water conservation process through diversion
- Provide drinking water through policy, plan, practice & ensuring stakeholders participation at community level.
- Address different problems related to water security and aware & teach people according geographical conditions of water
- Experts from environmental and ecological background shall assess the water quality, ground water table and water pollution
- Checking of pollution of water & environment in the city as well as in rural areas
- Data base generation on water issues of the state
- Afforestation for conservation of ground water table
- Strategic partnership with various Govt. Agencies could be established on developmental issues related to water & proportionate distribution of water for irrigation, power, land resource and human resource.
- Gaon Pani Gaonre Rahiba (Let the water of villages conserve in same village) – this will be the slogan of Orissa Water Forum.

### **8.3 STATE LEVEL MEDIA SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP**

A State level Media sensitisation workshop was organised in Bhubaneswar on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2007. Around 95 participants from Media, Social activist, NGO Functionaries and community members participated in the consultation. It helped;

- In increasing of involvement of media in demystification of data/case studies on NREGA campaign.
- Media showed keen interest to capture various stories as emerged in district & local level. They also consented to be part of the campaign groups on NREGA.
- Wide media coverage (print & electronic Media) of 100 villages study on NREGA issues

### **8.4 PUBLIC HEARING ON RIGHT TO FOOD**

Aragamee organized a public hearing on December 11, 2007 at Jampani Grama Panchayat of Nuapada district. Basically participants were from various villages of said Gram Panchayat. Around 300 community members were participated in the public hearing event.

#### **Objectives**

- To find out the current status of different Food Security Programs continuing in the Panchayat of Jampani.
- To check the level of implementation of several Food Security schemes in the grass roots level
- To identify the causes responsible for its failure and mis-management.
- To recommend the concerned department for ensuring people about to access and take benefit of several food security schemes.
- To make responsible and answerable to the Local and District Administration to take measure and remedies for successful implementation of these Food Security Programs in favor of common people.
- To aware people about several Governmental Food Security Programs and empowered them for their rights.

## **8.5 ISSUES COVERED**

Right To Food - Social security schemes (Eight Schemes of Govt-PDS; Pension-Old age pension, disabled pension, widow pension; Anthyodaya; Annapurna; Mid Day Meal; ICDS /Anganwadi; National Family Benefit Scheme; National Maternity Benefit Scheme; etc.

## **8.6 CASES DISCUSSED**

Around 20 cases on the issues with respect to Right to Food discussed among all participants. One such case as highlighted was; regarding necessities of Anganwadi Building in the village as raised by villagers of Baguda of Jampani Panchayat of Nuapada. Reason was that the village does not have any permanent building for running of Anganwadi center. The centre is running last 19-20 years in same village.

## **8.7 PUBLIC HEARING ON LAND RIGHTS**

Similarly, Agramee organized a public hearing in Tentulikhunti of Nawarangpur. The program was for right to land as organised on 15<sup>th</sup> of Dec 2007. Basically participants were from various villages of said Gram Panchayat. Around 300 community members were participated in the public hearing event.

### **Objectives**

- To find out the current position of villagers holding homestead and agricultural land in the Tentulikhunti block of Nabarangpur
- To check the level of Implementation of several Acts, Projects and Schemes regarding Land rights in favour of tribal people
- To identify the causes responsible for failure of different government effort towards land reforms
- To motivate the tribal landless people to fight for their rights on land, water, forest and food.
- To recommend the concerned department for ensuring people about to take benefit from several land right schemes like Mo Jami Mo Diha, Vasundhara etc.
- To make responsible and answerable to the Local and District Administration to take measure and remedies for successful implementation of these Projects, Campaign and Act in favor of tribal land less families
- To aware people about several Government Projects and Campaign for the landless family and empowered them for their rights.

### **Issues highlighted**

Bhoodan Movement: Aiming of minimizing the difference between the haves and the have-nots.

## **8.8 PROJECT VASUNDHRA**

It has been launched as a mission to provide homestead land to landless family. In this program it has been decided to provide all 2,49,334 homestead less families in Orissa with house sites within a period of three years i.e. from 2005-06 to 2007-08.

## **8.9 MO JAMI-MO DIHA (MY LAND-MY HOMESTEAD) CAMPAIGN**

The objectives of this campaign are (a) to Protect and ensure the land rights of the poor, who were allotted lease of Government Lands earlier or restored their lost land (b) to achieve convergence with developmental Schemes to see that the land allottees are in a better position to utilize the land and (c) to Assist the poor, with emphasis on those belonging to ST and SC communities, to retain their land and homestead within the existing legal framework.

## 8.10 DISTRICT CAMPAIGN ON LAND AND WATER RIGHTS, NREGA AND GOVERNANCE

Aragamee has initiated a NREGA campaign & recognition of Forest land rights in selected 200 villages. A Delhi-based organization namely Center for Environment and Food Security (CEFS) conducted initial survey during May-June 2007 to assess and evaluate the performance of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in the state of Orissa. The survey was carried out in 100 villages spread over seven districts of KBK (Kalahandi-Bolangir-Koraput) region, namely; Bolangir, Nuapada, Kalahandi, Koraput, Nabarangpur, Malkangiri and Rayagada. In addition, District Level Land Water and Governance Meeting was organized at Kashipur by Chairmanship of Prof. Amit Bhaduri

### Key Outcomes/Issues

- Rapid assessment of NREGA in 100 villages under KBK forced state government to inquire into the issues of misappropriation of Crores of Rupees in Orissa
- Central Employment Guarantee Council (CEGC) members visited survey area
- Pressure builds on district administration for proper implementation of NREGA

## 8.11 DISTRICT LEVEL NETWORK DEVELOPED ON NRM/GOVERNANCE/TRIBAL RIGHTS

Networks in all six districts have been formed on NRM, Governance and tribal rights and initiatives have been taken up to engage network groups in different campaign process pertaining to tribal rights and other people's issues.

- Six rounds of dialogue with district network members organised at district level
- 4 District level meetings with PRIs members organized to discuss district specific issues especially concerning NRM, NREGA and other development programs
- Awareness created on PESA, Land Rights, NREGA and various government welfare schemes.
- Issue based advocacy materials developed to create awareness on land, water and tribal rights.
- NGO forums on NREGA / PESA promoted and strengthened.

### Khandiaguda in Nawarangpur - a Case

Around 63 community members of Khandiaguda village of Tentulikhunti Block of Nawarangpur district got unemployment allowance for four days. Which was a historic movement of people of Khandiaguda and inspired the neighboring GPs for demanding job as well as unemployment allowances under NREGS.

## 8.12 COVERAGE OF CYCLE RALLY, PADAYATRAS, AND STREET PLAY ON NREGA

Districts	Block	Gram Panchayats	No. of Villages
Rayagada	Kashipur	Chandragiri, Manusgaon & Kashipur	18
Nuapada	Khariar	Jampani & Biramal	16
Nawarangpur	Tentulikhunti	Tentulikhunti, Lamtaguda & Gouddepalli	40

## 8.13 DISTRICT LEVEL DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP

Aragamee has organized three district level dissemination workshop of various publications and on IEC materials in Rayagada, Koraput and Nabarangpur district head quarter with an aim to raise people's awareness on their rights and entitlements through various reading materials such as reports, books, publications & news letter and through stakeholders like activists, NGOs/CSOs, community leaders, etc.

## 8.14 VILLAGE LEVEL NREGA WATCH GROUP

A one-day capacity building consultation was organized on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at Tentulikhunti for NREGA watch group at village level. Around 30 male & female participants were there in the orientation program.

## 8.15 BANSADHARA RIVER BASIN – AN WASTELAND MAPPING EXERCISE

This study is a part of a larger exercise being carried out in seven agro-ecological zones of India. Agragamee in partnering with Society for Participatory Wasteland Development (SPWD), New Delhi conducts this study to categorize and estimate wastelands in a manner that would help understand the phenomenon of land degradation in a given physical and institutional environment that is caused by and in turn impacts land-use affecting the socio-economy of the people as well as human ecology i.e. in the areas of Bansadhara River basin in Kalahandi, Rayagda & Gajapati district. The exercise aims to develop a methodology, which takes care of the intricacies of categorization and definition of wastelands and at the same time is practicable enough for use in the field of Natural Resource Management (NRM).

### The Study Area

The area chosen for this exercise falls in the Bansadhara river basin of Kalahandi, Rayagada & Gajapati district, Orissa. This is an important east flowing river between Mahanadi and Godavari, in Southern Orissa and North Eastern Andhra Pradesh. It originates near Lanjigarh of Kalahandi district of Orissa and runs for a distance of about 254 kilometers and joins the Bay of Bengal at Kalingapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. Four categories of areas as have been identified for intensive study depending upon the different topographies and land use patterns are as follows:

Characteristics of Areas	No. of villages identified
Area with the problem of sand encrustation	One
Area with the problem of mining	Two (One village where mining is being done; another village where mining is proposed by Vedanta)
Area in the command of Badanala irrigation project	One
Area with practice of dry land farming	One

A preliminary round of discussion was made among the team members of Agragamee along with few partner organizations working in Bansadhara river basin with an aim to enlist villages for a preliminary appraisal. Accordingly we visited the area along with the team members of SPWD to have a kind of 1<sup>st</sup> hand information about those villages and their characteristics. Similarly a second round visit was also made to other nearby villages along with partner NGOs to see the village situations of Bansadhara river basin and also to have an understanding about the land use pattern & their livelihood options & issues, etc. After completion of the visit a list of villages with respect to various characteristics was prepared.

It is very important that Lanjigarh of Kalahandi is the origin of Bansadhara i.e. Bansadhara river starts from Niyamgiri Hill / Forest Range there. The sand encrustation & cutting of river bank every year in those villages is a major issue in the area. It helps in land damaging, soil erosion and creating threats upon habitats living in those areas which include affecting their livelihood sources.

### Data Collection from Secondary sources

Contacted with revenue departments and Survey of India for collection of Cadastral maps and Toposheets of identified villages respectively. Water Resources Dept. of Govt. of Orissa has also been contacted for collection of necessary information as available with them with respect to Bansadhara River Basin. Census of India was also contacted for collection of Socio-economic data of those areas. Draft village level information sheet has been prepared to collect socio-economic data from identified villages.

# 9. Grameen Vikash Andolan (GVA)

This is a CAPART sponsored program meant for to generate mass movement / Jan Andolan on water conservation & its management. It also includes training & sensitizing PRIs members, village youths, SHG members, traditional water expert, Govt. officials on need and method of water conservation, and how to supplement with modern water management practices.

As per the action plan, it is also to form & strengthen watch groups at Gram Panchayat level to act as pressure group for implementing various developmental programs of Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Govt. of India effectively. Spreading of campaign through education at school and college level on indigenous and modern method of water conservation is one more step to involve students in development process. Most important issue is that to create awareness and disseminate information on various programs/ schemes of the Ministry through this andolan.

Operational Coverage		Gram Panchayats covered	
District	: Koraput	Dasamantpur; Murkar; Chikamba;	
Block	: Dasamantpur	Dumaguda; Giriliguma; Duarsuni;	
Gram Panchayat	: 16 nos.	Pindapathar; Lulla; Parja Bedapadar;	
Villages	: 166 nos.	Chanabad; Podagada; Mujang; Gadiaguda;	
Division into Clusters	: 8 nos.	Nandigaon; Malkangiri & P Phulbeda.	

## Achievements & Impact generated

- Eight nos. of training program organized at Cluster level
- Vikas Sarathi Group & Watch agency formed
- Network with local organizations, groups, people initiated IEC material published
- PRIs members, Village youths are taking interest in GVA and its process
- Increased women active participation in meetings
- Convergence of GVA with other programs / schemes discussed
- Articles published on water conservation in newspaper

### 9.1 PARTICIPANTS

PRIs members, SHG members, Village youths, Govt officials, traditional water experts where as 50% women are among them.

### 9.2 SELECTION PROCEDURE

Participants with leadership ability, good communication skill and rapport with local people. Willing to spare time for village development action and involve with the ongoing campaign process

### 9.3 TRAINING PROGRAMS

Eight nos. of training programs in eight clusters respectively have already been organized. Vikas Sarathi & Watch groups formed during the training period.

### 9.4 PEOPLE'S ACTION & INITIATIVE

- Villagers of Daiguda (47hh. 300 population) under Mujang GP organized palli sabha and met RWSS functionaries and BDO to look into their drinking water crisis. Out of two tube well, one is defunct. Muddy water comes from tube well. People walk about two km to fetch water from chua. They also discussed with block chairman and ZP for the same.
- In Giriliguma GP, villagers have requested to implement canal, WHS work, pond through NREGA instead of laying roads everywhere. They have planned to pass resolution in the month of August through Gram Sabha so that water conservation work could be taken up though NREGA and other schemes.

# 10. Village Resource Centre

## 10.1 VILLAGE RESOURCE CENTRE(VRC) ACCESSING INFORMATION FROM VARIETY OF SOURCES

National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Government of India, has initiated a people oriented concept & IT application known as Village Resource Centre (VRC) for sharing, exchanging of knowledge, experiences & information among common mass in Orissa with the help of NGOs. Agragamee has been selected as one of the NGOs and has been entrusted with six VRCs located at Kashipur, Mandibisi and Mallijharan in (Rayagada district), Dasamantpur (Koraput), Goudaguda (Nawarangpur) and Luising in (Kandhamal district) respectively.

## 10.2 THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE VRCS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Raise awareness of the peoples rights.
- Impart training and capacity building.
- Facilitate access to information related to land and water resources, agriculture, horticulture, fishery, market situation, weather conditions, etc.
- Provide a platform for primary health care services (Telemedicine) and distant education.

Aragamee has realized the relevance of VRCs in tribal areas to ensure transparency and accountability in government interventions. We have plans to prepare good communication materials for dissemination and also use to organize workshops and discussions of tribals on issues like agriculture, natural resource management, health, education, sanitation, sustainable livelihood, livelihood issues, NREGS, etc. We also have plans to expand this program to other tribal areas in a phased manner.



# 11. Publications

Over the years, Agramee has brought out a number of publications with one single objective: to raise our voice on various issues affecting the tribal people and bring about change in the mindsets of individuals and institutions. We also produce and circulate illustrative booklets, in the form of pictorials, to the poor and marginalized, to raise their awareness on their rights and entitlements and share with them improved agricultural practices.

The following publications have been released by Agramee in the 2006-2007 reporting period:

## **STORES FROM THE BEYOND**

Author: Mrs. Vidhya Das

Booklet. English. April 2007

This study was taken up at a time when tribal area conflict and the livelihood crisis were catching national and international headlines. Abuse of police, power had resulted in the killing of three tribal people in Rayagada district reports of starvation deaths were drawing much attention and endless accusation. This study tries to understand the complex reasons behind the food crisis of the tribal communities and their coping mechanisms, the role of different players and interests, while also trying to find out what could be the alternatives.

## **MATI KADUARA MANISHA**

Author : Achyut Das

Book – Oriya, Feb.'2008

The book rightly justifies the name “Mati Kaduar Manish” who are always been ignored, suppressed and deprived to live the life of a citizen with dignity. The author feels the dissatisfaction and sorrows of the down trodden argues that they should be released from all the bondages and made free which are the real need of their development.

## **NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME (NREGS)**

Author : Achyut Das

Book – Oriya, Dec.'2007

NREGS is one of the best acts of our country and a good opportunity for the livelihood development of the rural labourers. It is meant to check migration and provide work to the people to earn their livelihood in their own place. But the principles of the act is widely violated and the people have to struggle to get justice.

The book consists of two parts: The first part is about the comprehensive report of the state level media sensitization workshop and the struggle of the people to get their rights is reflected in the second part. The book is a collection of facts and reports from the villages.

### **SAMASTANKA PAIEN PANI**

Edited : Achyut Das

Book – Oriya, Nov.2007

To make the people aware about the different issues of water Agramee is publishing a bi-monthly newsletter. This book is a collection of selected articles written by different personalities working on water like Activists, Technicians, Environmentalist, Journalists, Teachers & Professionals on different issues and some case studies on water from different areas.

### **AMA JALA SAMPADA O PARIBESH**

Author : Dr. Sisir Behera & Er. Srikant Panigrahi

Book – Oriya, Dec.'2007

A book about 12 articles on water difficulties pollution and its results and remedies. Both the authors explicitly describe on water crisis with due importance to Orissa. They also have expressed their anxiety about the fall of ground water table in Orissa which will grave the situation and lead water war in Orissa in near future.

### **AROHAN**

Edited – Vidhya Das

Oriya, July 2007

A book that vividly depicts the stories of the Advasi and the Dalit women of Kashipur struggling for their socio, economic and political changes since last 25 years. Their struggle for livelihood has impacted and encouraged the Advasi women's of different parts of Orissa in a great extent. The values of leadership of the Advasi women of Kashipur has created a significant identity in Orissa. This book can fulfill the taste of the readers if they identify themselves with the struggle and promises of the Adivasi mothers.

### **AMA GAON KASHIPUR**

Compiled & Edited – Prof. Chitranjan Das & Achyut Das

Oriya, June 2007

Kashipur a highlighted block of Orisaa for starvation and epidemic death. From 1980 to till date it has gone through many changes. The study says once upon a time the money lenders were the root of all sorts of problem but now a new set of intruders which are acting as new money lenders are trying to enter into this area in the name of mining and industrialisation. This book will help us to make clarity of the debate going on about Kashipur.

### **NUA PATHA NUA BATA**

Edited – Achyut Das

Oriya, Sept.'2007

Agramee had started some innovative education centers for the Adivasi children in the remote, non-reachable areas which had created remarkable examples. The innovative methods of teaching was widely accepted by the students. Some of the successive experiences of the teachers are compiled in this book which can draw the impression of the readers, teachers and educationists.

With all these books Agramee is also publishing many newsletters, booklets, posters, leaflets etc. on different issues, campaigns and right based activities. Last year newsletters like 6 issues of PANI SAMASTANKA PAIeN, 4 issues of Panchayat Darshan and 4 issues of NREGA SAMACHAR are published and widely circulated mostly in the Adviasi areas of Orissa. Some case studies regarding different issues are also published in the newsletter. Besides, some books for the children like 'Kholi Ja Mor Kuhuk Padi', 'Anabana Gapa' and 'Learn and Practice' are also published.

You can view our complete list of publications on our website: [www.agragamee.org](http://www.agragamee.org)

To order a book, see our contact details in the back cover on this Annual Report.

# 12. Organisational Structure

## 12.1 GOVERNING BODY

**Prof. Chittaranjan Das**(President)

*83-A, Bapuji nagar, Bhubaneswar-9*

Freedom fighter, sociologist, writer and educationist.

Recipient of Kendra Sahitya Academy Award.

**Mrs. Shanti Devi**(Vice-President)

*SEVA SAMAJ, At/P.O-Gunupur, Dist.-Rayagada*

Development worker, freedom fighter and social worker.

Recipient JAMANALAL BAJAJ AWARD in 1994.

**Mr. Achyut Das**(Director)

Chief Functionary

AGRAGAMEE

*At/P.O-Kashipur, Dist.-Rayagada*

Social worker with 30 years experience in the field of rural development.

Founder Member of Social Work and Research Centre Orissa and Agragamee.

**Mrs. Sumoni Jhodia**(Member)

*At-Siriguda, P.O-Kashipur, Dist-Rayagada*

Social Worker and community leader.

Advisor to Chief Minister Govt. of Orissa for Tribal Development.

**Mr. Bairaj Bhoi**(Member)

*At-Sapiguda, P.O-Balndupada, Via-Phiringia, Dist.-Kandhamal*

Social worker, community leader and educator in tribal areas.

**Mrs. Jatni Kanhar**(Member)

*At-Kirlikumpa, P.O-Luising, Dist.-Kandhamal*

Social worker and community leader.

**Mrs. Laxmi Majhi** (Member)

*Vill.-Talagodigaon, Tentulikhunti, Dist.-Nabarangpur*

Social worker and community leader.

## 12.2 REGISTRATION DETAILS

Status: NGO (Non-governmental organisation). Registration: KPT-289/6/1987-88.

**FCRA Registration No.:** 104960035

### 12.3 OUR STRENGTH

**a. Staff:** 20 professionals, 150 general Staff.

**b. Infrastructure:** Headquarters at Kashipur in Rayagada District

Training campus at Mallijharan in Rayagada District, Central Office at Bhubaneswar in Orissa

10 Project Offices in various Districts, Offices in Watershed Development

### 12.4 OUR PARTNERS

**Sanjojana** (meaning "Coordination"). A consortium of 30 NGOs for implementation of watershed development, NRM, poverty alleviation and community empowerment projects.

**SAMPADA**, New Delhi, a national level network of NGOs in India.

**Sikshasandhan** ('Search for Knowledge'). Consortium of 8 NGOs for education in tribal areas.

**Ama Sangathan** (meaning 'Our organisation'). A sister CBO run directly by 1500 tribal women from 300 villages aimed at fostering women empowerment and community livelihoods.

### 12.5 OUR KEY DONORS

German Agro Action; Concern Worldwide India; UNDP (Small Grants Programme); Terre des Hommes; UBS; ROSE; Karl Kuber Stiftung, BMZ; Christian Aid; SANFEC; TATA Trust; CAPART, Ministry of Human Resource Development (Govt. of India); District Rural Development Agency (Orissa); Population Foundation of India, National Foundation for India.

### 12.6 GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF OPERATION:

Name of the Project	Block	District	No. of villages covered
Kashipur	Kashipur	Rayagada	412
Derakumpa	Phiringia	Kandhamal	100
Dasmantpur	Dasmantpur	Koraput	201
Thakurmunda	Thakurmunda	Mayurbhanj	42
Sukruli	Sukruli	Mayurbhanj	37
Padepadar	Thakumulrampur	Kalahandi	37
Goudaguda	Tentulikhunti	Nabarangpur	28
Mahaling	Golamunda	Kalahandi	11
Chhindpani	Nuapada	Nuapada	08
Sinapalli	Sinapalli	Nuapada	11

### 12.7 KEY PROGRAMME AREAS

- Integrated watershed development and natural resource management (NRM), including backward and forward linkages (socio-economic improvement, market development, natural resource conservation, etc.)
- Training and capacity building for such comprehensive watershed development and natural resource management in Orissa and outside
- Education including innovative, non-formal, alternative and women literacy programmes suited to the tribal context
- Environment, including biodiversity conservation, natural resource management and ecologically balanced agriculture and livelihood creation
- Women empowerment and childcare related programmes
- Research, advocacy and networking in issues relevant to the tribal context

# 13. Financial Summary

## BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2008

	Amount in INR
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Fixed Assets	25,630,364.88
Grants Receivable from Funding Agencies	2,149,935.22
Current Assets, Loans & Advances	9,758,252.19
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>37,538,552.29</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Capital Fund	18,850,161.08
General Fund	10,131,640.62
Fixed Assets Capital Fund	1,460,500.00
Revolving Fund	462,901.10
Loans and Payables	1,955,919.66
Grants to be Spent	4,677,429.83
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>37,538,552.29</b>

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2008

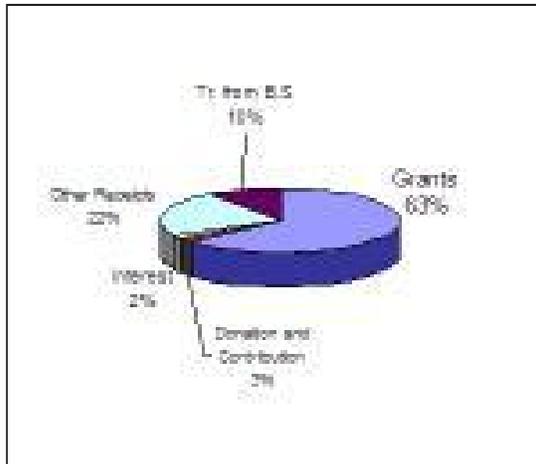
	Amount in INR
<b>INCOME</b>	
Grants	13,107,073.79
Donation and Contribution	623,653.00
Interest	371,740.35
Other Receipts	4,596,099.00
Transfer from Balance Sheet on Account of Project Funds	2,149,935.22
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>20,848,501.36</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Programme Expenses	15,257,009.01
Administrative Expenses	3,497,971.40
Contribution to Project Works	201,259.00
<b>Excess of Income Over Expenditure</b>	<b>1,892,261.95</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>20,848,501.36</b>

Statutory Auditors  
M/s. S.C. Bhadra, FCA  
Bhubaneswar

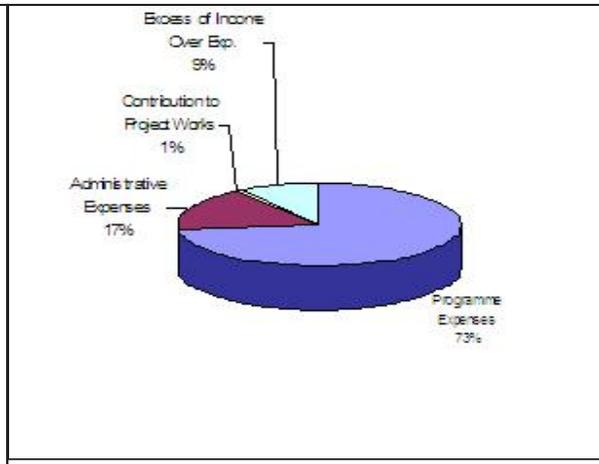
Internal Auditor  
M/S. A.K.Lenka & CO., FCA  
Bhubaneswar

Bankers  
SBI, Kashipur  
SBT, BBSR

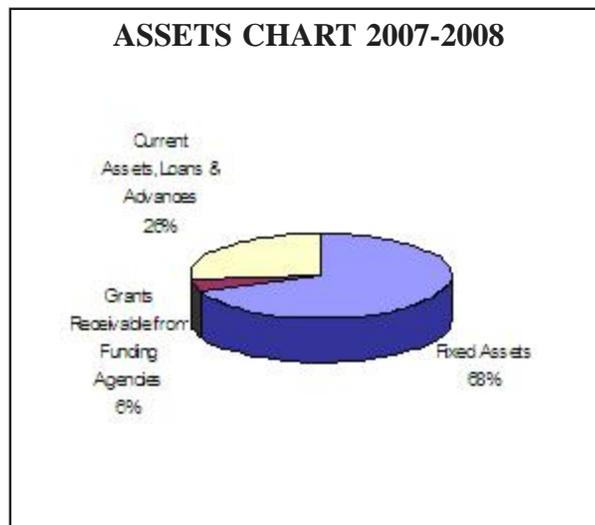
**TOTAL  
INCOME CHART 2007-2008**



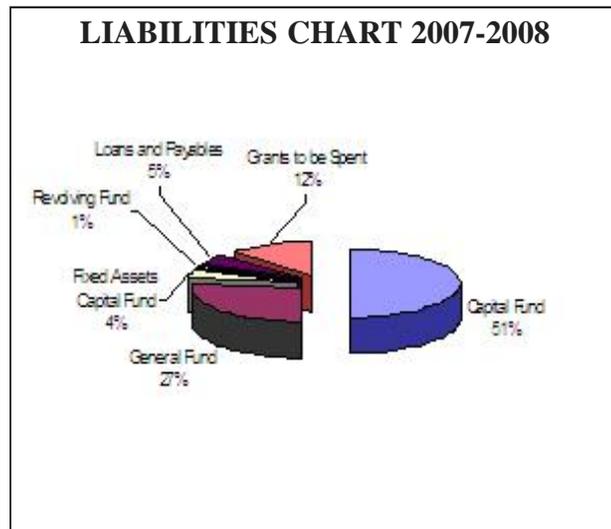
**TOTAL  
EXPENDITURE CHART 2007-2008**



**ASSETS CHART 2007-2008**

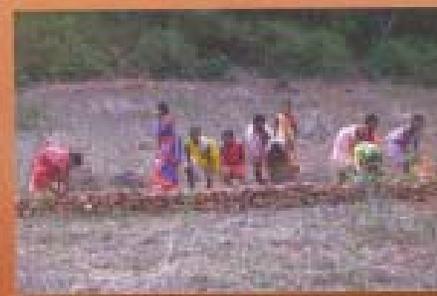


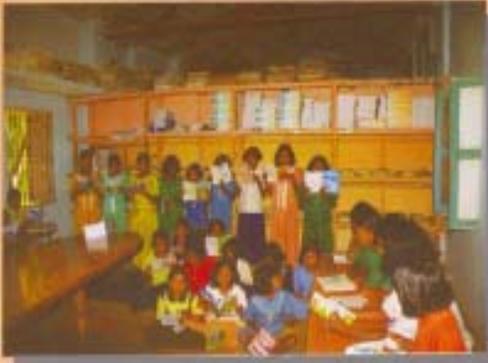
**LIABILITIES CHART 2007-2008**





- Girl students are given practical training on sewing
- Flag hoisting ceremony on Republic Day by the students
- Regional Training of Grameen Vikash Andolan at Deoramantpur
- Training on NRM on Root & Tuber crops
- Illuminating the tribal houses through Solar Energy
- Land Development taken up by women groups
- A night school at Kesari after getting electricity through Micro Hydel





- ◆ School Children are reading in Library
- ◆ Students are working in kitchen garden
- ◆ Students are drawing different types of arts
- ◆ Leadership Training for women participants
- ◆ A village level micro planning
- ◆ Training on use of "A" frame during land development
- ◆ Village level group discussion during the visit of evaluation team



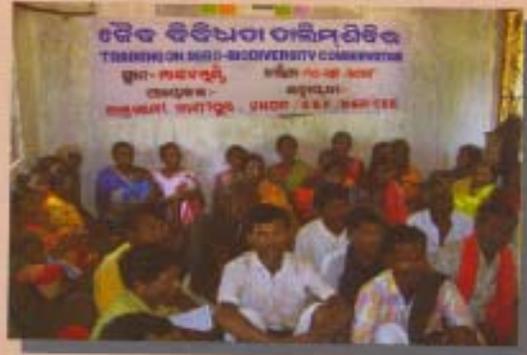


- Training on Organic Farming at Kashipur
- Illuminating the tribal houses through Solar Energy
- Training on capacity building for watershed beneficiaries
- Community management of micro hydel
- Meeting of women groups
- Illuminating the tribal village during night
- Cropping followed by land development





- A meeting on Grammen Vikash Andolan at Dasamantpur
- Workshop on Dissemination for different NGO partners
- Training on Biodiversity Conservation
- Mixed cropping of maize with Brinjal, Chillies and Tomato etc.
- Organic Farmers Convention at Pipalpadar
- Dialogue on Governance on NREGS and RTI
- Women are working voluntarily on construction of a 3 KM long canal to bring water for irrigation





- A view on PESA meeting
- Training on capacity building for members of women federation
- Public hearing on right to land at Tentulikhunt of Nabarangpur Dist.
- Distribution of different root and tuber crops especially elephant foot yam to farmers for multiplication in the field
- Training on NRM and sustainable agriculture for participants of women federations
- A Water Harvesting Structure in the village Galusahi of Talabedanala Watershed
- Public hearing on right to food at Jampani GP of Nuapada Dist.



## AGRAGAMEE'S PUBLICATIONS

Sl. No.	Name of the Book	Year of Publication	Pages
1	Ama Gaon	1988	3.00
2	Naba Swajan Kan	1990	3.00
2	Agragamee: Eka Suphal Rasayan (1st & 2nd)	1991	10.00
4	Gitaro Gitara	1992	5.00
5	Agragamee: Parikshya & Paryalochana	1993	20.00
6	Sachitra Sansar	1993	15.00
7	Chatrucha Adivasi Mahila Samabes	1994	10.00
8	Eabi Sansar	1994	10.00
9	Pruthibira Pfadine	1994	25.00
10	Adivasi Anchalare Samasthanka pain sikshya	1995	20.00
11	Bikash Bitarka	1996	20.00
12	Banabazi pain Banua niti (1)	1996	10.00
13	Kaha Dhana Kaha Adhikar	1996	10.00
14	Sikshya Bitarka	1996	36.00
15	Panchayatiraj Samandhiya Ups anchalika Karmasthala	1996	10.00
16	Bhabiya sansar	1996	20.00
17	Jungal Ghithi	1997	50.00
18	Ama jungal	1998	50.00
19	Jami Adhigrahan Bill-1998	1998	5.00
20	Sikshyak Mahasamabesa	1998	10.00
21	Ama Gaon Kashipur	1998	2.00
22	Gamund gaon	1998	8.00
23	Agragamee-Bhui Keta Thik Keta	1999	40.00
24	Manachitra Padhan	1999	20.00
25	Education for All in Tribal Areas	1999	20.00
26	The other Half	1999	40.00
27	Agragamee, How wrong, How Right?	1999	50.00
28	Overview, Activities of Agragamee	1999	50.00
29	The Illustrated World	1999	10.00
30	Eka Songharpara Kahani	2000	20.00
31	Megha Ghumeri Ghadara Ghumu	2000	18.00
32	Padz Bhaunri	2000	15.00
33	Grama Sasan Nua Sapan	2001	20.00
34	Kutumba Panthi	2002	20.00
35	Adivasi Anchalare Davidrya O Anagrasarata	2002	13.00
36	Ama Gapa Bahi	2002	10.00
37	Ama Gita Bahi	2002	10.00
38	Kutumba Panthi O Khadya Nirapata	2003	20.00
39	Kshyamata Haccantara	2004	10.00
40	Ama Panchayat Ama Yojana	2004	20.00
41	Kapi Tu Kahnu Anbu	2005	120.00
42	Jhaunh Napada Keta	2005	120.00
43	Chronicle of Struggle	2006	75.00
44	Governance in Tribal Areas: Myths & Realities	2006	30.00
45	Jabika Chasa Pransli	2006	25.00
46	Ama Panchayat Aina Yojana	2006	20.00
47	Water Right Water Wrong	2006	30.00
48	Alternative Stars Water Policy	2006	20.00
49	Samajika Samikshya	2006	30.00
50	Community Gram Bank	2007	30.00
51	Ama Chasabasa Ama Jungala	2007	50.00
52	Jagat Karana O Sangramrsta Manisha	2007	150.00
53	Jala Sampada O Samrajyabad	2007	40.00

