



MID-TERM REVIEW

Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme, India

UNDP Project ID: 4515

GEF Project ID: 00076820



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GEF Focal Area: Multifocal

Operational Program: BD, CC, LD

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP **Project Executing Agency:** Centre for Environment Education (CEE)

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ACRONYMS

APR	Annual Project Report
APR	Annual Project Review
ASAR	Arid and Semi-Arid Regions
ASL	Advance Spending Limit
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BD	Biodiversity
BDO	Block Development Officer
BMC	Biodiversity Management Committee
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CCF	Country Cooperation Framework
CCM	Climate Change Mitigation
CEE	Centre for Environmental Education
CO	Country Office
CP	Country Program
CPAP	Country Program Action Plan
CPD	Country Program Document Framework
CPM	SGP Country Program Manager
CPMT	Central Program Management Team, SGP-UNDP
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DST	Department of Science & Technology
EDC	Eco-Development Committee
FSP	Full Size Project
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GoI	Government of India
GTA	Global Technical Advisor
IGA	Income Generating Activity
IP	Implementing Partner
JFM	Joint Forest Management
KVK	Krishi Vigyan Kendra
LD	Land Degradation
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MNRE	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
MNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
MoEF&CC	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NC	National Coordinator
NCU	National Coordination Unit
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHI	National Host Institution
NMPB	National Medicinal Plant Board
NSC	National Steering Committee
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Products
OFFP	Operational Focal Point
OP	Operational Phase
PA	Protected Area

PIF	Project Identification Form
PIR	Project Implementation Review
PPR	Project Progress Reports
QPR	Quarterly Project Review
RF	Results Framework
RR	Resident Representative
RTA	Regional Technical Advisor
SAIL	Steel Authority of India Ltd.
SGP	GEF Small Grants Program
SHG	Self Help Group
SMPB	State Medicinal Plant Board
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
STAR	System for Transparent Allocation of Resources
TOR	Terms of Reference
UCP	Upgraded Country Programme
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDAF	UN Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
VMC	Village Mangrove Council

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Project Information Table

Project Title			
UNDP Project ID (PIMS #):	00076820	PIF Approval Date:	02/25/2011
GEF Project ID (PMIS #):	4515		
ATLAS Business Unit, Award # Project ID:	00060871	Project Document Signature Date (date project began):	10/30/2012
Country:	India		
Region:	Asia & Pacific	Inception Workshop date:	12/05/2013
Focal Area:	Multifocal	Midterm review completion date:	02/15/2016
GEF Focal Area Strategic Objectives:	Biodiversity Climate Change Land Degradation	Planned closing date:	06/30/2016
Trust Fund [indicate GEF TF, LDCF, SCCF, NPIF]:	GEF TF	If revised, proposed op. closing date:	NA
Executing Agency/ Implementing partner:	Centre for Environment Education (CEE)		
Project Financing	<i>At CEO endorsement (US\$)</i>	<i>At Midterm Review (US\$)</i>	
[1] GEF financing:	5,000,000	2,566,287	
[2] UNDP contribution:	1,000,000	324,447	
[3] Government:	400,000	52,000	
[4] Other partners:	4,600,000	294,399	
[5] Total co-financing [2+3+4]:	6,000,000	670,846	
PROJECT TOTAL COSTS [1+5]:	11,000,000	3,007,542	

1.2 Brief Project Description

The project being evaluated is the fifth operational phase (OP) of the Small Grants Programme (SGP) in India. The primary objective of this five year UNDP/GEF-supported full-size project is “to ensure a mosaic of land uses and community practices across the rural landscape that provide sustainable livelihoods while generating global benefits related to biodiversity, land degradation and climate change mitigation”.

The GEF multi-focal area project aims to achieve this objective through:

- “Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes and sectors,
- Promoting energy efficient and renewable energy technologies in rural communities in targeted landscapes in India,
- Maintaining and improving flows of agro and forest ecosystem services in dry lands of ASAR to sustain livelihoods of local communities, and,
- Cross cutting, capacity development and knowledge management”.

The UNDP India Country Office is the Executing Agency for the project. The National Host Institution (and Implementing Partner) for the SGP in India is the Centre for Environment Education (CEE), an Indian NGO with seven regional offices across the country. Like all other country SGPs, the India SGP follows the SGP Global Operational Guidelines. In the case of the India SGP, grant screening and pre-approval is done by seven regional committees associated with each of the 7 CEE regional offices and final grant approval is

done by the SGP National Steering Committee. Day-to-day management of the SGP is done by the Country Programme Team (hereafter referred to as the National Coordination Unit or NCU) under the leadership of the Country Programme Manager (hereafter referred to as the National Coordinator).

The India SGP collaborates with a wide variety and large number of partners including governmental institutions, NGOs, community-based organizations, private companies, academic institutions, and research and extension institutions.

The SGP has projects all over the country and in four GEF Focal areas, climate change, biodiversity, land degradation and even POPs. Unlike the majority of country SGP programmes, no calls for proposals are made in the India SGP. Instead, because the program is well known and not highly focused, the SGP National Coordination Unit (NCU) receives on average 2 unsolicited proposals every day.

The Small Grants Programme (SGP) has been operating in India since 1998. The India SGP became an “Upgraded Country Programme” (UCP) at the start of the current operational phase (in 2012). There are important distinctions between “regular” SGPs and UCP SGPs. These are described below.

What it means to be an “Upgraded Country Programme”

Instead of receiving annual budgets from an Operational Phase (OP) allocation through the SGP Central Programme Management Team in UNDP Headquarters, the funding level for UCP SGPs is decided by the Government which allocates funds to the SGP from the country’s System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) allocation. Another major difference from previous OPs is that, as an UCP, the SGP, although in reality an ongoing programme, is defined by the GEF as a “full-size project”. As is the case with any full-size GEF project, the SGP project must demonstrate impact in terms of global benefits and must represent a strategic intervention to remove existing barriers which prevent global benefits from being secured in the GEF thematic areas it chooses to focus on. As an UCP, the role of the National Steering Committee (NSC) also changes from its role in previous OPs in that it must not only ensure that the grant projects supported by the SGP are good projects, but must also ensure that it steers the overall programme by defining a clear strategy to derive global environment benefits – a strategy pursued through the implementation of the totality of the grant projects it supports.

As an UCP, there is a shift away from supporting pilot and demonstration projects – the type of projects commonly supported in earlier operational phases before upgrading. Achieving impact in terms of global environmental benefits is an expectation of all full-size GEF projects including SGP UCPs. Although projects aimed at achieving only local benefit (without any particular focus on achieving global environment benefit) are of course perfectly valid initiatives, they are not eligible for GEF support. To be eligible for GEF support all projects must demonstrate global environment benefit. The word environment can be confusing because this does not refer to the general state of the environment but rather specifically to the environment as defined in the GEF focal areas. Thus, conserving biodiversity may or may not qualify as a “GEFable” project depending on whether the

biodiversity is of global significance (globally threatened and endangered ecosystems, endemic species, globally threatened and endangered species, etc.)

Even though all SGP programmes in all countries, whether upgraded or not, must demonstrate local community benefits in all of the grant projects they support, UCPs must also demonstrate global environment benefit. It is extremely difficult to do this in small-scale biodiversity SGP projects unless the SGP focusses on a highly defined geographic area. Conserving 15 ha of mangroves here and there is not considered by the GEF as a global biodiversity benefit. Supporting a number of SGP projects within that mangrove landscape and collaborating with other more permanent government initiatives and with other large-scale projects is more likely to result in global biodiversity benefit.

UNDP has encouraged all UCPs to focus their programmes geographically and to adopt the landscape approach. The landscape approach not only entails defining a geographic focus but ensuring that focus is based on ecological connectivity. Geographic focus within defined landscapes of manageable sizes, facilitating replication, upscaling and promoting sustainability through market linkages and through enhanced partnerships are therefore key elements expected of UCPs.

Being an UCP entails a focus on both ensuring replication of successful demonstration projects supported by the SGP under previous OPs as well as a focus on upscaling these efforts. The idea is not that the GEF should fund even more projects and thereby replicate already proven successful demonstration projects, but rather that it should find a way to ensure that successful demonstrations are replicated with the support of others (local, national government, other development partners, other NGOs, etc.) or, alternatively, that the initiatives become self-sustaining and are thereby replicated with no additional support. This is an important distinction from replication by continued GEF support to simply expand into more geographic areas or include more villages that had not previously been supported.

Upscaling refers to finding ways to ensure that more people benefit and that the benefit they derive is of even greater significance. The principal here is that this will also result in greater global significance in terms of biodiversity, climate change mitigation or other thematic areas of the GEF. Upscaling can be achieved through adding value (by for example transforming a raw product into a processed product or by for example developing a certification system which brings more value to certified products) or adding quantity (e.g., more people are involved in producing the product so that it becomes marketable).

1.3 Project Progress Summary

As per the signed project document, the project start date is July 1 2011 and the closing date is June 30 2016. The project document was not signed until end October 2012, more than a year after the project start date. The first Annual Work Plan (AWP) for the year 2012 was signed in December 2012, and the first release of funds was at end December 2012. As is clear from these dates, the project experienced significant delays at start up. The NSC as well as the UNDP Country Office (CO) struggled at the outset of OP5 as both the NGO Implementing Partner (IP) modality was new as was the modality of operating as an UCP.

One year and 2 months passed between the signing of the project document (PRODOC) and the date the inception workshop was held.

After sorting out these issues during the first year or so, the Project is now progressing in a satisfactory way as shown in the summary tables of Progress towards Results and Progress towards Objectives below. Nevertheless, given the late start, a project extension (no-cost) will be required to ensure the project has a full five year operating phase. The proposed new project end date recommended by the MTR is 30 December, 2017¹. This represents an extension of 18 months.

At the time of the MTR (3 years after PRODOC signature), a total of 77 projects have been supported by the SGP. 42 of these projects (55%) are between 2 and 3 years old, 25 of the 77 projects (32%) are younger than 1 year old, and 10 (13%) of the projects have been going on for between 1 and 2 years. Only 9 of the 77 projects (12%) have been completed to date. Approximately 70% of the total funds budgeted for grants have been allocated through these 77 projects. Thus, at the time of this MTR, with 6 months left in the project according to the original project timeframe, approximately 30% of the grant funds remain to be allocated. Of the total amount allocated for grants, 50%² had actually been spent as of September, 2015. 66% of the grant monies for Biodiversity projects had been spent, 51% of the grant monies for Land Degradation had been spent, and only 41% of the grant monies for Climate Change projects had been spent.

Grant implementation is somewhat slower than planned. There is a significant percentage of projects that require extensions (twelve projects have already been granted a project extension and it is anticipated that at least another 15 projects will require project extensions). This is due primarily to overly ambitious project designs. No-cost extensions are being routinely granted to projects which require more time. Approving overly ambitious projects is not good practice. Even though the MTR feels that in future less ambitious project designs should be encouraged and future project time frames should be extended from the average of two years to three to four years, the fact that many of the grant projects require extensions does not present a major issue at this time.

There are a small number of projects (4 of the 77) that are not on track and are at risk of not achieving their objectives even with extensions. CEE is fully aware of these projects and is taking the necessary action to address the issues. The MTRT is satisfied with this approach.

Several of the targets related to indicators (both at the project objective and the project outcome level) cannot realistically be achieved. Further detail on progress related to each outcome and to the objective is presented later in this report. There are a few important issues to point out here. First, although adaptive management is encouraged in GEF projects, targets should not be modified simply because they will not be achieved. Otherwise, the GEF would be put in the position of approving projects (and their budgets) expecting certain results and a certain level of cost-effectiveness and may not really be getting what was agreed in the signed PRODOC. After consulting with the Global Technical

¹ Interestingly, the MOU with one of the projects visited by the MTRT indicates an end date of May, 2018.

² According to expenditure reports, US \$1,914,598 has been spent on projects as of September 2015 of the total amount budgeted for projects which was US \$3,861,400.

Adviser (GTA) for UCPs, the direction was given that modifications should not represent an “extreme” departure from what was agreed in the legally-binding project document but adaptive management should be pursued as appropriate. Given this situation, and the need to take necessary corrective action now at the project mid-term, the MTRT is recommending modifications to certain targets, both at the project objective and at the project expected outcome levels. The specific recommendations related to targets are found in the last section of this report.

Table 1: *Progress toward Achieving Project Objectives Summary Table*

Objective	Indicator	Target end of project	Achievement rating
To ensure a mosaic of land uses and community practices across the rural landscape to generate sustainable livelihoods and global benefits for BD, LD and CCM	Number of hectares of land brought under sustainable land and resource management in the Western Ghats (WG), Himalayan Front (HF) and Arid and Semi-Arid Regions (ASAR)	200,000 hectares	Not on target
	# tons of carbon emission reductions achieved through SGP interventions	75,000 metric tonnes of CO ₂ e per year reduced	Not on target
	Amount of new and additional financial resources leveraged for community driven sustainable resource management in India	USD 5 million	Achieved and exceeded
	Improvement in Systemic Level Indicators of Capacity Development Scorecard (Annex 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity to conceptualize and formulate local level policies, actions on sustainable resource use³. • Capacity to implement programmes and action on sustainable resource use • Capacity to engage and build consensus among all stakeholders • Capacity to mobilize information and knowledge • Capacity to monitor, evaluate and report and learn at the grantee and project levels 	Achieved

Green shading = Achieved; Yellow = On target; Red = Not on target; Grey = Cannot be assessed

Table 2: *Progress towards Project Outcomes Summary Table*

Outcome	Indicator	Target end of project	Achievement rating
Outcome 1.1: Panchayats (local self-governments) incorporate improved management practices into village level planning for community managed landscapes and seascapes enhancing mosaics of land uses and improving biodiversity conservation.	Number of panchayats incorporates sustainable management practices into village level resource use plans.	30 by year 4	On target

³ Both the baselines and the targets for the 5 indicators related to capacity were supposed to be assessed at the time the grant projects were approved. The Capacity Development Scorecard was supposed to be the tool used to assess the capacities. The capacity indicators actually being used by the project are different.

Outcome	Indicator	Target end of project	Achievement rating
	Number of community led tools and methodologies developed for biodiversity mapping, monitoring and valuation.	10	On target
	Number of rare and threatened domesticated cultivars/ livestock/ varieties brought under focused conservation practices in the project sites.	At least 5	Achieved and exceeded
	Number of women's groups formed/ strengthened for planning and executing of sustainable natural resource management	100	Achieved and exceeded
	Number of new branding/ geographic indicators/ certified agro-based products developed in the project sites.	5 by project end	Achieved
Outcome 2.1: Appropriate energy efficient technologies result in emission reductions.	# of tonnes of CO2e emission reductions achieved through adoption of energy efficient technologies.	225,000 MTs of CO2e emission reductions over 3 years.	Not on target
	# of women involved through SHGs in investments for emissions reductions	10% increase by end of year 2 and 20% increase by end of year 4	Not possible to assess
	# of tonnes CO2e emissions reduced through adoption of renewable energy technologies at local level.	12,277 MTs of CO2e by end of project	Not on target
Outcome 3.1 Improved enabling environment at the panchayat level agricultural sector improves management, functionality and cover of agro-ecosystems in ASAR (LD-1).	No of hectares of dry agricultural lands brought under SLM with improved vegetative cover.	70,000 hectares	Not on target
	Number of new and additional sources identified for leveraging investment replication/ for SLM across drylands in ASAR.	At least 10 new sources	On target
	% density of ground stocking in productive forest landscape in ASAR, HF,WG.	Ground stocking increased to 50%	Not possible to assess
Outcome 4.1 Increased capacity of SGP stakeholders to diagnose and understand the complex and dynamic nature of global environmental problems and to develop local solutions.	Number of new grants that replicate consolidated approaches (BD, CC, LD).	Replication of consolidated approaches (BD, CC, LD) in at least 30 new grants by year 4	On target
	Increase in amount of co-funding for SGP-India.	USD 5 million	Achieved and exceeded
	Number natural resource based products developed by the GEF SGP partners linked to markets.	75 products by project end	Achieved and exceeded
	Number of workshops/learning events conducted by the project	Workshops held in the beginning of year 1 to	Achieved and exceeded

Outcome	Indicator	Target end of project	Achievement rating
	by the GEF SGP partners/stakeholders	finalise the indicators and targets in the M&E framework with all the stakeholders. Four learning events organised for key stakeholders/SGP grantees for achieving this outcome.	

1.4 MTR Ratings

Based on the above results and other information presented in the main text of this report, the following ratings have been given to the project.

Table 3: **MTR Rating Table**

Measure	MTR Rating	Achievement Description
Project Strategy	Rating: MS	The Project strategy as described in the PRODOC basically represents a continuation of previous OPs before the India SGP became an UCP. There is no real geographic focus and no thematic focus. The general approach which has been adopted, however, which is to work through SHGs, focus on capacity building, ensure knowledge management, and seek ways to market products seems very adequate but greater emphasis needs to be placed on accruing global environment benefits especially in the biodiversity projects and adopting a much more geographically focused approach would be helpful in this regard.
Progress Towards Results	<u>Project Objective:</u> To ensure a mosaic of land uses and community practices across the rural landscape that provide sustainable livelihoods while generating global benefits related to biodiversity, land degradation and climate change mitigation Achievement Rating: MS	The achievement rating is based on the achievement of project objective level indicators as presented in the PRODOC. According to the Summary Table of Progress towards Objectives, the SGP has already achieved 2 of the targets related to the 4 indicators. Another 2 are not on target to be achieved.
	<u>Outcome 1</u> Panchayats (local self-governments) incorporate improved management practices into village level planning for community managed landscapes and seascapes enhancing mosaics of land uses and improving biodiversity conservation. Achievement Rating: HS	Of the targets associated with the 5 indicators for this Outcome, 3 have already been achieved and the remaining 2 targets are on-target to be achieved by project end.
	<u>Outcome 2</u> Appropriate energy efficient technologies result in emission reductions. Achievement Rating: MU	Of the targets associated with the 3 indicators for this Outcome, 2 are not on target to be achieved by project end, and it is not possible to assess the remaining 1.
	<u>Outcome 3</u> Improved enabling environment at	Of the targets associated with the 3 indicators for this Outcome, 1 is on target, 1 is not on target to be achieved,

	<p>the panchayat level agricultural sector improves management, functionality and cover of agro-ecosystems in ASAR (LD-1). Achievement Rating: MS</p>	<p>and it is not possible to assess the other.</p>
	<p><u>Outcome 4</u> Increased capacity of SGP stakeholders to diagnose and understand the complex and dynamic nature of global environmental problems and to develop local solutions. Achievement Rating: HS</p>	<p>Of the targets associated with the 4 indicators for this Outcome, 3 have already been achieved and the remaining 1 is on target to be achieved by project end.</p>
Project Implementation & Adaptive Management	Achievement Rating: S	<p>According to results described in Section 4.3, management arrangements are good overall although the NSC needs to be more aware of GEFability and needs to adopt a more strategic role. The IP is very good. The partner NGOs have been well chosen. The finance and co-finance situations are good. Communications and knowledge management are very good. Stakeholder engagement is very good. Reporting could be improved. There are some issues regarding project-level monitoring. Adaptive management measures are satisfactory although these need to be discussed and formalized between the IP and UNDP. The project could benefit from more focused UNDP CO oversight and could have benefitted in the earlier stages of this OP from greater direction from the UNDP GTA for UCPS.</p>
Sustainability	Rating: Likely	<p>According to results shown in Section 4.4 on sustainability, the MTR did not identify major concerns about financial, socioeconomic or institutional sustainability. Therefore, the rating given by the MTR is that sustainability is “likely”.</p>

1.5 Conclusions

1. Overall the India SGP is operating in a satisfactory manner and can serve as a model for other country SGPs in numerous ways which are elaborated further in this report.
2. The India SGP is strongly aligned with national government priorities.
3. The innovative modality of NGO execution/implementation for the SGP (which only one other country has adopted to date) is working very well. The NGO Implementing Partner (the Centre for Environment Education) is a well-known, respected, highly capable NGO, with a highly qualified, dedicated and energetic National Coordinator (NC), a strong National Coordination Unit (NCU), and a network of seven CEE Regional Offices. It is largely due to this NGO being the National Host Institution (NHI) for the SGP in India that many of the strengths of the SGP described in this report have been brought about. Although the UNOPS IP model for UCPs has been effective in several countries, the NGO model has numerous advantages as demonstrated by this project.
4. Progress made until the time of the MTR shows that even though there was a slow start, the project is now progressing well towards its planned outcomes, and to a lesser extent towards its objectives (indicating a lack of coherence in the Results Framework which is pointed out elsewhere in this report). A no-cost project extension will be required to make up for the lost time. With only 6 months left in the project, the IP has not officially requested this extension but is operating on the assumption that it will be granted. Although a MTR may certainly make a recommendation regarding a project extension, a project does not have to wait for a MTR to dialogue on such matters.
5. Several of the targets related to indicators as described in the PRODOC (both at the project objective and the project outcome level) cannot realistically be achieved even given a project extension. Being fully aware that several targets could not realistically be achieved, CEE has set new targets which they are routinely using as reference, even completing the RF using their own targets instead of those presented in the PRODOC. CEE understands that it cannot modify targets on its own and has put this forward as an issue for MTR consideration.
6. Although the India SGP is now an Upgraded Country Programme (UCP), it is still largely operating as it was in previous operational phases with no real geographic focus (3 priority geographic areas are described in the project document but these cover almost 50% of the country) and no thematic focus (the SGP includes CC, BD, LD and even some POPs).
7. The lack of thematic and geographic focus does not mean that the SGP has not adopted a particular strategy. Indeed, the SGP has adopted a strategy even if it is not a thematically or geographically focused strategy. The strategy has been to work to develop islands of success in every State of the country. The SGP Programme is seen by CEE and by the Gol as a means of influencing and involving local governments and communities in all States of India to derive both local and global environmental benefits, with an emphasis on the poorest and least-served communities and the most degraded environments. The SGP, although defined as a Full-Size GEF Project, is actually a very small project for a country the size of India. Although one would like to influence actions in all States of India, this strategy may be overly ambitious given the funding available as well as the time frame. A strategy which involves a greater geographic and thematic focus may result in greater impact.
8. The fact that unlike all other SGP UCPs the India SGP does not issue calls for proposals is indicative of both its popularity but also of the lack of thematic and geographic focus of

the programme. This may not be the most efficient approach as a total of an astounding 1,204 proposals have been received which required screening, review and response, of which only 77 (6%) have been approved.

9. Some projects, especially some “biodiversity” projects, cannot be strongly justified as per GEF criteria. They are not directed at conserving biodiversity of global significance. GEFability has not been a strong enough focus in biodiversity project approval. Moreover, BD projects are not clustered geographically. Although some BD projects are collaborating with other larger scale, longer-term projects, most are not strategically linked in this way. As a result, the impact of the BD SGP portfolio has been negligible in terms of conserving biodiversity of global significance. Without applying a stronger GEFability lens during project approval, and without clustering of biodiversity grant projects in globally significant biodiversity areas (e.g., buffer zones of protected areas with global designations such as, for example, natural World Heritage sites or Ramsar sites), and in addition clustering SGP projects in areas where other large-scale conservation and community development initiatives exist, this impact is unlikely to be achieved by the SGP.
10. The landscape approach which is recommended for UCPs has not been adopted in the India SGP. Adopting the landscape approach would require that the SGP adopt a much more defined geographic focus. There are good opportunities for linking SGP projects with larger landscape-level projects which have not been pursued.
11. Some projects have been misclassified. Some projects which are really LD projects have been classified as BD. The implication of misclassifying projects is that GEF Trust Fund monies designated for one GEF Focal Area are actually being used to support projects in a different focal area. In the case of the India SGP only 10% of the grant project fund budget was designated for LD and a much higher percent (30%) for BD but this is not reflective of how the grant funds are really being spent.
12. Although OP5 has been to some degree a continuation of OP4, it has also been a transition period in which some (but not all) of the principles associated with UCPs are being actively pursued. While appropriate emphasis has been placed on replication and upscaling, there is still not a clear strategy from the NSC regarding supporting pilot and demonstration initiatives (some NSC members believe such projects should be supported during this OP), nor has there been use of “strategic projects” to help break barriers that prevent greater local and global benefits from being accrued (the “strategic project” modality allows funding levels up to \$150,000 and is intended to support project that are strategic in nature in the sense that they help to break through barriers that prevent accrual of greater local and global benefits. Illustrative examples might be addressing the barrier of intellectual property rights pertaining to medicinal plants or addressing policy issues related to community-based ecotourism).
13. The SGP has established and maintains very good relations with government at national and local levels. This facilitates the involvement and promotion of other lesser-known partner NGOs. It also results in local government entities providing support to SGP projects that they may not otherwise even be aware of. This strong collaboration with Government has also facilitated marketing of products produced with the support of SGP. Although collaboration with the MoEF&CC has been very strong, there has not been much collaboration with the MNRE (with the exception of their helpful participation in the last NSC) even though most of the CC projects supported by the SGP relate to that Ministry.

14. SGP linkages with government programmes are strong and beneficial but care must be taken to ensure that SGP projects are not merely providing an extension of government programmes. Although the SGP should help leverage government programmes, it should not serve to merely extend the work of government to areas which are not easily accessed by those programmes or to a greater number of people/villages in those areas where programmes do operate.
15. The SGP is unique in the GEF, being the only programme that is specifically directed towards NGOs and small-scale community-based initiatives. The NGO partners (recipients of grants) have been very well selected in the India SGP. They are clearly capable and dedicated NGOs that are there for the long-term and not just there for the duration of a project. Project success has much to do with the existence of strong champions and in this regard the IP of the SGP in India, CEE, has made outstanding choices.
16. NGOs and CBOs are not only supposed to be the primary implementers of SGP grant projects, they are also supposed to direct and steer the country SGP. This must be reflected in the body which directs the SGP in country, i.e., the NSC. In the case of India, the position of Chair of the NSC is permanently attached to the office of the GEF Operational Focal Point, a government representative. The Government provides strong leadership on the NSC. This has many positive implications. Although the MTRT sees advantages in this arrangement, it also sees a need for a better balance with greater NGO representation on the NSC.
17. The SGP has proactively and successfully pursued collaboration with the private sector resulting in awareness-raising in those companies, long-term partnership establishment with the SGP, and fund raising to complement GEF and other funds invested in SGP projects contributing overall to greater sustainability of these efforts. Although clearly the CSR policy which has been instituted by the GoI has been very helpful, the dynamic and ever-energetic NC has truly made the difference here in securing positive and seemingly long-lasting relationships with private companies.
18. Involvement of women in meaningful ways has been actively and successfully pursued in the vast majority of the grant projects. Nevertheless, gender equality has not been institutionalized in any of the formal SGP country mechanisms (the NSC, the Regional Committees) and gender equality does not exist in the composition of the NSC, the Regional Committees, the CEE Regional Office Directors (paid for by the SGP), or in the Project Directors of the SGP grants.
19. The focus on preparing products for market (acquiring the necessary health and other certifications and registrations), and facilitating linkages with markets has been very good. An astounding 150 new products have been developed by NGO partners during OP5. The SGP has sponsored 15 Green Haats (markets) during OP5 which have significantly helped in marketing products and enhancing awareness about both the products and the groups that make them, as well as of course enhancing awareness of the SGP itself. The effort currently underway to strengthen this marketing even further through quality control and e-marketing is important and could represent another big leap forward. The continued focus on finding and establishing niche markets through the development and use of certification systems and other modalities is also important.
20. The SGP has very effectively communicated its achievements, which has given the SGP a high profile both within and outside of India.

21. There has been a strong and helpful focus on capacity building of NGO partners with a spill-over effect to others not directly involved with SGP projects. NGO partners typically benefit from a long-term relationship with CEE beyond the life of their SGP project, thereby building capacity even beyond the project life and activities.
22. Grant project monitoring has generally been satisfactory but there were several instances where need for improvement was noted by the MTRT both in terms of project implementation monitoring and technical monitoring.
23. Some projects have missed opportunities for lack of thinking “outside the box” (e.g., the APOWA project missed a good opportunity to support community-based ecotourism).
24. Although UNDP certainly has the technical capacity to support the SGP, it does not seem to have enough time to focus adequately to engage effectively with the SGP. Although the UNDP CO staff assigned to oversee the SGP are capable, careless mistakes and lack of timely response by the UNDP CO have contributed to needless delays and confusion. Communications between the UNDP CO and the IP are strained and lack of fluid communication on both sides has further contributed to confusion.
25. Greater guidance from the UNDP GTA on what it means to be an UCP and on NGO execution would have been helpful and could have saved the project precious time lost at the outset. Sharing global guidelines for UCPs would have been most helpful. Sharing sample TOR for MTRs and for Terminal Evaluations of SGPs would also be helpful. Although UNDP has standard TOR for MTRs and TEs, evaluations of SGPs are different from normal full-size GEF projects in that they are really ongoing programmes which include a portfolio of many projects. TOR for MTRs and TEs need to reflect this reality.
26. There is confusion between income generating activities (IGAs) and *alternative* income generating activities or livelihood options. Assumptions are made in some projects that income-generating activities, once introduced and shown to be viable, automatically serve as “alternatives” to non-sustainable practices that negatively affect the environment of interest to the GEF. The first most fundamental question must be, alternative to what? What is the “bad” practice that the project is seeking to find an alternative for? Sometimes IGAs introduced by projects are adopted by individuals who still continue to engage in non-sustainable use of resources while adding on the new income-generating activities. It should not be assumed that introducing IGAs, even viable ones, automatically has a positive effect on the natural resources which are to be conserved. Likewise, sometimes some individuals in a community (those participating in a project) fully adopt sustainable income-generating activities and desist from engaging in non-sustainable ones, while other members of the community (or sometimes those coming from outside the communities) continue to use the resources in a non-sustainable way because they do not benefit sufficiently from the ‘alternative’ livelihood activities to make it worth their while to desist from unsustainable activities.
27. CC projects are actually more cost-effective than originally anticipated. The Unit Abatement Cost (UAC) in terms of GEF trust fund investment was estimated to be US\$ 9.46/tCO₂ reduced in the PRODOC. The actual cost will come to \$6/tCO₂ (36% less than the estimate). Despite this, the targets associated with the CC projects will not be achieved. The IP has not initiated a dialogue with UNDP on this issue prior to the MTR and has not recommended any modifications to CC targets.

1.6 Recommendations

Overall, the MTRT believes the India SGP is doing very well. Recommendations presented here are meant to be helpful and practical in what is a forward-looking review at the mid-term of this project, i.e., at a juncture where there is still opportunity for adaptive management. The decision regarding which recommendations to take up, and how to implement them, lies with the NSC, UNDP and CEE.

1. UNDP should encourage other countries to adopt the NGO as SGP Implementing Partner (IP) model. The NC of the India SGP should be invited to present this model to the next meeting of UCPs, sharing the struggles it passed through and how these were surmounted, and sharing with others the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) they have developed, and lessons they have learnt.
2. A no-cost extension until end December, 2017 should be granted to the project to enable it to operate for a full five years as originally planned and to give it sufficient time to achieve the targets set forward in the project document.
3. Even with the proposed time extension, some of the original targets set forward in the PRODOC will not be achieved. Specific recommendations regarding adjustment of targets are presented in Section 5 of this report.
4. The National Steering Committee is comprised of highly qualified and committed individuals. Nevertheless, strengthening their awareness regarding GEF criteria and the need to focus to a greater extent on strategic matters would be helpful. Complementing the NSC with a Technical Advisory Panel for SGP BD strategy elaboration and for BD project proposal screening would be helpful. (A separate recommendation on this is presented below.)
5. Establish a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) for biodiversity projects, both to assist the NSC to develop an overall BD strategy, and to technically review proposals and provide their comments to the NSC in advance of NSC consideration. The TAP may also assist the Regional Offices of CEE to technically monitor BD projects as appropriate. The Technical Advisory Panel should be comprised of qualified scientific, academic and other institutions and NGOs with a focus on biodiversity conservation. (These might include entities such as the IUCN, the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Forest Research Institute (FRI, Dehradun), Indian Institute of Forest Management, Tropical Forest Research Institutes and/or others.) A GEFability checklist could be developed by the Technical Advisory Panel to be used in reviewing all BD project proposals.
6. Effort should be made to balance the Government representation and power on the NSC with a greater number of independent NGOs, especially technically-oriented ones (ones with expertise in biodiversity conservation, rehabilitation of degraded lands, renewable energies). If it is not possible to achieve this balance, then the MTRT recommends that the chair become rotational rather than permanent.
7. BD funds yet to be committed in this OP should support BD projects in globally significant biodiversity areas and in areas where other larger-scale conservation and community development initiatives are underway with whom the SGP projects can collaborate. It would also make sense to support CC and LD projects in these same areas. Thus, a much stronger clustering of projects is recommended for the projects still to be approved.
8. If the NSC chooses not to cluster biodiversity projects as described above, it should consider focusing exclusively on other GEF Focal areas such as LD and CC and not on BD.

If funds need to be reprogrammed in this way (from one GEF Focal Area to another), approval from the GEF may be required. This will take time. Therefore, the MTRT urges the NSC to adopt the clustering approach as described above for programming remaining BD funds.

9. Supporting demonstration and pilot projects is normal for regular SGPs but this should not be the focus of UCPs. Steer away from supporting these and move toward adopting a policy of support for replication and upscaling. Use Strategic Projects where these may be helpful.
10. Enhance collaboration with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
11. Steer away from using SGP funds for infrastructure development/construction projects. Government funds should be used for this type of activity while SGP funds can complement such infrastructure development with GEFable activities.
12. Avoid projects that simply do more of what the government is already doing (e.g., if a government programme such as NRLM is already supporting the development of SHGs, linking them with micro-finance, and providing them with capacity building etc., instead of extending these same services to more villages, focus the SGP project on other types of activities that bring about global environment benefits that would not be accrued by the government programme alone.
13. Gender equality should be institutionalized in the various bodies which direct, steer, manage and monitor the SGP programme and projects. This should be accomplished by modifying the TOR of the NSC to ensure gender equality, and by ensuring gender equality in the composition of the NSC, the SGP Regional Committees, the CEE SGP Project Directors (paid by the SGP), none of which currently have achieved gender equality.
14. Project monitoring, including technical monitoring, gender-sensitive community-based impact-oriented monitoring, and project implementation monitoring, should be strengthened.
15. The UNDP CO should find a way to devote greater focus to the SGP in India.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Purpose of the MTR

Although the purpose of this Mid-Term Review (MTR) was not specified in the Terms of Reference (TOR) provided to the MTR Team, the purpose of an MTR according to the standard UNDP-GEF Mid-term is: 1) To assess progress towards the achievement of the project objectives and outcomes as specified in the Project Document, 2) To assess early signs of project success or failure with the goal of identifying the necessary changes to be made in order to set the project on-track to achieve its intended results, and 3) To review the project's strategy and its risks to sustainability.

2.2 Scope & Methodology

► Scope

The MTR assessed key areas related to project strategy, the project design, the project results framework, the progress towards objectives and outcomes, the project implementation and adaptive management, management arrangements, work planning,

financial management and co-financing, project-level monitoring and evaluation, stakeholder engagement, collaboration with the private sector, pursuit of gender equality, reporting, communications and knowledge management, and sustainability.

► Methodology

The MTR team (MTRT) was comprised of four independent consultants, three national consultants (a gender specialist, a climate change mitigation specialist, and a natural resource management specialist) and one international consultant (a biodiversity specialist with extensive experience evaluating GEF projects and programmes including SGP UCPs). The International Consultant acted as Team Leader. The national consultants on the team spent almost one and a half months (35 work days each) visiting projects and consulting with stakeholders. The International Consultant spent 15 work days in India, meeting up with the rest of the Team after they had made most of their project visits (list of projects visited by the MTR team is included as **Annex 5**).

The MTR was conducted in accordance with the “UNDP Guidance for Conducting Mid-Term Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-financed Projects (2014)”, and the “*GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy*”, and in line with GEF principles including independence, impartiality, transparency, and participation. All MTR Team (MTRT) members signed the Consultant Code of Conduct which is scanned and included as **Annex 8**. The MTR seeks to provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. In this regard, the MTRT followed a participatory and consultative approach, and used a variety of evaluation instruments including:

- **Evaluation Matrix:** An evaluation matrix was developed based on the set of questions covering the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact which were included in the TOR for the MTR. The matrix (presented in **Annex 2**) served as a general guide for interviews conducted.
- **Documentation Review:** The MTRT reviewed documents including the project document (PRODOC), the Project Information Framework (PIF) for OP5, project reports including Annual Project Reports, project budget revisions, project files, results framework, criteria for project selection, National Steering Committee minutes, policy and national strategy documents, and other relevant documents. A complete list of documentation reviewed by the MTRT is included as Annex 7.
- **Interviews:** In-person interviews were conducted with more than 200 stakeholders including with UNDP, national government entities including the MoEF & CC and the MNRE, NABARD (the National Bank for Agriculture Development), NRLM (National Rural Livelihood Mission), state government entities including the State Medicinal Plant Board (SMPB), the state rural development institute (the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Energy and Development), various government departments including the Forest Department (Forest guards, rangers and deputy rangers, with Divisional Forest Officer/Wildlife, PCCF Principal Chief Conservator of Forests), the Agriculture Department, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, the LPG Distributing Agency, and with local government entities including several Panchayat representatives. The MTRT also met with a variety of NGO partners which had received

SGP grants; research and extension institutions (Krishi Vigyan Kenvra KVK), universities (Central University, JNKVV), and with representatives of development partners (DFID). The MTRT visited with 109 Self Help Groups, the vast majority of which were all women groups (at times meeting with representatives of these groups and at times with the entire membership of the group). Many of the meetings took place in the field at project sites with groups averaging 20 or so people. The complete list of stakeholders met is in Annex 6.

- **Project Visits:** Because of the large number of projects in the India SGP portfolio (77), the time constraints of the evaluation, and the distances to be covered, the MTRT was of course not able to visit all projects. Visits were, however, made to 19 projects which represents one fourth of all the projects supported during OP5. The MTRT visited projects in all three thematic areas of the GEF including 8 CC projects of the 24 supported, 5 of the 44 Biodiversity projects, and 3 of the 4 land degradation projects. An additional 3 projects which were classified as pertaining to more than one thematic area were also visited. The MTRT visited projects in 12 states of India spanning 15 Tribal areas. Projects visited were in diverse ecosystems ranging from mangroves to semi-arid and arid regions, montane, desert, dry deciduous forest, and other ecosystems. The projects visited were chosen by the MTRT in close consultation with the NCU. Inputs on the preliminary choices were requested from the NC to ensure that visits to the selected projects were logistically possible given the evaluation time frame and that the projects represented a fair sample of the variety of project types and sizes included in the SGP portfolio, with a slight skew towards projects that have been ongoing for relatively longer time periods to ensure the MTRT would visit with those projects which have had adequate time to demonstrate results. The MTRT visited several projects together as a team to ensure it would be assessing similar aspects/parameters of the projects it visited, but the majority of projects were visited by only one or two team members. Individual project assessments were made of the projects visited and are presented in **Annex 10** along with photos of each of the projects visited.
- **MTR Mission Itinerary:** The MTR mission itinerary is presented in Annex 4.
- **Ratings:** In accordance with GEF guidelines for project evaluations, achievement ratings as well as sustainability and relevance ratings were assigned by the MTRT. The MTRT rated various aspects of the project according to the GEF project review criteria using the obligatory GEF ratings of: Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). A full description of these ratings and other GEF rating scales is provided in Annex 3. The MTRT also rated various dimensions of sustainability of project outcomes using the GEF obligatory rating scale of: Likely (L), Moderately Likely (ML), Moderately Unlikely (MU), and, Unlikely (U).

2.3 Structure of the evaluation report

The report is structured according to the guidelines provided in the GEF-UNDP Guidance for Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported GEF- Financed Projects (July, 2014) with a few minor deviations described below.

Instead of presenting conclusions and recommendations in two places in this document, to save space, the conclusions and recommendations are only presented in the Executive Summary and not in Section 5. Section 5 is devoted exclusively to presenting highly detailed recommendations that further expand on recommendations presented in the Executive Summary. UNDP Guidance on MTRs, limits the number of recommendations that can be made to 15. As the MTRT did not want to lose the opportunity of being helpful on some very practical yet minor matters, it chose to present these as “minor recommendations” in the text itself.

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND CONTEXT

3.1 Development context

This section is taken from the PRODOC and describes the three priority areas which the PRODOC indicates the SGP would focus on.

The Himalayas occupy an area of 32 million ha and support very high levels of biodiversity in alpine pastures, temperate forest, high altitude wetlands and sub-tropical forests. Uniqueness of the region is manifested in its rich species endemism (over 40%). There are 12 mammal species endemic to the Himalayas and 15 endemic birds. The Western and Eastern Himalaya are home to Endemic Bird Areas given urgent and critical priority status by Bird Life International. Over 175 indigenous communities inhabiting this region depend directly on its diversified resource base. In spite of its richness and unique natural resources, the region remains relatively under developed with widespread poverty which may accentuate environmental degradation. Socio-economic indicators of this region are low with low levels of education and health care, high food insecurity and shrinking community livelihood sources characterized by the loss of critical ecosystem services. Agriculture is the most important livelihood activity in this region, employing more than 70% of the labor force. About 40 million people depend directly on the region’s globally significant ecosystems for sustenance and support.

The Western Ghats occupy an area of 16 million ha, the Western Ghats harbour 27% of India’s total flora in various ecosystems of global significance including tropical wet evergreen forests, montane evergreen forests, moist deciduous forest, and dry evergreen forests. There are 14 endemic mammal species and among the 500 species of birds reported, 16 are endemic. The Western Ghats are home to an EBA given High Priority by Bird Life International. The forests of the Western Ghats had been selectively logged and large tracts were converted to monoculture plantations. There are varying degrees of human pressure including collection of fuelwood and NTFPs for subsistence. Mass tourism, grazing and forest fires are other concerns. Over 70% of the 45 million people who live in the Western Ghats depend on agriculture and natural resources for livelihoods. Poverty is rife and economic development is slow particularly in regions adjacent to forests.

The Arid and Semi-Arid region covers an area of 127 million ha or almost 40% of the total geographical area of the country. The Thar Desert in Rajasthan is the world’s seventh largest desert. The mammal fauna comprise 41 species that include the endangered cats – the lion, leopard and tiger. The region harbours some of India’s most magnificent

grasslands and is home to highly habitat-specific species of global conservation significance such as the Great Indian Bustard. Most of the region is either subject to desertification or drought prone or considered wasteland. Land degradation is estimated to affect at least one third of India. Arid areas are the worst affected. Recurrent drought, high wind, poor sandy soils and high human and livestock demand for food, fodder and firewood cause over-exploitation of fragile resources, further aggravating the ecological problems.

3.2 Problems that the project sought to address: threats and barriers targeted

According to the PRODOC, “India’s natural resources are impacted by direct proximate factors such as mega-development, competing claims on land and water resources, unsustainable commercial extraction and livelihood dependencies. Indirect factors include increasing human population, climate change, weak governance, institutional and policy frameworks. Land degradation has affected at least one third of the area of India and 41% of India’s forests are degraded.” The description of environmental problems including those related to climate change covers several pages in the PRODOC.

Clearly, a single project (and a small one at that) cannot address all of a country’s environmental problems. Part of the problem with this project is that it never clearly outlines what problems this particular project will address. The Project Results Framework of course does this to some extent but doesn’t do a very good job of whittling the problem down to what the project will focus on. Further analysis is provided in the analysis of the Results Framework.

► Barriers

The key barriers to achieving the project objective were described in the PRODOC as follows:

Barrier 1: Knowledge, experience and market barriers constrain the adoption of biodiversity conservation objectives in community-level land and resource use plans and practices across critical landscapes: In India’s remote under-served communities, the knowledge or experience with stakeholders in incorporating biodiversity conservation objectives into land and resource use practices is disintegrating/ already weakened. Unclear land-use and management plans or regulations create open access “tragedy of the commons” that incentivizes unsustainable use. The expertise available at the community level to identify priority interventions need support from improved land use practices. Small kinship based self-help women’s groups and local institutions are unable to access resources to engage them in sustainable activities, such improved agro-environmental practices and biodiversity mapping and monitoring and ease of obtaining necessary permits and licenses. Local level planning for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use is weakening in India and is focused largely on joint forest management entities. Similar concepts are virtually unknown in the agricultural sector. Panchayat-level plans and planning processes for biodiversity conservation are extremely rare in India. Key economic arguments for mainstreaming remain unfamiliar to most local communities in India, hampering efforts to justify allocation of scarce resources to critical capacity building efforts. For example, the real cost of land and resource degradation is very high for rural communities in India but this cost has yet to be ascribed to the value of services provided by healthy ecosystems. There are various barriers

at the community level to farmers and other resource users adopting alternative “biodiversity friendly” methods of production in agriculture, animal husbandry, and forest products. One barrier to adoption is a lack of information and knowledge about organic farming or sustainable grazing. Farmers lack knowledge about the benefits of agro ecology and how organic farming or grazing methods bolster the soil. Organic certification for community level and small-scale producers of biodiversity dependent products is virtually unknown, as is improved community-based resource use of non-timber forest products.

Barrier 2: Rural community-level constraints to adoption of low carbon technologies (LCT) and improved land-use change and forestry practices: Significant emissions savings from adoption of low carbon technologies (LCT) at the village level in India are achievable, but these facts are not well known at the community-level in India, hampering improved sustainable development and the reduction of GHG emissions. Village-level stakeholders generally are not aware of the importance and advantages of LCT and are not able to access up-to-date information regarding socio-economic and environmental benefits of such technologies. There is a low level of exposure and access to new, low cost, energy technologies at the village level in India. This includes inadequate valuation of resources to highlight cost-effectiveness of energy efficiency and poor availability of reliable baseline data. Remote and underserved communities chronically are disconnected and largely unaware of new energy technologies. For example, India’s villages/tribal communities have difficulty in accessing LCT best practice such as solar and small-scale hydro. Communities in remote locations are semi-literate and initiatives must be (but rarely are) designed to meet their special needs. Community level adoption of green technologies is hampered by a distinct lack of exposure, know-how in applying and maintaining technologies such as solar (varying from investments of Rs 5000 to Rs 75,000 per technology intervention) or micro hydro (varying with investments of Rs 500,000 to Rs 900,000 per intervention). Weak civil society institutions, lack of systemic approach, know how have difficulty providing technical backstopping, access and link for timely and cheap credit and also support for such trainings, awareness-raising and joint promotion of LCT technologies for replication and adoption. Consequently, village level stakeholders perceive green options to have a high level of risk, which hampers the adoption of LCT without local proof of concept and innovative extension support programs. Private sector companies promote green technologies across India, but the special attention required by under-served and remote communities requires more process based approaches, and means to address the links to the markets. These marginalized communities often fall through the marketing “cracks and unavailability of the links to cheap credit”. Communities often feel and have a perception that these ‘high costs’ in the technology adoption will not give them the gains, (as they also have the inexperience in the exposure to the performance on the use of such technologies-the reliability concern). The NGO sector is also unable to invest large funds; lack of exposure and access to these technologies is always challenged and is bereft of green champions.

Barrier 3: Low community level management capacity preventing improvement in the flow of ecosystem services to sustain the livelihoods of local communities: JFM institutions provide a solid programmatic baseline for organizing local and tribal communities to adopt SLM/SFM. However often, the management capacity and narrow representation are inadequate to the task of mobilizing broad-based support from villagers. In addition, limited access to technology, exposure and knowledge hampers their effectiveness. The level of

participatory decision making in most communities regarding the use of natural resources is not adequate and hinders their ability to serve as an effective forum for community feedback on land use issues and conflict resolution on grazing and forest resource use rights. Also lack of access to the government support systems in the remote regions by the communities furthers creates the divide and a level of poor rapport and trust. Villagers lack the economic and financial incentives to switch from short-term resource exploitation to long-term stewardship. This is also a general lack of skills, exposure, trust and capacities for adding value to the raw materials they harvest from the forest, thus constraining their ability to secure and retain a greater share of economic benefits from resource extraction at the village-level. This is made worse by the fact that local villagers lack access to timely and cheap credit for investing in natural resource based enterprises. Demonstration of a well-functioning model with efforts to increase access to credit management and financing are very important for the adoption as an approach in remote and marginalized areas and with the communities. Unsustainable use of forest resources by Tribals, forest dwellers and marginalized communities reduces the carbon storage potential of vast areas of forestlands in India. Mechanisms in place for forest management such as forest committees and JFM agreements are not always very effective in increasing tree cover, biomass and reducing GHG emissions. Local communities have little influence in decision making on land use alternatives; have inadequate conflict resolution mechanism regarding rights to grazing and forest resource use, and little incentive to shift to more sustainable forest management. Cultural and educational barriers hamper the involvement of the landless, marginal and poor families in village level institutions, preventing innovative initiatives to revive their village common lands. Further, participation of local communities in planning and implementation of programs on reforestation or rehabilitation of degraded lands is limited and women are largely absent from decision making, undermining any sense of ownership and other key tenets of SFM.

Barrier 4: Across India's vast rural landscape, system level community oriented tools are lacking; tools such as networks, support systems, and common marketing and branding mechanisms: There are few if any peer-to-peer learning opportunities for sharing new-found expertise and best practice. Insufficient communication materials and limited access to new media leads to delays in enabling access to information by local communities and hinders innovation at the individual and institutional levels of a community. Rural communities have poor connectivity constraining opportunities for learning. Networks and partnership platforms for capacity building are not well developed and available to remote, underserved communities. Local producer and community-based organizations are poorly developed with limited opportunities for training. For example, community forest restoration and micro-hydro/solar efforts receive limited extension support or training in relevant practices and approaches. India is a vast country with many languages and dialects. Knowledge, even if it is created is may not be available in local languages. Without system-level community-oriented tools, knowledge is usually not in a form useful for millions of people who need it.

3.3 Project Description & Strategy

3.3.1 Project Description

The India SGP includes 77 grant projects in its portfolio to date. More grant projects will be supported as there will be at least two more NSC meetings to review and approve grants. A total of 77% of the total GEF budget of \$5,000,000 is dedicated to grant projects. This is a higher percentage compared with many other UCPs and is an indication of the approach of the SGP in India to try to ensure that as much of the project funds go to the intended beneficiaries as possible.

Of the budget dedicated to grant projects, 60% is budgeted for CC projects, 30% for BD projects, and 10% for LD projects. There is no budget for POPs projects but a few have been supported anyway.

Another 9 % of the total GEF budget is dedicated to capacity development and knowledge management, accurately reflecting the appropriate focus which has been placed on these areas.

3.3.2 Project Strategy

The India SGP strategy as outlined in the PRODOC is to include all GEF Focal areas (BD, LD, CC and even some POPs projects). The strategy indicates that the SGP would focus on three priority areas (the Himalayas, the Western Ghats, and the Arid and Semi-Arid region). The PRODOC describes the overall strategy as follows, “With the proposed GEF project, an alternative scenario will be catalyzed where communities obtain the skills, capacities and resources required to mainstream biodiversity into productive sector practices at the panchayat level, to adopt SLM and SFM practices as part of existing community-based agriculture and forestry practices, and to demonstrate and deploy new low carbon technologies at the village level, all done in a way that achieves multi-focal area synergies in target landscapes. GEF support will be catalytic in mobilizing action at local levels to introduce new strategies and technologies that will improve the condition of natural resources which are currently under threat, risk and vulnerability. More importantly, it will enhance the capacity of functionaries of different sectors and levels (NGOs, CBOs, etc) to promote participatory resource management. Further, the lessons learnt from the project shall be up-scaled, mainstreamed and replicated into regular national programmes.”

The approach to implementing the strategy adopted by the project has been to work through SHGs and to give priority to projects in under-served and very poor and vulnerable areas including Tribal areas and other areas that cannot easily be served by government programmes. The SGP strategy has been to align strongly with government priorities. The strategy has also been to facilitate and leverage government programmes support for beneficiaries involved in SGP projects as much as possible. Another aspect of the strategy has been to actively pursue private sector co-financing and collaboration. Yet another aspect of the strategy has been to help projects to make their products marketable and to find and facilitate markets for those products.

Table 4: **Objectives, Outcomes and Indicators**

Objective	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project
To ensure a mosaic of land uses and community practices across the rural landscape to generate sustainable livelihoods and global benefits for BD, LD and CCM	Number of hectares of land brought under sustainable land and resource management in the Western Ghats (WG), Himalayan Front (HF) and Arid and Semi-Arid Regions (ASAR)	0 ha.	200,000 hectares
	# tons of carbon emission reductions achieved through SGP interventions	200,000 MTs per year of CO2e	75,000 MTs of CO2e per year reduced
	Amount of new and additional financial resources leveraged for community driven sustainable resource management in India	0	US\$5 million
	Improvement in Systemic Level Indicators of Capacity Development Scorecard (Annex 3)	<p>SYSTEMIC LEVEL (The baselines and targets against the following capacities to be assessed at the time of selecting individual grantees). B/L Tgt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity to conceptualize and formulate local level policies, actions on sustainable resource use. Capacity to implement programmes and action on sustainable resource use Capacity to engage and build consensus among all stakeholders Capacity to mobilize information and knowledge Capacity to monitor, evaluate and report and learn at the grantee and project levels 	<p>22 guidance workshops by the end of project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 900 NGOs and CBOs by the end of the project 900 NGOs/CBOs by the end of the project 10 Institutions and 500 NGOs/CBOs by the end of project 10 institutions linked and 12 different technologies adopted by the end of project by the grantees 90 NGO/CBO partners at the end of project have community capacities created in practicing two/three technologies.

Table 5: **Progress toward Project Outcomes**

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project
Outcome 1.1: Panchayats (local self governments) incorporate improved management practices into village level planning for community managed landscapes and seascapes enhancing mosaics of land uses and improving biodiversity conservation.	Number of Panchayats incorporates sustainable management practices into village level resource use plans.	0	30 by year 4
	Number of community led tools and methodologies developed for biodiversity mapping, monitoring and valuation.	0	10

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project
	Number of rare and threatened domesticated cultivars/ livestock/ varieties brought under focused conservation practices in the project sites.	0	At least 5
	Number of women's groups formed/ strengthened for planning and executing of sustainable natural resource management	50 (This is based on the past experience of the SGP and shall be firmed up after individual grantees are identified.)	1071 women's groups formed / strengthened for planning and execution of sustainable natural resource management in 75 projects
	Number of new branding/ geographic indicators/ certified agro-based products developed in the project sites.	0	5 by project end.
Outcome 2.1: Appropriate energy efficient technologies result in emission reductions.	# of tonnes of CO2e emission reductions achieved through adoption of energy efficient technologies.	150,000 metric tonnes per year.	225,000 tonnes of CO2e emission reductions over 3 years.
	# of women involved through SHGs in investments for emissions reductions	to be assessed in the initial phase of the project.	10% increase by end of year 2 and 20% increase by end of year 4
	# of tonnes CO2e emissions reduced through adoption of renewable energy technologies at local level.	50,000 metric tonnes per year	12,277 tonnes of CO2e avoided by end of project.
Outcome 3.1 Improved enabling environment at the panchayat level agricultural sector improves management, functionality and cover of agro-ecosystems in ASAR (LD-1).	No of hectares of dry agricultural lands brought under SLM with improved vegetative cover.	0	70,000 hectares
	Number of new and additional sources identified for leveraging investment replication/ for SLM across drylands in ASAR.	0	At least 10 new sources
	% density of ground stocking in productive forest landscape in ASAR, HF,WG.	10-40%.	Ground stocking increased to 50%
Outcome 4.1 Increased capacity of SGP stakeholders to diagnose and understand the complex and dynamic nature of global environmental problems and to develop local solutions.	Number of new grants that replicate consolidated approaches (BD, CC, LD).	0	Replication of consolidated approaches (BD, CC, LD) in at least 30 new grants by year 4.
	Increase in amount of co-funding for SGP-India.	0	USD 5 million
	Number natural resource based products developed by the GEF SGP partners linked to markets.	25 numbers at present	75 products by project end
	Number of workshops/learning events conducted by the project by the GEF SGP partners/stakeholders	GEF SGP partners/stakeholders	Workshops held in the beginning of year 1 to finalise the indicators and targets in the M&E framework with all the stakeholders. Four learning events organised for key stakeholders/SGP grantees for achieving this outcome.

3.4 Project Implementation Arrangements

The SGP in India is executed and implemented by UNDP with CEE as Implementing Partner. CEE is an Indian NGO with its head office in Delhi and with 6 other Regional Offices around the country.

UNDP provides overall program oversight and takes responsibility for standard GEF project cycle management services beyond assistance and oversight of project design and negotiation, including project monitoring, periodic independent evaluations, troubleshooting, and reporting to the GEF.

Like all other SGPs, the India SGP is guided by a National Steering Committee comprised of non-governmental organizations, government, and UNDP CO representation. All SGP NSCs must have a non-governmental majority according to the global guidelines for SGPs. The NSC is responsible for grant approval and for determining the overall strategy of the SGP in the country. All NSC members serve, as per SGP global guidelines, in a voluntary capacity. The NSC is comprised of 11 members, 4 of whom are women. The position of Chair of the NSC is permanently attached to the office of the GEF Operational Focal Point, a government representative. This is a rather unique arrangement for a SGP NSC. The CEE serves as Secretariat to the NSC.

The National Coordination Unit for the SGP is comprised of the National Coordinator, the Programme Assistant, a Finance Officer, and a communications coordinator. The NCU is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the programme. The NCU is housed within the CEE office in Delhi.

Although calls for proposals are made in other UCP SGPs, no calls for proposals are made in the India SGP. As the SGP is well known in India and as the programme is not highly focused, unsolicited proposals are received on a daily basis (this has its positive and negative side as pointed out in Section 4 of this report). The selection process begins at the Regional Office level. Proposals are reviewed by the relevant Regional Committee at its regular meetings. The Committee provides its comments along with its recommendation of whether the proposal should be accepted, rejected or modified and resubmitted to the NSC. The NC, sometimes along with the proponent NGO, then presents each of the proposals to the NSC which takes the ultimate decision regarding whether to accept, reject or request modification. Even before proposals are reviewed by the Regional Committees, the CEE Regional Office staff often provide significant input and advice to those NGO partners which are submitting proposals which they believe to be appropriate for the SGP.

Grants can be up to a maximum of US\$50,000 but are often less than this. The average grant period is for two years. All grantees attend Guidance workshops put on by CEE immediately after their projects are approved so that they become aware of what is expected of them and how to go about project monitoring, preparing the necessary reports, etc. A unique practice in the India SGP is that grant approval letters are signed by the MOEF representative and are sent to project partners by the CEE.

During grant implementation, all projects are visited by the relevant CEE Regional Office Project Officer responsible for the SGP projects in their region. In addition the NC makes

many project visits throughout the year (clearly he cannot visit each and every project every year, but he visits many of them). Some NSC members visit SGP projects but this is not common even though there is clearly interest in doing so. The UNDP CO also undertakes project visits and actively participates in Regional Committee meetings to discuss project proposals and provide their recommendation on each proposals.

No SGP “strategic” projects have been supported in this OP. Strategic projects can amount to \$150,000.

3.5 Project timing and milestones

As per the signed project document, the project start date is July 1 2011 and the closing date is June 30 2016. The project document was not signed until end October 2012, more than a year after the project start date. The first Annual Work Plan (AWP) for the year 2012 was signed in December 2012, and the first release of funds was at end December 2012. One year and 2 months passed between the signing of the project document (PRODOC) and the date the inception workshop was held. No formal request has been made for a project extension although the CEE is operating on the basis that an extension will be granted.

3.6 Main stakeholders

The main stakeholders of the project are the local communities and the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) who are the beneficiaries of the projects as well as the partner NGOs who design and implement the grant projects. The India SGP has actively sought collaboration with research and extension institutes, the private sector and relevant government programmes.

4.0 FINDINGS

4.1 Project Strategy

4.1.1 Project Design

Conceptually, the project does not benefit from a strong design. It lacks focus, both geographically and thematically. According to the PRODOC, the SGP strategy is to focus on three priority geographic areas in OP5. These are the Himalayas (an area which covers almost 32 million ha), the Western Ghats (which cover 16 million ha), and the Arid and Semi-Arid Region (which covers 127 million ha). This amounts to a “focus” on 175 million ha, representing more than 50% of the total land area of India, a vast country. This can hardly be considered a focus even if 100% of the grant projects actually fell within these areas. They don’t. Of the 77 projects which the SGP had supported as of the time of the MTR, less than 70% fall in these three priority areas with 31 projects in the Arid and Semi-Arid Region (40% of the total), 15 in the Western Ghats (19% of the total), and 7 in the Himalayas (9%). The remaining 31 % of the projects are outside of these 3 priority areas. Of these outlying projects 14 are in the Gangetic Plains (18% of the total), 5 are in coastal zones (6%), and 5 are in the Eastern Ghats (6%).

In terms of thematic areas, the “strategy” outlined in the PRODOC is not to focus on any one GEF thematic area but rather to support projects in all of the GEF Focal areas including

biodiversity, climate change and, to a lesser extent, land degradation. The MTR notes that some projects have been misclassified as BD which are in fact LD, thus there may be a stronger actual focus on LD than the budget would suggest.

Does the design of the India SGP represent a strategic intervention? The design of the fifth operational phase of the SGP in India represents in part a continuation of OP4 and in part a transition to an UCP strategy. There is in effect, no geographic or thematic focus and no “strategic projects” have been supported. This makes it much the same as a non-upgraded country programme. Nevertheless, there is significant attention given to marketing, replication and upscaling which is more in keeping with an UCP.

Even though the three priority regions identified in the PRODOC all contain biodiversity of global significance, there is no apparent strategy regarding how to ensure that the BD grant projects supported will contribute to conserving globally significant biodiversity in those areas. As an illustrative example of what is meant by a strategy, one possible strategy might be to focus all SGP-supported BD projects in buffer zones of protected areas which have a global classification (e.g., Natural World Heritage Sites, Ramsar Sites, Endemic Bird Areas, Biodiversity Hotspots as defined by scientific institutions, etc.) and cluster the majority of the projects in one or two such areas.

The strategy adopted in regards to climate change is clearer. It is to reduce GHG emissions primarily through promotion of more efficient fuelwood usage and to a lesser extent through the promotion of renewable energies (mostly solar) in rural villages. There is, however, no geographic focus and no strategy related to how the CC projects relate to the BD or LD projects (i.e., there is no overt strategy to focus CC projects in the same areas where BD or LD projects are supported.) In terms of Climate Change Mitigation, a focus on the sectors with greatest GHG emissions would be strategic, but a SGP which supports initiatives with \$50,000 or less cannot realistically target those sectors. Therefore, cost-effectiveness of CCM efforts supported by a SGP program must be viewed through a different lens. For example, if the SGP can choose between supporting a project to provide efficient cookstoves to families who use these for boiling areca nuts (which they process and sell) as well as for household cooking and heating, instead of just the later, the former would be more cost-effective. This has indeed been the apparent strategy although the MTRT has not seen this strategy overtly described anywhere. It should be noted that the Unit Abatement Cost (UAC) in terms of GEF \$ investment per tonne of CO₂ reduced at project design stage was 9.46 US\$/tCO₂, whereas, by the end of the project this will come down to 6.0 (36% less than the estimates during project design stage).

The time frame given for many of the individual grant projects appears to be too short. Most of the projects are planned for two years but really require significantly more time, usually three to four years.

4.1.2 Analysis of the Results Framework (RF)

As noted in other evaluations of other SGP UCPs, there are serious limitations of the logframe when applied to SGPs. Even though UCPs are now considered as Full-Size Projects by the GEF, they remain in reality programmes comprised of a portfolio of many individual projects. Further complicating the matter, the projects included in the portfolio are not

identified at the time the results framework is described. Another shortcoming of this tool when applied to a portfolio of projects that are not defined at the stage when the logframe is designed is that many of the actual project achievements do not show up in the logframe as they were not anticipated at the time the logframe was completed. Perhaps the most serious shortcoming is the tendency toward exaggeration of results. For example, it is not uncommon to read in the “progress achieved” column in RFs that tens or even hundreds of thousands of hectares of land are now “conserved” or “sustainably managed”, a feat that is rarely accomplished by long-term, larger projects. The existence of a project which “covers” 1,000 ha of forest or grassland does not of course automatically result in that forest or grassland being “conserved”. Nevertheless, this is the way it is often presented. This is not only inaccurate, but is actually harmful as it gives the impression something is conserved when it may actually still be highly threatened.

There are two serious flaws with this Results Framework:

- One serious flaw of the RF is that there is no objective level indicator for BD. The first indicator, i.e., “# of ha of land brought under sustainable land and resource management” equates more to LD, not to BD. There is no mention in this indicator of biodiversity, let alone biodiversity of global significance.
- Another serious flaw is that there are no outcome level indicators for BD conservation with the exception of one related to the conservation of domestic agrobiodiversity. One of the indicators relates to mapping, monitoring and valuing BD, but not to conserving it. Although the project description justifying the project in front of the GEF mentions in detail globally significant species and ecosystems, there are no specific indicators related to any of those.

In addition to the above-mentioned constraints, many of the typical problems with project RFs are also common to this RF:

- Several indicators are not S.M.A.R.T. and are so broadly defined that it is impossible to measure them. For example, the indicator, “Number of hectares of land brought under sustainable land and resource management in the Western Ghats (WG), Himalayan Front (HF) and Arid and Semi-Arid Regions (ASAR)” is impossible to measure. How is “sustainable land and resource management” defined? That is what an indicator should tell us.
- Several indicators used are process rather than impact-oriented. Whenever possible, it is preferable to use impact-oriented versus process-oriented indicators. An example of an impact-oriented indicator for a project to reduce fuelwood usage might be the number of fuelwood distributors in the community monitored over the project period (this number should decrease) whereas a process-oriented indicator might be the number of efficient stoves the project has provided to the community.

The fact that several of the problems described above are common to many GEF projects is indicative of a fundamental flaw that is not specific to this project. Inadequate technical review of results frameworks at project design stage, and exaggeration of expected results are serious issues that need to be addressed by UNDP.

4.2 Progress towards Results

4.2.1 Progress towards outcomes analysis

The analysis of progress towards outcomes based on up-to-date information provided by CEE and on the project visits made by the MTRT demonstrates that the SGP project is now progressing satisfactorily after a rough start. The delay in signing the project document and the further delay at the outset of the project means that the SGP cannot achieve its targets by the original project closing date which is only 6 months away (end of June 2016). As indicated earlier, an extension until end of December, 2017 will be required. This will allow the project to have a five year operating time frame which was what was originally envisaged.

Several targets have already been achieved at the time of MTR and many of the remaining targets which can be measured can be expected to be achieved by project end. Nevertheless, there are some targets that cannot realistically be achieved. Recommendations regarding if and how these targets should be modified are found in the final section of this report.

The following table shows progress by outcome and indicators as reported by CEE at the MTR time. As the most recent PIR only covered the period up until June of 2014, CEE was requested to provide up-to-date information. The following table is based on that information and presents progress towards project objective indicators including the pertinent MTR ratings and the justification for these ratings.

4.2.2 Progress towards Project Objective

Information in the Table below was provided by the IP, CEE. As much as possible, this information was verified by the MTRT during project visits and through review of records. According to this information, two of the four or 50% of the project objective level indicators have already been achieved and two (another 50%) are not on-target to be achieved.

Notably there is no indicator specifically for biodiversity although it is included in the project objective and 30% of the grant funds are designated for biodiversity conservation projects. The first indicator, bringing land under sustainable land and resource management does not equate to conserving biodiversity. Furthermore, there is certainly no mention or definition of globally significant biodiversity in any of the objective-level indicator.

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project	Progress level at MTR (November 2015)	Achievement rating	Justification for rating
To ensure a mosaic of land uses and community practices across the rural landscape to generate sustainable livelihoods and global benefits for BD, LD and CCM	Number of hectares of land brought under sustainable land and resource management in the Western Ghats (WG), Himalayan Front (HF) and Arid and Semi-Arid Regions (ASAR)	0 ha.	200,000 hectares	According to CEE, the SGP has brought 45,443 Ha under Sustainable Land and Resource Management through 53 Projects within the 3 defined priority regions. This is equal to achieving 23% of the target if simple numbers are applied. Applying a simple numerical calculation here would not be an accurate assessment, however, since the parameters for defining what “sustainable land and resource management” means have not been well defined and are not being measured and monitored. Instead, the project has adopted the approach of assuming that land and “resources” have been brought under “sustainable management” simply because a project exists that covers that amount of hectares.	Not on target	In terms of numbers alone, the target cannot be achieved by project end. Another important point is that the indicator is so broad and ill-defined that it is impossible to measure. One can say that a certain number of ha are covered by the SGP projects, but whether this land is truly being “brought under sustainable land and resource management” and how that may or may not relate to conserving biodiversity of global significance is not possible to measure given the information provided.
	# tons of carbon emission reductions achieved through SGP interventions	200,000 metric tonnes per year of CO2e	75,000 metric tonnes of CO2e per year reduced	The actual CO2e emission avoided to date is 46,482 MTs through 66 SGP projects	Not on target	Only 21% of the target has been met with only 2 years left in the project.
	Amount of new and additional financial resources leveraged for community driven sustainable resource management in India	0	US\$5 million	Co-financing secured to date is USD \$ 5,936, 801.	Achieved and exceeded	
	Improvement in Systemic Level Indicators of Capacity	SYSTEMIC LEVEL (The baselines)		28 workshops and meetings have been organized and attended by almost 700 NGOs and CBOs. These	Achieved (although see	Strictly speaking, it is not possible to assess whether the targets have been

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project	Progress level at MTR (November 2015)	Achievement rating	Justification for rating
	Development Scorecard (Annex 3)	<p>and targets against the following capacities to be assessed at the time of selecting individual grantees). B/L Tgt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity to conceptualize and formulate local level policies, actions on sustainable resource use. • Capacity to implement programmes and action on sustainable resource use • Capacity to engage and build consensus among all stakeholders • Capacity to mobilize information and knowledge • Capacity to monitor, evaluate and report and learn at the grantee and 		<p>workshops/meetings help guide the new and ongoing NGOs/ CBOs to formulate quality proposals; how to have measurability in projects, develop baselines, co-financing; what is innovation in projects, linking technology interface through national and state institutions. Also focus in understanding the biodiversity issues, significance in plant and species, CC mitigation, different designs of biogas units, how on RE technologies; how to have business approaches in projects, linking CSR into projects and government schemes in all the regions/states of country. Many key institutions made partners during workshops.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 698 NGOs/CBOs have been better equipped and mainstreamed in Government programmes, access to funds, technology adoption, better understanding on biodiversity issues, use, and practices; better capacities in community ownerships for value addition, conservation of medicinal plants, CC concerns and land degradation and better social and economic opportunities for policy influence. • 698 NGOs/CBOs organised to be better in creating community institutions; business enterprises/business models sustainably. Greater effort is put in to develop skills and better understanding within the NGO partners, cross learning from each other. Addressing the issues of conflicts management; relationship building leading to trust between stakeholders. • 37 institutions and 450 NGOs/ CBOs links established to technology adoption & research on better options and usefulness of the technology, grasses seeds, trainings in fodder; post and pre harvest technologies; apiculture; cook stoves; lac and solar and RE applications. Banks, and institution building. Land and irrigation measures, Check dams design structures, livestock, composting, biogas units, medicinal plants conservation and use. CSR links and networks. National and state biodiversity boards and new and renewable energy departments. More focused workshops are also planned to be undertaken to enhance the efficiency in projects. • 08 institutions and 15 technologies e.g. solar driers; 	next column)	<p>achieved or not given that 1) the baseline was never established, 2) the targets related to the indicator as specified were not established and instead targets related to the number of workshops held and the number of NGOs and CBOs involved in these have informally been adopted as targets, 3) the Capacity Development Scorecard referred to in the indicator has not been used. Despite these shortcomings, it seems clear that there has been a strong focus on capacity development of NGOs and CBOs and that their capacity is indeed being strengthened.</p>

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project	Progress level at MTR (November 2015)	Achievement rating	Justification for rating
		project levels		biomass driers; cook stoves; oil expellers; weeders; rice-trans planters; Self Help Groups, accounts opening for the women in the SHGs as members, access to bank credit systems being talked and shared inter-partners, how institution building; PRAs; biogas plant designs; artificial reefs and water harvesting technologies adopted by many projects. Efforts are made in projects and guidance workshops to build visions of people for a long term sustainable approaches. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70 NGOs/ CBOs partners regularly doing meetings in villages, documenting minutes, women SHGs formation, links to banks etc. Local skills enhanced of communities in practicing/monitoring/ improving/adopting 2/3 technologies in their projects. Local persons are engaged by the NGOs as community organisers and who are monitoring the actions, during the guidance workshops. 		

4.2.3 Progress toward Project Outcome

As in the above Table, information in the Table below was provided by the IP, CEE. As much as possible, this information was verified by the MTRT during project visits and through review of records. According to this information, 6 of the 15 (40%) project outcome level indicators have already been achieved, 4 (27%) are on target to be achieved by project end, 3 (20%) are not on-target to be achieved, and it is not possible to assess the achievement level of 2 (13%) of the indicators.

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project	Progress level at MTR (November 2015)	Achievement rating	Justification for rating
Outcome 1.1: Panchayats (local self governments) incorporate improved management practices into village level planning for community managed landscapes and seascapes enhancing	Number of Panchayats incorporates sustainable management practices into village level resource use plans.	0	30 by year 4	The SGP has established linkages with 164 Panchayats (in 43 projects) to achieve its target. Of the 164 Panchayats, 31 Panchayats (in 14 Projects) have taken decisions for conservation of mangroves, artificial reef management, setting up briquetting units, fodder plots, varietal conservation, SRI systems for Rice cultivation, threatened species - Guggul, Vechur Cow, and Vembur Sheep, planning and sharing costs; check dams and water sharing issues. Many of the panchyats are giving sanctions to the communities	On target	Of the 164 Panchayats involved in the 77 projects supported as of the MTR 31 have taken action toward adopting sustainable resource management practices although few have actual "village level resource use plans" to

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project	Progress level at MTR (November 2015)	Achievement rating	Justification for rating
mosaics of land uses and improving biodiversity conservation.				through SHGs/NGO partners in raising grazing lands, mangroves, briquetting units, plantations, check dams and other actions on revenue lands; they are also mainstreaming the GOI funds into the GEF/SGP program.		incorporate these into as the indicator suggests.
	Number of community led tools and methodologies developed for biodiversity mapping, monitoring and valuation.	0	10	7 community-led tools and methodologies have been developed for biodiversity mapping, monitoring and valuation. Grantees are promoting Biodiversity Registers, Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRAs) in mapping the priority use of local biodiversity and conservation gardens -in situ and ex-situ, herbariums, better extraction, and value addition for market links, enterprise and livelihoods, Informal Institutions, biodiversity gardens for conservation of seeds and fruits. In guidance workshops and inter exchange visits already happening between NGOs to learn from each other. Special consultants are also arranged in order to learn from them. Paramparagat; KFI; Sarjana; Spandan; Sujagrati; SYSS and SRIDA.	On target	There is still work to be done but time enough to do this.
	Number of rare and threatened domesticated cultivars/ livestock/ varieties brought under focused conservation practices in the project sites.	0	At least 5	7 rare and threatened in focus – Vechur Cow, Vembur Sheep, “Guggul -medicinal plant” and protection of Sacred Groves; 3 Mangroves Varieties and 3 Salt-resistant Rice Varieties. A farmer created a herbarium of 120+ medicinal plants nursery in a remote area, many are rare, and endangered and listed. Also many endemic to the area. Many of the local traditional farmers are regularly sharing knowledge in projects and gaining better credibility in the eyes of the Governments and the communities at large.	Achieved and exceeded	The project has exceeded targets by the time of the MTR although the global significance of some of these activities is questioned by the MTR.
	Number of women's groups formed/ strengthened for planning and executing of sustainable natural resource management	50 (This is based on the past experience of the SGP and shall be firmed up after individual grantees are identified.)	1071 women’s groups formed / strengthened for planning and execution of sustainable natural resource management in 75 projects	Nearly 951 active women groups (11,754 women as members) from 63 projects involved with regular savings, bank accounts opened, access to credit and also most of the women, who are poor, uneducated, tribal have personal savings accounts. The strategy has helped many projects to access co-financing e.g. MNTN; CONARE; PPEKAY; Sujagrati; and SEET.	Achieved and exceeded	The project has already exceeded its target.
	Number of new branding/ geographic indicators/	0	5 by project end.	15 brands created in the project through 15 different partners; Vechur cow products; SSE - oils; SSYS rice	Achieved	The project has already achieved and exceeded

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project	Progress level at MTR (November 2015)	Achievement rating	Justification for rating
	certified agro-based products developed in the project sites.			and flax seeds; KFI has promoted NTFPs into marketable products; brown rice based products by Sarjana and Sujugrati and also 3 types of millets Arambha and Nirman NGO partners in a brand. More focus is being made in building enterprise, links to markets and business approaches in projects and in a community led manner. Still No Geographic indicators done.		the number of brands created and is actively pursuing certification for other products.
Outcome 2.1: Appropriate energy efficient technologies result in emission reductions.	# of tonnes of CO ₂ e emission reductions achieved through adoption of energy efficient technologies.	150,000 metric tonnes per year.	225,000 tonnes of CO ₂ e emission reductions over 3 years.	The actual achievement to date is 46,482 MTs. The CO ₂ e avoidance is through a range of technologies in energy efficiency and alternate energy technologies including efficient cook stoves; biogas, biomass driers, briquetting units, vermin-composting, waste recycling, energy efficient furnace,	Not on target	21% of the target has been achieved. With the balance grant amount, the SGP will support approximately 30 more projects. 4 of those projects would have to focus on RE to meet the RE target. This means 100% of the remaining 26 new projects would have to focus on energy efficient technologies. As this is not possible, it is clear that the target of 225,000 cannot be met.
	# of women involved through SHGs in investments for emissions reductions	To be assessed in the initial phase of the project.	10% increase by end of year 2 and 20% increase by end of year 4	Some of the SHGs have started making investments in RE technologies, cook stoves and biogas units; the actions have started and presently nearly 7% SHGs making investments in such technologies adoption.	Not possible to assess	The baseline was never assessed. Therefore, it is not possible to accurately measure progress.
	# of tonnes CO ₂ e emissions reduced through adoption of renewable energy technologies at local level.	50,000 MTs per year	12,277 MTs of CO ₂ e avoided by end of project.	Till date the actual CO ₂ e emission reduction is 4,090 MTs from 5 projects. The total commitment related to these projects is 7,500 MTs. This is being achieved through renewable solar energy projects e.g. solar lanterns, solar cook stoves, solar fish driers and solar charkha.	Not on target	The achievement is 4,090 MTs (33% of the target). The on-going projects will generate 7500 MTs by the end of the project. Nearly 4 more RE projects will be

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project	Progress level at MTR (November 2015)	Achievement rating	Justification for rating
						required to meet the target.
Outcome 3.1 Improved enabling environment at the panchayat level agricultural sector improves management, functionality and cover of agro-ecosystems in ASAR (LD-1).	No of hectares of dry agricultural lands brought under SLM with improved vegetative cover.	0	70,000 hectares	<p>According to CEE 27, 741 Ha of land has been brought under SLM through 53 projects. There are no statistics regarding improvement in terms of vegetative cover.</p> <p>Actions are in bringing dry lands, uncultivable lands into better productivity; double cropping and also high valued crops through soil and water harvesting measures. 6/7 projects have strong focus in raising land productivity through vermin composting and organic manures, biomass and litter composting. The partners are encouraged by the results and the mainstreaming of projects with Government programmes. Seeing the local institution development in projects with mangroves restoration, fodder development, varieties conservation like Guggul, Vechur cows, salt tolerant varieties, the government departments and the NABARD are investing money for replication.</p>	Not on target	According to the numbers, 40% of the target has been achieved by MTR. With only 2 years left in the project, it will be difficult to achieve the target. It is important to note that the indicator "brought under sustainable land management" is undefined and therefore totally subjective. The only measurable aspect of this indicator is vegetative cover. If the project had measured change in % vegetative cover, this would have enabled objective assessment. Unfortunately, this has not been done.
	Number of new and additional sources identified for leveraging investment replication/ for SLM across drylands in ASAR.	0	At least 10 new sources	6 sources from Forest Departments, Banks, Watersheds Development funds, Panchayats, NREGA Funds and Panchayats investments identified through our NGO partners, GVNML, NIRMAN, GSS and GVSS in the areas of Agro-biodiversity and CC adaptation strategies; PPSS and APOWA in Mangroves; CONARE, SPANDAN, Peekay in fodder and plantations, and PUPA in salt resistant varieties.	On target	More than half the target has been achieved as of the MTR.
	% density of ground stocking in productive forest landscape in ASAR, HF, WG.	10-40%.	Ground stocking increased to 50%	Efforts are being made to increase the ground cover in productive forests through plantations	Not possible to assess	There is no data to enable accurate monitoring of this indicator.

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project	Progress level at MTR (November 2015)	Achievement rating	Justification for rating
Outcome 4.1 Increased capacity of SGP stakeholders to diagnose and understand the complex and dynamic nature of global environmental problems and to develop local solutions.	Number of new grants that replicate consolidated approaches (BD, CC, LD).	0	Replication of consolidated approaches (BD, CC, LD) in at least 30 new grants by year 4.	19 replication and scaling up projects operationalized. In each project the approach is to create successful community led institution/enterprise in a range of areas, where the NGO partners and the communities contribute and make investments e.g. Water harvesting-check dams; cook stoves; biogas units and solar/RE technologies; fodder; medicinal plants; also projects around the protected areas, seascapes as mangroves; apiculture; and agro-biodiversity conservation of minor millets, SRI intensification in tribal areas.	On target	The IP is placing priority on this and although it will entail a strong effort, the MTR believes the target will be achieved.
	Increase in amount of co-funding for SGP-India.	0	USD 5 million	USD \$ 3,598,278 in cash and 1,561,435 in kind by NGOs/CBOs. 10,000 USD in Cash and 332,447 in kind by UNDP. National Governments USD 63,260. Others including private sector USD 371,381. The progress in the projects is very satisfactory and the targets already achieved. Total co financing is USD \$ 5,936,801.	Achieved and exceeded	Total co-financing secured has already exceeded the amount targeted.
	Number natural resource based products developed by the GEF SGP partners linked to markets.	25 numbers at present	75 products by project end	150 natural resource based products have been developed and many of these linked to markets through more than 30 projects. Details of products are up-loaded on SGP website (www.sgpindia.org). Many of the biodiversity based products are also leading to influence government policies as the GEF operational focal point and the CBD operational point in GOI are encouraging the SGP to be involved in various shows and exhibitions, putting more emphasis on the quality, packaging, testing; certifications and links to E markets. Emphasis is also on understanding the pricing systems.	Achieved and exceeded	Twice as many products have been developed and linked with markets compared with the target which was set.
	Number of workshops/learning events conducted by the project by the GEF SGP partners/stakeholders	GEF SGP partners/stakeholders	Workshops held in the beginning of year 1 to finalise the indicators and targets in the M&E framework with all the stakeholders. Four learning events	A total of 28 workshops and Regional Committee Meetings have been organized in OP5 attended by almost 700 NGOs and CBOs. 2 Capacity Building Workshops of Regional Staff organised in the beginning to develop the common understanding between different stakeholders; monitoring systems; indicators and targets etc (Jan 13 and March 12). CEE staff and teams were involved to	Achieved	The baseline as described is meaningless. In addition, there is poor correspondence between this indicator and the capacity development related

Description	Indicator	Baseline	Target end of project	Progress level at MTR (November 2015)	Achievement rating	Justification for rating
			<p>organised for key stakeholders/SGP grantees for achieving this outcome.</p>	<p>understand the OP 05 project as a full scale project in every workshop with partners, how the operations and management will be done, separate account management, and also with the stakeholders making them understand what is through a full scale project that we are to achieve, all the outcomes of the project were discussed in details in these learning events and therefore a strategy adopted to achieve them.</p> <p>Five learning events organised. One trip of 15 persons arranged to GEF-FAO project to understand CC adaptation works. More than 10 participants attended the GEF National Dialogues in 2015. One mission organised with 6 partners to Forage Research station in Hyderabad. One mission each with more than 35 NGO partners to CAIE, Bhopal on pre-post harvest technology Institute and Livestock University, Bangalore.</p> <p>An in house monitoring system has been developed and in every project more than 20 parameters (as per the PIR) are being monitored. These monitoring reports are linked to the global system of reporting at each project levels, and during the workshops of the partners all the partners are effectively guided in order to access better information both qualitative and quantitative.</p> <p>At decentralized regional meetings teams of experts guide the NGOs who make the presentations on their ideas/proposals and then the proposals are further strengthened keeping in view the project outcomes.</p>		<p>indicator at the project objective level. Nevertheless, it is clear that many more workshops and learning events have taken place compared with what was originally planned.</p>

4.3 Project Implementation and Adaptive Management

4.3.1 Management Arrangements

Although it took quite a long time to figure things out at the outset of the project, the innovative modality of NGO execution/implementation for the SGP (which only one other country has adopted to date) is working very well. The NGO Implementing Partner (the Centre for Environment Education) is a well-known, respected, highly capable NGO, with a highly qualified, dedicated and energetic National Coordinator (NC), a strong National Coordination Unit (NCU), and a network of seven CEE regional offices. It is largely due to this NGO being the National Host Institution (NHI) for the SGP in India that many of the strengths of the SGP described in this report have been brought about.

The NGO partners (recipients of grants) have been very well selected in the India SGP. They are clearly capable and dedicated NGOs that are there for the long-term and not just there for the duration of a project. Project success has much to do with the existence of strong champions and in this regard the IP of the SGP in India, CEE, has made outstanding choices.

The NSC has met six times during this OP, approving a total of 77 projects. The last meeting of the NSC took place 6 months ago and the next one is planned for later this month. The Government provides strong leadership on the NSC. This has many positive implications. Although the MTRT sees advantages in this rather unique arrangement, it also sees a need for a better balance with greater NGO representation on the NSC.

Regional Committee meetings have also been held regularly. Three such meetings took place in Delhi, 4 in Poona, 2 in Bhubaneswar, 2 in Ahmadabad, 3 in Bangalore, 2 in Dehradun, 1 in Lucknow, and 1 in Gauwahati. In these meetings a total of 1,204 projects were presented including presentations by 372 NGO and CBOs. Of this large number of projects proposed, 77 were approved.

The UNDP Programme Officer/Analyst has undertaken 12 missions to participate in Regional Steering Committee meetings and to visit grant projects during this OP. It is clear that the UNDP CO Programme Analyst responsible for the SGP is capable. She needs to be allowed the time to focus on the SGP as required. Correcting this will be important in the remaining period of this OP.

4.3.2 Work planning

The Annual Workplans correspond well to the overall results framework. There are no MTR concerns related to work planning although budgets submitted by the UNDP CO to the GTA for the purpose of obtaining ASL should be more carefully reviewed in future to avoid confusion. The request submitted by the UNDP CO to grant ASL for the year 2016 included a very large budget for miscellaneous. A prior AWP budget submission included a very large budget for travel. It seems clear that in both cases these were careless mistakes. More careful oversight is required by the UNDP CO to avoid further confusion.

Minor Recommendation: Approval of AWP has taken on average 3 months. This is longer than normal and the UNDP CO should find a way of speeding this up.

4.3.3 Financial Management & Co-Financing

Total committed co-financing at project signing amounted to \$6,000,000. Of the \$1,000,000 in-kind contribution committed by UNDP as co-financing, 32% (\$324,447) has been provided as of the MTR. 27% (\$107,824) of the co-financing commitment from Government has been provided and more than 100% (\$5,941,509) of the co-financing commitment from other partners including partner NGOs and private companies has been provided.

The co-financing situation at the time of the MTR is summarized in the following tables.

Table 6: *Summary of co-financing situation at time of MTR (Nov, 2015)*

Sources of Co-financing	Pledged Amount (in US\$)	Actually Accounted at MTR (US\$)	Actually Accounted at MTR (%)
Government	400,000	107,824	27%
GEF Agency	1,000,000	342,447	34%
Others	4,600,000	5,491,238	119%
Total	6,000,000	5,941,509	99%

Table 7: *Co-financing disaggregated by entity and whether in kind or in cash*

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Pledged Amount (in US\$)	Actually Accounted at MTR (in US\$)
Government	Ministry of Environment , Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC)	In kind	400,000	24,141
	National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB)	In Kind	0	3,200
	"	In Cash	0	75,757
	Department of Science and Technology (DST), Chandigarh	In Cash	0	4,726
GEF Agency / UNDP	UNDP CO	In cash	0	10,000
	UNDP CO	In Kind	1,000,000	324,447
Others	Grantee CSO	In cash	4,600,000	3,598,278
	Grantee CSO	In kind	0	1,561,435
	Centre for Environment Education (CEE)	In kind	0	81,950
	Air Bus Ltd	In cash	0	56,035
	"	In Kind	0	22,860
	AVH Chemicals	In Cash	0	33,333
	"	In Kind	0	20,000
	Arya Steel Ltd	In Cash	0	25,758
	"	In Kind	0	12,000
	Aditya Birla Group	In Cash	0	9,683
	Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)	In Cash	0	60,606
"	In Kind	0	9300	
Total (US\$)			6,000,000	5,941,509

Co-financing is disaggregated according to cash or in-kind in the Table below.

Table 8: *Co-financing disaggregated by in-kind and in cash*

Sources of Co-Funding	GRANT (Cash)			IN KIND		
	Amount at design	Disbursed until Nov 2015	Difference	Amount at design	Disbursed until Nov 2015	Difference
GEF Agency (UNDP)	0	8,000	(+) 8,000	1,000,000	324,447	(-) 675,553
Government	0	0	0	400,000	107,824	(-) 292,176
Other	4,600,000	3,598,278	(-) 1,001,722	0 ⁴	1,561,435	(+) 1,561,435
TOTAL	4,600,000	3,606,278	(-) 993,722	1,400,000	1,993,706	(+) 593,706

► Financial management

An external audit was conducted in 2015 which identified five issues, two of which were categorized as medium risk and three of low risk. The MTR is satisfied that all of these relatively minor issues have been adequately addressed subsequent to the audit.

An exchange loss of US\$ 71,720 was incurred by CEE as a result of their having to front funds in order to maintain SGP operations while awaiting a fund disbursement from UNDP. The CEE requested the UNDP CO to reimburse this amount. This had not yet been done as of the time of the MTR.

Also, according to UNDP HQ, there appears to be an over-budget of US\$ 463,325. The UNDP CO therefore needs to reduce their budget by \$463,325.76 to avoid possible future over-expenditures. The UNDP CO should either reduce 2016 and/or 2017 budgets.

4.3.4 Project-level monitoring and evaluation

The SGP NCU has made very many visits to the grant projects around the country. The NC travels on average more than 20 days out of every month, visiting projects, attending Regional Committee Meetings, assisting projects with marketing, facilitating linkages with private sector, helping to leverage public sector programme support, and also actively assisting project proponents to strengthen their proposal designs. He also supports the CEE/SGP Project Officers (who are paid with SGP funds) in the seven regional offices of CEE to support and monitor the grant projects. Many of these Project Officers are young, highly energetic and enthusiastic individuals. Some of them do not have technical backgrounds in areas related to the SGP projects. The NCU invests significant effort in building their capacity to effectively support and monitor the projects. The NC cited high turnover of Project Officers as an issue, indicating that once their capacity is built to a certain level, many of them have left to assume other jobs. Although the system of using regional offices to support and monitor projects is an excellent one, there are some shortcomings both in terms of technical monitoring of projects and project implementation monitoring.

Some reported results do not seem to accurately portray the situation on the ground. The monitoring results of the APOWA project, for example, indicate that 100 ha of mangroves have been conserved. This is one of the projects visited by the MTRT. Our observations do

⁴ Although this is the reported amount of committed in-kind co-financing, the MTR is requesting further clarification on this from CEE as it would be rare for the GEF to approve a project that did not indicate any in-kind co-financing would be provided by the beneficiaries and partner NGOs.

not match the project monitoring observations of CEE. We saw less than 15 ha of mangroves being conserved by the project.

The MTRT also noted that exotic species (Eucalyptus) have been purposefully planted in the mangrove rehabilitation area for fuelwood purposes. Planting of such species defeats the purpose of the mangrove rehabilitation effort. The MTR discovered that the Eucalyptus trees had been planted by the villager hired by the project to guard the fenced-in mangrove plantation area. As the Eucalyptus plants were over a year old this indicates that either the project site had not been visited by the CEE Project Officer for over a year or that the technical capacity did not exist to identify these trees as an exotic species. Another project visited by the MTRT, the Sainik Foundation project, also lacked adequate project implementation monitoring support. The project had been on hold awaiting permission from the Forest Department to construct the checkdam. 50% of the project funds had been spent on raising the level and reinforcing another dam built in a previous OP and the remaining 50% was being reserved to build the dam. Meanwhile, all of the other project activities, the ones which the MTRT believes to be much more appropriate SGP type activities such as honey production, natural paper making, capacity building of youth, and others which had been included in the project document, were left undone and with no possibility of even starting on these activities during the short remaining period of the project (which had already been granted an extension).

Although a helpful practice has now been adopted by the IP which is to classify multi focal projects based on percentages (e.g., MF--BD-60%; CC- 30% and LD-10%), misclassification of projects has been an issue. Numerous projects have been misclassified as BD when they are in fact either LD projects or simply community development projects some of which may not strictly be eligible for GEF support. CONAIR, for example, which is a fodder development and grazing management project is misclassified as BD. PUPA is misclassified as a CC project. Its objective is development of salt-tolerant rice varieties.

The project level monitoring summary sheets for BD projects kept by the IP are indicative of both the problem of misclassifying projects (mostly BD projects) and of the monitoring and reporting problem. The CEE monitoring remarks for the Conare project are, "New area brought directly under fodder production in 15-16 villages", for the MNTN project, "New area brought directly under fodder production in 11-12 villages in very poor semi-arid areas with scheduled caste communities", for the BDT project, "bamboo plantations", for the CENSFOOD project, "local shrub protection", for the SSE project, "local backward and community protection", for the SEVA project "protection and introduction of native fodder and sheep species", for the Kheti Virasat project, "local organic production".

The above is an indicator of what many of the "BD" projects are focused on and more importantly, what they are not focused on, i.e., conserving biodiversity of global significance. There are of course exceptions to this, projects such as coral reef re-establishment, for example, which are clearly directed towards conserving biodiversity of global significance, but the MTR believes this problem is pervasive in the BD projects and should be addressed in the remaining period of OP5 by ensuring that all BD projects supported by the SGP from now onwards demonstrate stronger "GEFability".

► Independent Evaluations

The MTR was conducted in November, 2015, almost exactly 3 years after PRODOC signature and with two years remaining in the project. The timing of the MTR was thus appropriate, giving adequate time for adjustments to be made in the project if advisable.

There is, however, an issue which was brought up by the MTRT which, according to information received from the IP, may not be adequately considered and as a result may decrease the ability of this MTR to bring about adaptive management. In an email addressed to both the UNDP CO and the IP, and copied to the UCP GTA, the MTR Team Leader advised that the NSC take up the draft report, discuss it, and based on their assessment and conclusions regarding recommendations made in the report, program the remaining grant funds. She explained that this should not be done prior to the NSC reviewing and discussing the draft MTR report. Notwithstanding this advice, it appears that the next planned NSC meeting will be to approve grant projects even before the MTR report is discussed. In answer to the Team Leader's query regarding what the plan was to ensure adequate time for the NSC to review the MTR report before reviewing/approving more projects, the IP responded that, "The date of the NSC is planned on 28th of Dec. Where we will be approving the proposals and getting the commitment completed for the year 2015. On 29th we have the NGOs whose proposals are approved to come to Delhi/Bhopal for the guidance workshop, and signing of the MOAs so that the funds are bank transferred on 30th and commitment completed." The IP indicates that this was discussed and agreed with the UNDP CO. The NC goes on to explain that "we will hold around the 20th January 2016 a special meeting of the NSC to discuss the MTR report, as by then we would have got the completed report, although your draft report received will be shared with all NSC members; and replies from them will be incorporated accordingly to be sent to you. As the New Year Holidays etc, and then a few strategic workshops 9-14th January will only allow a window around the 20th January." The NC again indicates that this was discussed and agreed with the UNDP CO. It should be clear from the MTR communication that we do not agree that this is the best way forward and that it disables some degree of adaptive management that could have resulted from the MTR findings especially as these relate to the BD projects.

TOR for the MTR were not well thought out and were poorly prepared. TOR for the Team Leader were not differentiated from other Team Members and although specialists were included on the team because of their areas of specialization, all TOR with the exception of those for the gender specialist were exactly the same. The Team Leader was actually given less work days compared with other Team Members which clearly does not make sense as the Team Leader not only drafts the report but is responsible for compiling inputs received from all Team Members and for providing general orientation and oversight for the Team. The TOR indicated that the MTR should provide detailed inputs regarding the PIF for OP6. This is not an appropriate task to assign to an MTR. Minor Recommendation: The GTA for UCPs should review TOR and provide inputs before they are finalized. Alternatively, a more efficient approach would be for the GTA to provide sample TOR or guidelines for TOR related to evaluations of SGP projects as evaluations of SGPs are not the same as evaluations of other full-size GEF projects. SGPs represent portfolios of many projects (on average at least 65) and therefore require more time and a more programmatic approach to evaluation compared with other full-size GEF projects. As this is a minor recommendation and as the MTR is limited to 15 recommendations according to UNDP Guidance for MTRs, this recommendation is not included in the Recommendations section.

4.3.5 Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder engagement has been excellent. The SGP has effectively reached out and collaborated in meaningful ways with a wide variety of stakeholders including NGOs and CBOs, national and local government entities, private sector, and academic, research and extension institutes.

The IP, CEE, has selected very good NGO partners who are committed, dedicated and are there for the long haul. Only 5% or so of these had previously received support from CEE, demonstrating CEE's commitment to ensure fair access to all project proponents.

The MTR would like to see more engagement with scientific institutions focused on biodiversity conservation. (These may include institutions such as, for example, University departments of wildlife, forestry, ecology, geography, institutions such as the Wildlife Institute of India, the Forest Research Institute, the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Tropical Forest Research Institute, and with NGOs such as IUCN and others.) The MTR understands that collaboration with IUCN is being pursued and encourages this partnership to be formalized as soon as possible.

► SGP collaboration with private sector

Engagement with the private sector has been excellent and can serve as a model for other SGPs in other countries. New linkages are being made with the private sector as a result of active outreach efforts by the NCU, UNDP and NSC members.

Collaboration with private companies on the use of their CSR funds is very important and can be expected to contribute to the financial sustainability of the efforts the SGP supports. As per Schedule VII of the Companies Act (2013), all firms operating in India must spend 2% of their average profit over the previous three years on CSR activities. According to the government's CSR policy, companies can work towards eradicating hunger, poverty and malnutrition and promoting preventive healthcare and sanitation, homes and hostels for women and orphans, old-age homes, day-care centres and other similar facilities. Linkages established during OP4 between the SGP and private companies to meet their CSR requirements have been fortified in OP5. For example, the Airbus Foundation which during OP4 supported the SGP through an intermediary as part of its CSR is now supporting the SGP directly. New partnerships have also been formed in OP5. Avit Pvt. Ltd. is giving part of their CSR funds to the SGP to implement best practices learned through the SGP in villages where it works (SGP is making biogas plants and tailoring units in these villages together with SHGs). The Steel Authority of India has given funds to the SGP for promotion of biogas, solar energy and cookstoves under their CSR. In total, the SGP has secured an additional \$125,000 in-cash for its projects from CSR funds thus far in OP5. This is a good start and given the large size of the CSR funds in India, the SGP can reasonably be expected to secure more in the remaining period of OP5 and beyond. As noted later in this report under the section on communications, the SGP has strategically positioned itself in the CSR world through its engagement with the institute responsible for overseeing CSR in India.

In addition to the CSR mechanism for collaborating with the private sector, the SGP has reached out to companies and institutions and linked up with them to form partnerships based on products produced by SGP partners. A hospital now purchases herbal teas for its

patients from an SGP NGO partner, the Traditional Healers Association of Chhattisgarh. Darbur and Patanjali, companies which produce Ayurvedic and herbal products, now purchase raw materials like guggul, gooseberry, honey and some other medicinal plants directly from GEF/SGP NGO partners. Additionally, numerous companies like Aditya Birla, Moser Baer, SAIL, and Airbus Corporation invite NGO partners to put up stalls/ green HAAT at their offices. This is done to facilitate the marketing of materials/products produced by the local communities involved in SGP projects.

► **Engaging Women Stakeholders & Pursuit of Gender Equality in the SGP**

The 73rd Amendment Act, 1992 promulgated by the Indian Parliament mandates that at least 1/3rd of the seats of all Panchayat Councils (village level governments) and 1/3rd of the Pradhan (head of the Panchayat) positions be reserved for women. It was followed by the 74th Amendment Act, 1992, which mandated similar quotas in Nagar Palikas (urban local governance bodies) and Municipalities. This was a landmark step taken by the Indian Government for women's political participation and gender equality. The Panchayati Raj system makes it the prerogative of the States to devise their own rules to implement the relevant provision for gender quotas. Seven States including Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Kerala, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh have reserved 50% of the seats in Panchayat for women.

UNDP, the GEF Agency for this project, has gender equality as one of its core mainstreaming issues. The policy of UNDP on gender mainstreaming/equality is to ensure that gender equality and the empowerment of women are integrated into every aspect of its work. This is done by adapting the Gender Equality Strategy plan. The UNDP India CO has made a strong commitment to implementing this policy in its programmes and it was UNDP that rightly suggested a gender specialist join the MTRT.

The India SGP has adopted a strategy of engaging local people through Self Help Groups (SHGs). The majority of these are comprised largely of women. This strategy serves as a model for other SGP projects around the world. Another innovative approach in the India SGP is that no separation in gender roles related to labor is allowed in the SGP projects.

There is still work to be done to achieve gender equality in the bodies which govern and manage the India SGP. Of the 11 SGP NSC members, 4 (36%) are women. Of the 31 (in total) Regional Committee members (the bodies that do the initial screening of all proposals received by the SGP and who make their recommendations to the NSC regarding which projects should be supported) 11 (35%) are women. Of the 62 project directors of the SGP projects, 15 (24%) are women. Of the 7 CEE Project Officers (paid with SGP funds) responsible for monitoring SGP projects, 3 (43%) are women. Thus, the 1/3rd policy of the GoI is adhered to in only a few of these bodies and none achieve the 50% level established by numerous State governments in which SGP projects are implemented.

The TOR for the NSC is very weak on gender equality merely stating that there should be "at least 2 women representatives" on this key body of the SGP. Whatever the actual number of women on the NSC may be, this should not be left to chance and gender equality should be institutionalized in this body through its TOR. Gender equality means that the TOR should specify that "at least half of the members are women".

Although most SGP projects have direct involvement of women, three out of the 19 projects visited by the MTRT (16%) had no direct involvement of women (Sainik Foundation, SESS-CTD, GVNML). The MTR recommends that henceforth no SGP project be awarded to any entity that cannot effectively demonstrate its intention and capacity to ensure gender equity in the project it proposes for SGP support. If the prospective partner NGO does not have the capacity itself (such as in the case of Sainik Foundation) they should first identify either a partner NGO with this capacity or include in their proposal a budget for including the services of a gender specialist consultant. There should be no exception to this rule.

Although in many cases project-level information has been disaggregated by gender, this is not always the case. Again, this should be a rule for all projects. This is not difficult and is easily managed by NGO partners.

4.3.6 Reporting

Unlike other full-size GEF projects, SGPs are not, according to the GTA for UCPs, required to complete GEF Tracking Tools. The India SGP does not use the GEF Tracking Tools. The MTR agrees that this is appropriate.

CEE regularly shares reports of workshops and meetings with UNDP. UNDP has not shared BTORs with CEE. This would be helpful, especially whenever UNDP missions are charged to the SGP project.

There are some issues with reporting. The MTRT itself was affected by this, being provided with erroneous, incomplete and/or not up-to-date information by both CEE and the UNDP CO on numerous occasions. Reporting on progress towards achievement of targets for indicators has been somewhat confusing. For example, regarding the target related to the number of hectares of land brought under sustainable land and resource management within the 3 priority regions, CEE grouped together projects in the Himalayas (which is one of the 3 priority regions) together with projects in the Indo-gangantic plains (which is not a priority region) and grouped projects in the Deccan plateau (which includes mostly arid and semi-arid regions) with the Western Ghats (which is not a logical grouping). This grouping of projects makes it difficult to understand how many hectares are actually the focus of SGP projects in the three priority areas. This is one example of many related to confusing reporting.

4.3.7 Communications & Knowledge Management

Knowledge management has been excellent. More than 44 publications including pamphlets, brochures, leaflets, booklets, and posters have been produced and widely distributed in OP5. Innovative knowledge management techniques such as the “special biodiversity train” and the “climate change train” which tour around the entire country and which have visited 29 States thus far are hugely popular and help spread the word about the SGP project results and products.

There has been good cross-learning between projects and this has been institutionalized through the experience sharing and guidance workshops organized by the IP. The venues for these workshops are carefully chosen to enhance potential for learning and sharing of

experiences. There is also good opportunity for cross-learning through the “UNDP Solutions Exchange”, and through project visits made by partner NGOs to other projects and to research and extension institutes.

The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), the institute responsible for introducing the legislation related to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), is sharing best practices developed in SGP projects in their CSR workshops. This certainly is an effective means of communicating results and promoting replication.

Private companies have given many awards (24 in total) to SGP partner NGOs in recognition of best practices developed with the help of the SGP. This is also a very effective communications modality as many people become aware of the prizes given and thus become aware of the best practices and of the SGP.

The outline for MTR reports does not include a section within the Findings Section on Capacity Building. Nevertheless, as this has been an important part of the India SGP effort, it is worth mentioning that during OP5 alone 28 workshops and Regional Committee Meetings have been organized which have been attended by almost 700 NGOs and CBOs. Although the Capacity Assessment Scorecard mentioned in the RF of the PRODOC was not used as an indicator and no other indicator except for numbers of workshops and meetings held exists to inform the project in an objective way of whether or not it is successfully building capacity of the partner NGOs and CBOs, it is the impression of the MTR based on our project field visits in which we met with partner NGOs and CBOs, that they believe their capacity has been significantly enhanced as a result of the SGP efforts.

4.4 Sustainability

4.4.1 Financial risks to sustainability

Financial risks to the sustainability of the actions supported by the India SGP are not important. There is good support from the beneficiary NGOs and from private sector, as well as leveraging of relevant government programmes. The India SGP has placed importance on product preparation for marketing, marketing and facilitating systems for ensuring that markets exist even for small-scale production through certification and other means. The SGP has contracted a consultant to assist with e-marketing of products produced with SGP support and with quality assurance. The MoEF&CC and other government entities are also actively supporting the marketing of products through Green Haats and other mechanisms.

Given the above, the MTR rates financial sustainability as “likely”.

4.4.2 Socio-economic risks to sustainability

Socio-economic risks to sustainability are not considered significant. There is strong buy-in from the project beneficiaries and from the NGO partners which put forward the projects. Villagers involved in the projects are committed to the success and continuity of efforts initiated or supported by the SGP as they are the direct beneficiaries. The MTRT noted in its project field visits the strong commitment of partner NGOs, all of whom are champions for their causes and have permanence, assuring their long-term commitment and continued

support even after SGP projects end. The India SGP has also placed importance on building the capacity of the NGO partners and beneficiaries, thereby also contributing to sustainability of efforts. Notwithstanding this strong buy in and continued commitment from direct beneficiaries and the NGO partners, continued capacity building will be necessary in many cases to bring the beneficiaries to a level of complete socio-economic sustainability.

Given the above, the MTR rates socio-economic sustainability as “likely”.

4.4.3 Institutional framework and governance risks to sustainability

The institutional framework in India is very supportive of the types of efforts promoted by the SGP. The SGP is in fact very closely aligned with national government priorities. There appear to be few risks to sustainability posed by governance or institutional framework issues. In addition, the capacity of the partner NGOs is effectively being built by the SGP further contributing to institutional sustainability.

Based on the above, the rating given by the MTR to institutional and governance sustainability is “likely”.

4.4.4 Environmental risks to sustainability

The two most evident environmental risks to sustainability appear to be population density/growth and climate change, the latter exacerbated by population density/pressures. These factors have the potential to significantly affect the sustainability of successes brought about in the areas of land degradation and biodiversity conservation.

Based on the above-described risks, which are beyond the control of any single project, the MTR rating assigned to environmental risk to sustainability is “moderately likely”.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

To avoid repetition, the reader is kindly requested to refer to the section on conclusions and recommendations in the Executive Summary. The only recommendations presented in this Section relate to the further specification of recommendations presented in the Executive Summary.

Recommendation 1. The MTR recommends that an indicator specific to BD be included in a revised RF and that targets be established for that indicator. The proposed Technical Advisory Panel on BD should propose a refined BD strategy to the NSC for consideration and the remaining BD grant funds should support projects that represent a part of that strategy.

Recommendation 2. The MTR recommends that the following targets for the specified indicators be modified as indicated in the Table below.

Table 9: *MTR recommendations regarding target revisions*

Indicator	Original Target end of project	Revised Target end of project proposed by IP	Recommendation of the MTR regarding the indicator and target
Number of hectares of land brought under sustainable land and resource management in the Western Ghats (WG), Himalayan Front (HF) and Arid and Semi-Arid Regions (ASAR)	200,000 ha	78,041 ha (39% of original target)	Although the MTR agrees with CEE that the target cannot realistically be achieved, such a significant change (reducing the target by 61%) is not possible without seeking approval from the GEF. This may simply have to be a lesson learned related to project design and to the use of the logframe/RF which, as indicated in this report, the MTRT considers to be inappropriate for SGP full-size projects (although appropriate at the individual grant project level).
No of hectares of dry agricultural lands brought under SLM with improved vegetative cover.	70,000 ha	58,400 ha (83% of original target)	The MTR agrees with CEE on the proposed revision of this target which represents a change of less than 20%. It also encourages a refined definition of “improved vegetative cover” and a means of measuring it as well as assurance that SLM projects benefit BD conservation wherever possible (e.g., improved vegetative cover with exotic species can actually be detrimental to BD even as vegetative cover is enhanced).

► **Recommendation 3**

The methodology used by the SGP to estimate avoided carbon emissions should be improved. Assumptions have been made such as installed appliances are working and accruing CO₂ savings & 80% of the total installations are in working condition. To capture more reliable data from the ground, information including the number of appliances produced and installed and an accounting of their present working condition could be kept. The table below could be added in QPRs and filled up by the partner NGOs. This would require minimum effort and would enhance calculation of CO₂ emissions reductions.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Cumulative appliances installed in all the years	Appliance not in working conditions	Actual working appliances
Nos. of Appliance installed / Production made							
A	B	C	D	E	F= (A+B+C+D+E)	G	H = F-G

Annex 1. Terms of Reference for International & National Consultants



Annex-I

UNDP-GEF Midterm Review

Terms of Reference

Location	:	New Delhi and 9 field sites in India
Category	:	Energy & Environment
Type of Contract	:	Individual Contract
Assignment Type	:	International Consultant
Duration of Assignment	:	22 days

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Scope of Work and Key Tasks

The MTR team will consist of three independent consultants that will conduct the MTR – one team leader (with experience and exposure to projects and evaluations in other regions globally) and two team experts from an institution, usually from India (one with experience on Energy Efficiency, Waste and Climate Change, and another with experience on Biodiversity, Land Degradation and livelihoods).

The MTR team will first conduct a document review of project documents (i.e. PIF, Project Document, Project Inception Report, PIR, Finalized GEF focal Area Tracking Tools, Financial and Administration guidelines used by Project Team, project operational guidelines, manuals and systems, etc.) provided by the Project Team and Commissioning Unit. Then they will participate in a MTR inception workshop to clarify their understanding of the objectives and methods of the MTR, producing the MTR inception report thereafter. The MTR mission will then consist of interviews and site visits (about 10 numbers) to the projects identified from the list of beneficiaries and their locations that will be provided separately.

The MTR team will assess the following four categories of project progress and produce a draft and final MTR report. Along with the draft MTR powerpoint presentation recommendations for PIF GEF 6 shall also be provided. See the *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, [GEF-Financed Projects](#)* for requirements on ratings. No overall rating is required.

1. Project Strategy

Project Design:

- Review the problem addressed by the project and the underlying assumptions. Review the effect of any incorrect assumptions or changes to the context to achieving the project results as outlined in the Project Document.
- Review the relevance of the project strategy and assess whether it provides the most effective route towards expected/intended results.
- Review how the project addresses country priorities
- Review decision-making processes

Results Framework/Log-frame:

- Undertake a critical analysis of the project's log-frame indicators and targets, assess how "SMART" the midterm and end-of-project targets are (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound), and suggest specific amendments/revisions to the targets and indicators as necessary.
- Examine if progress so far has led to, or could in the future catalyse beneficial development effects (i.e. income generation, gender equality and women's empowerment, improved governance etc...) that should be included in the project results framework and monitored on an annual basis.

2. Progress Towards Results

- Review the log-frame indicators against progress made towards the end-of-project targets; populate the Progress Towards Results Matrix, as described in the *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects*; colour code progress in a "traffic light system" based on the level of progress achieved; assign a rating on progress for the project objective and each outcome; make recommendations from the areas marked as "not on target to be achieved" (red).
- Compare and analyse the GEF Tracking Tool at the Baseline with the one completed right before the Midterm Review.
- Identify remaining barriers to achieving the project objective.
- By reviewing the aspects of the project that have already been successful, identify ways in which the project can further expand these benefits.

3. Project Implementation and Adaptive Management

Using the *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects*; assess the following categories of project progress:

- Management Arrangements
- Work Planning
- Finance and co-finance
- Project-level monitoring and evaluation systems

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Reporting
- Communications

4. Sustainability

Assess overall risks to sustainability factors of the project in terms of the following four

categories:

- Financial risks to sustainability
- Socio-economic risks to sustainability
- Institutional framework and governance risks to sustainability
- Environmental risks to sustainability

The MTR consultant/team will include a section in the MTR report setting out the MTR’s evidence-based **conclusions**, in light of the findings.

Additionally, the MTR consultant/team is expected to make **recommendations** to the Project Team. Recommendations should be succinct suggestions for critical intervention that are specific, measurable, achievable, and relevant. A recommendation table should be put in the report’s executive summary. The MTR consultant/team should make no more than 15 recommendations total. The MTR team will also provide inputs for the PIF (Project Identification Form) for SGP GEF 6 cycle.

Expected Outputs and Deliverables

The MTR consultant/team shall prepare and submit:

- MTR Inception Report: MTR team clarifies objectives and methods of the Midterm Review. To be sent to the UNDP and project team.
- Presentation: Initial Findings presented to the project team, UNDP and MoEFCC; and inputs and detailed recommendations for PIF of SGP GEF 6.
- Draft Final Report: Full report with annexes of the MTR mission.
- Final Report*: Revised report with annexed audit trail detailing how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final MTR report.

*The final MTR report must be in English. If applicable, the Commissioning Unit may choose to arrange for a translation of the report into a language more widely shared by national stakeholders.

Duration of the Work

TIMEFRAME	ACTIVITY
22.07.15	Application closes
09.09.15	Select MTR Team, complete contracting and UNDP to inform GEF/UNDP SGP, CEE about the selected team.
21.09.15	UNDP/CEE briefs the MTR Team (handover of Project Documents)
21.09.15 to 28.09.15	MTR team reviews document and prepares MTR Inception Report
28.09.15	MTR team presents the Inception Report to UNDP/CEE
30.09.15	Finalization of the Inception Report
05.10.15 to 15.10.15	MTR mission: stakeholder meetings, interviews, field visits and discussions
15.10.15 to 16.10.15	Mission wrap-up meeting & presentation of initial findings- end of MTR mission
16.10.15 to 25.10.15	Writing of the MTR Report and initial draft by party to CEE/UNDP
25.10.15	Submit 1st draft report to UNDP/CEE for initial comments
01.11.15 to 15.11.15	Feedback, Clarifications and Preparing draft report
20.11.15	Incorporating audit trail from feedback on draft report/Finalization of MTR report
1 st week of December	Preparation & Issue of Management Response
20.12.15	Expected date of full MTR completion

Duty Station

Travel:

- Consultants would be required to travel to different states of India during the MTR mission;
- Basic Security in the Field II and Advanced Security in the Field courses must be successfully completed by the international consultant prior to commencement of travel;
- Individual Consultants are responsible for ensuring they have vaccinations/inoculations when travelling to certain countries, as designated by the UN Medical Director.
- Consultants are required to comply with the UN security directives set forth under <https://dss.un.org/dssweb/>
- All related travel expenses will be covered and will be reimbursed as per UNDP rules and regulations upon submission of an F-10 claim form and supporting documents.

Annexes to the MTR ToR

Include *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects* and other existing literature or documents that will help candidates gain a better understanding of the project situation and the work required.

Possible annexes include: (reference ToR Annexes in Annex 3 of *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects*)

- List of documents to be reviewed by the MTR Team
- Guidelines on Contents for the Midterm Review Report
- UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluators/Midterm Review Consultants
- MTR Required Ratings Table and Ratings Scales
- MTR Report Clearance Form
- Sample MTR Evaluative Matrix
- Progress Towards Results Matrix and MTR Ratings & Achievement Summary Tables (in Word)

Terms of Reference for National Consultants (Climate Change & Natural Resource Management Specialists)

Location	:	New Delhi and 9 field sites in India
Category	:	Energy & Environment
Type of Contract	:	Individual Contract
Assignment Type	:	National Consultant
Duration of Assignment	:	35 days

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Scope of Work and Key Tasks

The MTR team will consist of three independent consultants that will conduct the MTR – one team leader (with experience and exposure to projects and evaluations in other regions globally) and two team experts from an institution, usually from India (one with experience on Energy Efficiency, Waste and Climate Change, and another with experience on Biodiversity, Land Degradation and livelihoods).

The MTR team will first conduct a document review of project documents (i.e. PIF, Project Document, Project Inception Report, PIR, Finalized GEF focal Area Tracking Tools, Financial and Administration guidelines used by Project Team, project operational guidelines, manuals and systems, etc.) provided by the Project Team and Commissioning Unit. Then they will participate in a MTR inception workshop to clarify their understanding of the objectives and methods of the MTR, producing the MTR inception report thereafter. The MTR mission will then consist of interviews and site visits (about 10 numbers) to the projects identified from the list of beneficiaries and their locations that will be provided separately.

The MTR team will assess the following four categories of project progress and produce a draft and final MTR report. Along with the draft MTR power-point presentation recommendations for PIF GEF 6 shall also be provided. See the *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects* ([click here](#)) for requirements on ratings. No overall rating is required.

1. Project Strategy

Project Design:

- Review the problem addressed by the project and the underlying assumptions. Review the effect of any incorrect assumptions or changes to the context to achieving the project results as outlined in the Project Document.
- Review the relevance of the project strategy and assess whether it provides the most effective route towards expected/intended results.
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- Review decision-making processes

Results Framework/Log-frame:

- Undertake a critical analysis of the project’s log-frame indicators and targets, assess how “SMART” the midterm and end-of-project targets are (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound), and suggest specific amendments/revisions to the targets and indicators as necessary.
- Examine if progress so far has led to, or could in the future catalyse beneficial development effects (i.e. income generation, gender equality and women’s empowerment, improved governance etc...) that should be included in the project results framework and monitored on an annual basis.

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- Review the log-frame indicators against progress made towards the end-of-project targets; populate the Progress Towards Results Matrix, as described in the *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects*; colour code progress in a “traffic light system” based on the level of progress achieved; assign a rating on progress for the project objective and each outcome; make recommendations from the areas marked as “not on target to be achieved” (red).
- Compare and analyse the GEF Tracking Tool at the Baseline with the one completed right before the Midterm Review.
- Identify remaining barriers to achieving the project objective.
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Assess overall risks to sustainability factors of the project in terms of the following four categories:

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The MTR consultant/team will include a section in the MTR report setting out the MTR’s evidence-based **conclusions**, in light of the findings.

Additionally, the MTR consultant/team is expected to make **recommendations** to the Project Team. Recommendations should be succinct suggestions for critical intervention that are specific, measurable, achievable, and relevant. A recommendation table should be put in the report's executive summary. The MTR consultant/team should make no more than 15 recommendations total. The MTR team will also provide inputs for the PIF (Project Identification Form) for SGP GEF 6 cycle.

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The MTR consultant/team shall prepare and submit:

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- Draft Final Report: Full report with annexes of the MTR mission.
- Final Report*: Revised report with annexed audit trail detailing how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final MTR report.

Institutional Arrangement

The principal responsibility for managing this MTR resides with the Commissioning Unit. The Commissioning Unit for this project's MTR is the UNDP Country Office.

The Commissioning Unit will contract the consultants and ensure the timely provision of per diems and travel arrangements within India for the MTR team. The Project Team will be responsible for liaising with the MTR team to provide all relevant documents, set up stakeholder interviews, and arrange field visits.

Duration of the Work

TIMEFRAME	ACTIVITY
22.07.15	Application closes
09.09.15	Select MTR Team, complete contracting and UNDP to inform GEF/UNDP SGP, CEE about the selected team.
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- Individual Consultants are responsible for ensuring they have vaccinations/inoculations when travelling to certain countries, as designated by the UN Medical Director.
- Consultants are required to comply with the UN security directives set forth under <https://dss.un.org/dssweb/>
- All related travel expenses will be covered and will be reimbursed as per UNDP rules and regulations upon submission of an F-10 claim form and supporting documents.

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Possible annexes include: (reference ToR Annexes in Annex 3 of *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects*)

List of documents to be reviewed by the MTR Team

Guidelines on Contents for the Midterm Review Report

UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluators/Midterm Review Consultants

MTR Required Ratings Table and Ratings Scales

MTR Report Clearance Form

Sample MTR Evaluative Matrix

Progress Towards Results Matrix and MTR Ratings & Achievement Summary Tables (in Word)

Terms of Reference for Gender Specialist

Assignment: Individual Consultant (To Review Gender Components in Select Projects Under GEF-Small Grants Programme In Operational Phase 5)

Duty Station: Home based with travel as per assignment

Duration: Fifty Five Working days spread over six months.

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

A consultant on Gender related components identified and deployed under the Global Environment Facility-Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP) will undertake following tasks with respect to the grantees supported under Operational Phase 5 (OP-5) of GEF-SGP:

- Review the gender components identified, addressed and implemented in select projects under SGP.
- Develop sex-disaggregated monitoring parameters for this review;
- Complete the Check-list on Gender Sensitive Mid Term Review of GEF;
- Provide feed-back to project implementing partners on potential measures, corrections or improvements to be undertaken in order to better implement and improve gender components under their.
- Document best practices emanating from each of the select Projects.

2. BACKGROUND

The GEF-SGP Project is designed to ensure a mosaic of land uses and community practices across the rural landscape that provide sustainable livelihoods while generating global benefits for biodiversity conservation, climate change and land degradation. The project will enable a shift away from unsustainable practices by (1) mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes and sectors, (ii) promoting energy efficient and renewable energy technologies in rural communities in targeted landscapes in India, (iii) maintaining and improving flows of agro and forest ecosystem services in dry lands of Arid and Semi-Arid Regions to sustain livelihoods of local communities and (iv) cross cutting, capacity development and knowledge management.

It is a project with national-level spread, with a total budget of US \$11.00 million (US \$5.0 million from GEF and co-financing from Government of India (US \$0.4 million), UNDP Country Office (US \$1.0 million and others (US \$4.6 million).

The UNDP acts as the GEF Executing Agency for this project. The Centre for Environment Education (CEE), which has been the National Host Institution (NHI) for SGP-India before its upgrading, is the Implementing Partner and is responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of project activities, with the support of a full time Country Programme Manager (CPM), the equivalent of the post of National Coordinator in the SGP Operational Guidelines, and under the leadership of the National Steering Committee (NSC).

Against this background, UNDP is seeking to engage a consultant to undertake the tasks mentioned below.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

- Undertake a desk review of 13 projects supported under OP-5 of GEF-SGP- which have a strong focus on women empowerment and identify 6-8 projects from this list for evaluation and review purposes (list of such projects would be furnished by CEE).
- Assess the progress achieved in the project on the gender components so far.
- Develop questionnaire and suitable evaluation material to be administered during field visits to gather detailed first-hand information about the gender issues under the project implementation. Consultant would use Mid Term Review (MTR) Guidelines, checklists available to develop a detailed evaluation material, questionnaire etc.
- Develop a tentative plan for visiting the project sites stating the clear objectives and actionable points to be covered under these visits. After approval from project authorities, undertake visits to achieve those objectives.
- Review the extent to which gender issues were identified and addressed in the project implementation.
- Examine if progress so far has led to, or could in the future, catalyse beneficial development effects (i.e. income generation, gender equality and women's empowerment, improved governance etc.) that should be included in the project results framework and monitored on an annual basis.
- Ensure gender aspects of the project are being monitored effectively.
- Develop and recommend 'SMART' (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Tangible) sex-disaggregated indicators for effective mainstreaming of gender related issues in the projects.
- Assess the extent to which broader development effects (i.e. income generation, gender equality and women's empowerment, improved governance, livelihood benefits, etc.) of the project were factored into project design and implementation.
- Complete the Check-list on Gender Sensitive Mid Term Review
- Provide recommendations for effective mainstreaming and better implementation of gender components in the reviewed projects and in the overall programme implementation.
- Outputs of this assignment would contribute towards the Mid-Term Evaluation Report.

4. EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

- Desk review of projects with strong focus on women empowerment completed;
- A detailed field visit plan drafted for approval by project authorities;
- Field visits undertaken to review and evaluate the progress on gender components with the help of questionnaire, audio-visual materials, photographs etc.;
- A draft report with the following components submitted:
 - outcomes of all the field visits undertaken to review the progress on gender components with questionnaire administered, audio-visual materials, photographs etc.
 - documentation on best practices identified during the field visits
 - evaluation of progress under gender components, progress against identified indicators, observations against sex-disaggregated indicators, and Gender Sensitive Check lists for Mid Term Review Analysis;
 - recommendations to improvise the performance and to effectively mainstream the gender components into programme design

- Final report incorporating the inputs made by project implementing partners on the draft report along with audio-visual materials and photographs, questionnaire etc. submitted;

5. DELIVERABLES AND PAYMENT PERCENTAGE:

No	Deliverable	Duration from signing of contract	% payment of The contract amount
1.	Submission of an inception report containing following particulars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work plan including sites to be visited, timeline for submission of work and relevant details, • format for evaluating gender components (as mentioned under DoA and scope of work), • tentative schedule of field visits for approval, • Sex-disaggregated and relevant indicators, • Format for best practice documentation, 	Within days 15	20
2.	Submission of report on findings from the 1 st visit along with the observations made, questionnaire administered, performance against performance/ sex- disaggregated indicators	Within a Week from Returning from the visit	30
3.	A draft report with the following components: outcomes of field visits undertaken to review the progress on gender components with questionnaire administered, audio-visual materials, photographs etc. documentation on best practices identified during the field visits evaluation of progress under gender components, progress against identified indicators, observations against sex- disaggregated indicators, and Gender Sensitive Check lists for Mid Term Review Analysis; recommendations to improvise the performance and to effectively mainstream the gender components into programme design	Within a month of completing all the field visits	35
4.	Satisfactory completion of all the tasks agreed in the work plan (at the beginning of the assignment) and on submission of final report incorporating the inputs made by project implementing partners on the draft report along with audio-visual materials and photographs, questionnaire etc.	6 months	15
	Total	6 months	100

6. PERIOD OF ASSIGNMENT

The assignment is for 55 working days in 6 months period (excluding travel costs)

7. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Post graduate degree in Botany, Zoology, Environmental Science or subject stream related to natural resource management with outstanding academic track record;
- PhD in the Botany, Zoology or in the relevant area of natural resources would be an asset;
- Prior work experience of minimum 6 years for working on women empowerment or relevant gender components through civil society organizations;
- Work experience (minimum 1-2 years) with State Forest Development Agencies, Joint Forest Management Committees would be essential.
- Demonstrated understanding of issues related to natural resource based livelihoods;
- Excellent communication skills;

- Demonstrable analytical skills;
- Publications from earlier work and presentations made at various events and forums.

8. LANGUAGES

Excellent command over English language, including excellent writing and communication are essential. Proficiency in communication skills in Hindi is an important requirement for this assignment

9. TRAVEL:

Costs (on actuals) of all the approved travel plans related to this work shall be borne by UNDP

10. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSAL

Annexes to the TOR

1. Annex 1: Offerors Letter to UNDP Confirming Interest and Availability for the Individual Contractor Assignment
2. Annex 2: General Terms and Conditions for ICs (in separate document)
3. Annex 3: P-11 form for ICs (in separate document)
4. Annex 3: Banking Detail form (in separate document)

Documents to be submitted by Consultants

- Offerors Letter to UNDP Confirming Interest and Availability for the Individual Contractor Assignment
- Updated and signed P-11 form for ICs
- Filled in and signed Banking details Form with a copy of cancelled cheque.

Notes:

- Miscellaneous charges i.e. internet, phone, relocation charges, local travel etc. would not be reimbursed separately;
- Individuals working with institutions may also apply, contract would be issued in the name of institution for the specific services of individual;
- Please note proposals without financial proposal will not be considered;

Annex 2. Evaluation Matrix

Evaluation question	Indicators	Sources	Methodology *
PROJECT STRATEGY: How appropriate is the strategy and project design?			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How appropriate was the design of the project? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correspondence between the problems addressed by the project and underlying assumptions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Documents SGP Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correspondence between project strategy and most effective route to achieving goal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Documents SGP Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of incorporating lessons from other projects in the design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Documents SGP Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of project alignment with national goals and priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP Documents National Planning Documents Project Documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of ownership of the project by national organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governmental staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of incorporation of perspectives of local, partners and other stakeholders in the project design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local stakeholders Governmental staff Representatives of organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How appropriate is the Project results framework / logframe? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequacy of the Project Goals and Indicators (SMART) to its strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRODOC & Reports SGP Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I Evaluator's criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree of clarity, practicality and feasibility of the Project objectives and results to the situation and time available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRODOC & Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR Evaluator's criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of effects not considered to be included in the results framework and monitored regularly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRODOC & Reports Local stakeholders Governmental staff Representatives of organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I + DO Evaluator's criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extent to which aspects of gender equity and other of similar amplitude in terms of development are effectively monitored. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRODOC & Reports SGP Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I Evaluator's criteria

PROJECT RESULTS: What is the degree of project progress towards expected results?			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ¿What are the achievements of the project until MTR? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Objectives and Results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRODOC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Objectives and Results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRODOC & Reports • Partners and participants • Field Visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I + DO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of correspondence between progress and proposed in the GEF Tracking Tools for the Project Thematic area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRODOC & Reports • GEF Tracking Tools • SGP Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I + DO • Evaluator' s criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of topics and areas in which the project can expand the benefits in terms of achievements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRODOC & Reports • Local stakeholders • Governmental staff • Representatives of organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I + DO • Evaluator' s criteria
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT: How appropriate was the implementation of the project so far and to what extent was necessary to implement adaptivemanagement?			
How appropriate is operational planning?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of startup and project implementation delays and measures to address them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which operational planning is guided by results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of use of the resultsmatrix and adjustments made to it since the beginning of the Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I
How adequate has been finance and co-finance management?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency in the management of project financial resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in the allocation of project funds and relevance and degree of ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of ownership of the financial controls of the project (including planning and reporting) and its flow of funds (to and from the project) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree to which the co- financing is provided and its level of strategic use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP ProjectInformation • Co-financinginformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I

How adequate is the monitoring of the project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring system in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation and inclusion of partners in monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation Partners information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment with other (national GEF) systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation Other systems information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree of adequacy of funding for monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
How suitable are the reports of the project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of Reporting of Project adjustments to the Project Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of documentation and dissemination of project settings to the partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation Partners information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
How suitable are project communications?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree of regularity, effectiveness and inclusiveness of Project communication efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation Partners information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequacy of public communications of Project activities and achievements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation Partners information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I + DO
How suitable are the management arrangements of the project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall effectiveness of the project management (responsibilities, lines of supervision, decision making) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of project implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of support provided by UNDP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGP ProjectInformation UNDP information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR + I

LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY: To what extent there are financial, institutional, socio-economic and / or environmental risks to the project results long term sustainability?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How suitable are the project's strategies to address the different types of risks to the sustainability of project results? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of relevance of the risks identified in the PRODOC, APR / PIR and ATLAS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP Project Information • Partners and participants perceptions • Field Visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I + DO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Degree of risk factors of sustainability in terms of motivation, capacity and resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP Project Information • Partners and participants perceptions • Field Visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I + DO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List, relevance and existence and implementation of prevention and mitigation of financial sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP Project Information • Partners and participants perceptions • Field Visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I + DO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List, relevance and existence and implementation of prevention and mitigation of socio-political sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP Project Information • Partners and participants perceptions • Field Visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I + DO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List, relevance and existence and implementation of prevention and mitigation of institutional and / or governance sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP Project Information • Partners and participants perceptions • Field Visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I + DO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List, relevance and existence and implementation of prevention and mitigation of environmental sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP Project Information • Partners and participants perceptions • Field Visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR + I + DO

Annex 3. MTR Rating Scales

Ratings for Progress Towards Results: (one rating for each outcome and for the objective)		
6	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve or exceed all its end-of-project targets, without major shortcomings. The progress towards the objective/outcome can be presented as “good practice”.
5	Satisfactory (S)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve most of its end-of-project targets, with only minor shortcomings.
4	Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve most of its end-of-project targets but with significant shortcomings.
3	Moderately Unsatisfactory (HU)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve its end-of-project targets with major shortcomings.
2	Unsatisfactory (U)	The objective/outcome is expected not to achieve most of its end-of-project targets.
1	Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The objective/outcome has failed to achieve its midterm targets, and is not expected to achieve any of its end-of-project targets.

Ratings for Project Implementation & Adaptive Management: (one overall rating)		
6	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of all seven components – management arrangements, work planning, finance and co-finance, project-level monitoring and evaluation systems, stakeholder engagement, reporting, and communications – is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management. The project can be presented as “good practice”.
5	Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management except for only few that are subject to remedial action.
4	Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management, with some components requiring remedial action.
3	Moderately Unsatisfactory	Implementation of some of the seven components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive, with most components requiring
2	Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most of the seven components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.
1	Highly Unsatisfactory	Implementation of none of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.

Ratings for Sustainability: (one overall rating)		
4	Likely (L)	Negligible risks to sustainability, with key outcomes on track to be achieved by the project’s closure and expected to continue into the foreseeable future
3	Moderately Likely (ML)	Moderate risks, but expectations that at least some outcomes will be sustained due to the progress towards results on outcomes at the Midterm Review
2	Moderately Unlikely (MU)	Significant risk that key outcomes will not carry on after project closure, although some outputs and activities should carry on
1	Unlikely (U)	Severe risks that project outcomes as well as key outputs will not be sustained

Annex 4. MTR Itinerary

Note: VR: Virginia Ravandal; SH: Shankar Halder; SS: Samir Stephan; NS: Nittie Srivastava

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
12.10.15 Monday (start time: 7:45; end time: 19:30)	07:45	11:30		Flight (Delhi to Imphal)			SH	Stay at Imphal
	11:45	12:30		Car (airport to hotel)			SH	
	13:00	14:30		Car (hotel to ZICORD office)			SH	
	14:30	18:00	CORE office		CORE Visit	Meeting at CORE office Mr. Albert Z.M, Secretary, ZIRCOD	SH	
	18:00	19:30		Car (ZICORD office to hotel)			SH	
13.10.15 Tuesday (start time: 10:00; end time: 20:00)	10:00	12:00		Car (hotel to Senapati district)			SH	Stay at Imphal
	12:00	15:00	Visit common facilities centre		ZICORD Visit	Meeting with beneficiaries Senapati	SH	
	15:30	16:00	InSIDE-North East office		NGO - InSIDE-North East	Mr. Hulen Misa, member of InSIDE-North East	SH	
	16:00	17:30		Car (Senapati district to Imphal district)			SH	
	17:30	18:30	Visit common facilities centre		ZICORD Visit	Meeting with beneficiaries at Imphal	SH	
	18:30	20:00		Car (Imphal district to hotel)			SH	
14.10.15 Wed'day (start time: 09:00; end time: 17:30)	09:00	12:00		Car (hotel to Chulouphai village)			SH	Stay at Imphal
	12:00	13:00	Visit common facilities centre		ZICORD Visit	Meeting with beneficiaries Chulouphai village	SH	
	13:00	16:00		Car (Chulouphai village to NABARD office)			SH	
	16:00	17:00	NABARD office		NABARD Visit	Mr. Pukhrambam Boicha Meitei, AM, NABARD	SH	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
	17:00	17:30		Car (NABARD office to hotel)			SH	
15.10.15 Thursday (start time: 09:00; end time: 15:55)	09:00	10:00	Hotel		Meeting with ZICORD		SH	
	10:30	11:00		Car (hotel to airport)			SH	
	12:00	15:55		Flight (Imphal to Delhi)			SH	
19.10.15 Monday (start time: 06:55; end time: 19:00)	6:55	9:45		Flight (Delhi-Chennai)Car (Chennai-Pondicherry)	MNTN	Mr Rajendera, MNTN Director	NS	Stay at Pondicherry
	16:00	19:00	MG Park, Pondicherry	Car	MNTN	Meeting with Mr Rajendera, MNTN Director and Presidents of SHGs	NS	
20.10.15 Tuesday (start time: 09:00; end time: 20:05)	9:00	21:00	Cuddalore MNTN Office/Villages	Car (Pondicherry yo Cuddalore block)	MNTN	Beneficiaries of MNTN	NS	Stay at Pondicherry
	8:00	10:30	Pondicherry Hotel		MNTN	Meeting with MNTN Director	NS	
	17:30	20.05		Car (Pondicherry to Channai) Flight (Chennai- Delhi)			NS	
21.10.15 Tuesday (start time: 08:00; end time: 20:05)	8:00	10:30	Pondicherry Hotel		MNTN	Meeting with MNTN Director	NS	
	17:30	20.05		Car (Pondicherry-Channai) Flight (Chennai- Delhi)			NS	
24.10.2015 Saturday (start time: 08:10; end time: 19:30)	08.10	10.05	Travel	Delhi-Hyderabad by Flt 6E 317 at 08.10 hrs.	CONARE	Hyderabad Airport	SS	
	10:10	12:30	Travel	Hyderabad to Achampet by Taxi		CONARE Office, Achampet	SS	Stay in Hotel at Achampet / Mehboobnagar
	13:15	14:00	CONARE Office	CONARE Office to DFO Office by Taxi (15min.)		Mr. M. A. Saleem and team	SS	
	14:30	16:30	Office of Divisional			P. Balaswamy, Divisional	SS	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
			Forest Officer (Wildlife), Achampet			Forest Officer- Wildlife		
	17:00	19:30	Village Veeram Rajpally	DFO Office to village Veeram Rajpally by Taxi (30min.)		10 Villagers of Veeram Rajpally (Yettiara, Shrinivasan, Jaipal Reddy, Jangi Reddy, Ramaswami, Naji Reddy, etc.)	SS	
25.10.2015 Sunday (start time: 08:30; end time: 19:00)	8:30	10:30	Village Hajipur	Hotel to village Hajipur by Taxi (30min.)		9 Villagers of Hajipur (Krishna Beri, Ramachandran, Padma, Amrutana, etc.)	SS	Stay in Hotel at Achampet / Mehboobnagar
	10:45	12:45	Village Hajipur			10 villagers of Hajipur (Yogendra Reddy, Anjaya, Naraydya, Niranjin, Chandra Machi, Bakariya, Sai Reddy, Munniah, Ramaliya, etc.).	SS	
	13:05	15:15	Village Dokutanda			15 villagers of Dokutanda	SS	
	15:30	16:30	Village Dokutanda			8 villagers of Dokutanda	SS	
	16:45	19:00	Village Madapur			7 villagers of Madapur	SS	
26.10.2015 Monday (start time: 07:45; end time: 22:30)	07:45	10:00	Village Laxmanpur	Hotel to village Laxmanpur by Taxi (30min.)		5 Villagers (Kurmaya, Vishnu, Keshama, Raju, Shakher) in Laxmapur	SS	
	10:45	13:10	Village Gattuthummen			22 villagers of Gattuthummen	SS	
	15:30	16:50	Regional Fodder Centre, Hyderabad	Achampet to HyderabadLaxmanpur by Taxi (2hrs and 30min.)		Banvir Singh, Director-Regional Fodder Centre, Hyderabad	SS	
	18:10	22:30		Flight (Hyderabad to Mangalore via Mumbai)			SS	Stay in Hotel at Mangalore
26.10.15 Monday	08:05	10:45		Flight (Delhi to Bangalore)			SH	Stay at Bangalore
	11:00	13:30		Car (airport to hotel / TIDE			SH	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
(start time: 08:05; end time: 18:45)				office)				
	13:30	16:30	TIDE office		TIDE Visit	Ms. Svati Bhogle, Secretary, TIDE and others	SH	
	16:30	17:00		Car (TIDE to MGIRED institute)			SH	
	17:00	18:00	MGIRED office		MGIRED Visit	Dr. Shobha Ananad Reddy, MGIRED	SH	
	18:00	18:45		Car (back to hotel)			SH	
27.10.2015 Tuesday (start time: 08:30; end time: 19:45)	8:30	11:30	Nagarika Seva Trust, Guruvayanakere	Mangalore to Guruvayanakere by taxi (1hr and 30min.)	NST Trustees	Mr. K.Somanath Nayak Mr. Ranjan Rao Yerdoor Mr. B.K.Parameshwara Rao	SS	Hotel at Mangalore
	12:30	15::15	Village Andinje	Nagarika Office to village Andinje by taxi (45min.)		4 villagers (Soma, Anand Poojary, Radha Nayika and Mohini) from Andinje	SS	
	15:30	17:15	Village Andinje			8 villagers (Harish, Satish, Griiappa, Devki, Swadari, Ramesh and Shalini)from Andinje	SS	
	17:15	19:45	Travel	Village Andinje to Mangalore / Hotel			SS	
27.10.15 Tuesday (start time: 09:00; end time: 18:00)	09:00	12:00		Car (hotel to Aralaguppe, Tumkur district)			SH	Stay at Bangalore
	12:00	15:00	SHGs		TIDE Visit	Women beneficiaries SHGs, HH visits	SH	
	15:00	18:00		Car (back to hotel)			SH	
28.10.2015 Wednesday (start time: 09:00; end time: 20:00)	9:00	12:15	Nagarika Seva Trust, Guruvayanakere	Mangalore to Guruvayanakere by taxi (1hr and 30min.)		SGP Staff 4 Project Staff (Raghuram Prabhu, Shridhar, Shrinivas and Somya)	SS	Stay at Mangalore

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
	14:10	18:00	Village Andinje & Village Tannirpantha	Nagarika to villages by taxi (1hr and 30min.)		2 Community Mobilizers (Nagesh & Jagarnath) and Villagers	SS	
	18:00	20:00	Travel	Village Tannirpantha to Mangalore			SS	
28.10.15 Wed'day (start time: 08:45; end time: 22:30)	08:45	11:10		Flight (Bangalore to Kolkata)	PUPA visit		SH	Stay at Gangasagar
	08:20	10:25		Flight (Delhi-Kolkotta)			NS	
	11:30	17:30		Car (Kolkotta to Pathar Protima)		Meeting with Secretary, PUPA, . Dr. Amales Misra, President,PUPA & PI, SGP Project Dr. Santanu Mitra, Members, Executive Committee Prof. Sunita Das	SH, NS	
	19:30	22:30		Ferry (Pathar Protima to Sagar Island)			SH, NS	
29.10.2015 Thursday (start time: 07:30; end time: 20:35)	7:30	11:00	Village Tannirpantha	Mangalore to Tannirpantha by taxi (2:00hrs)		21 villagers from Tannirpantha	SS	
	12:30	14:35	Travel	Village Tannirpantha to Mangalore (2:05hrs)			SS	
	16:20	20:35	Travel	Leave Mangalore for Delhi by Flt 9W 816 at 1620-2035 hrs.			SS	
29.10.15 Thursday (start time: 07:00; end time: 23:00)	07:00	20:00	Visited villages in Sagar Island	Car	PUPA visit	Secretary, PUPA, Dr. Amales Misra, President, PUPA & PI, SGP Project Dr. Santanu Mitra, Members, Executive Committee Prof. Sunita Das, Field staff and beneficiaries	SH, NS	Stay at Ramganga

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
	20:00	21:00		Boat (Sagar island to main land)			SH, NS	
	21:00	23:00		Car (to Hotel at Ramganga)			SH, NS	
30.10.15 Thursday (start time: 07:00; end time: 21:00)	07:00	08:30		Boat to Pathar pratima			SH, NS	Stay at Kolkata
	08:30	17:30	Visited villages in Pathar pratima		PUPA visit	Secretary, PUPA, Dr. Amales Misra, President, PUPA & PI, SGP Project Dr. Santanu Mitra, Members, Executive Committee Prof. Sunita Das, Field staff and beneficiaries	SH, NS	
	17:30	19:00		Boat to Ramganga			SH, NS	
	19:00	21:00		Car (Hotel at Diamond harbor)			SH, NS	
31.10.2015 Friday (start time: 06:00; end time: 18:20)	06:00	12:30	Travel	Delhi to Latoria by taxi / car	GVNML		SS	Night stay at Kishangarh
	13:15	15:30	GVNML Office			Project Staff (Jagveer Singh Hanuman Singh Rameshwar Lal Saini)	SS	
	16:00	17:15	Village Benekhera	GVNML Office to Village Benekhera by taxi / car (15min.)		Hari (Beneficiary) and villagers	SS	
	17:15	18:20	Travel	Village Benekhera to Kishangarh /Hotel by taxi / car			SS	
31.10.15 Friday (start time: 09:00; end time: 22:35)	09:00	13:00	Meeting with PUPA at hotel			Secretary, PUPA, Dr. Amales Misra, President, PUPA & PI, SGP Project Dr. Santanu Mitra	SH, NS	
	13:00	15:00		Car (Hotel to airport)			SH, NS	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
	20:10	22:35		Flight (Kolkata to Delhi)			NS	
01.11.2015 Saturday (start time: 08:00; end time: 18:00)	8:00	12:15	Village Itakhoi	Kishangarh to village Itakhoi by taxi/car (1:00hrs)		villagers of Itakhoi (Ramdayal, Badri, Yograj, Radhamohan, Kishanlal, etc.)	SS	Stay in Kishangarh
	13:30	17:15	Village Itakhoi			site visit – Grazing land, water harvesting structures	SS	
	17:15	18:00	Travel	village Itakhoi to Kishangarh by taxi/car (1:00hrs)			SS	
02.11.2015 Sunday (start time: 09:00; end time: 14:30)	9:00	14:30	Travel	Kishangarh to Delhi by taxi / car (5hrs and 30 min)			SS	
03.11.15 Monday (start time: 9:00; end time: 18:00)	09:00	12:00		Car (travel to Meerut)	SESS-CTD visit		SH	Stay at Muzaffarnagar
	12:00	17:00	SESS-CTD field visit		SESS-CTD visit	Mr. D. Raghunandan, Director, SESS/CTD and other. Beneficiaries of Jaggery making units	SH	
	17:00	18:00		Car (travel to hotel)			SH	
04.11.15 Monday (start time: 9:00; end time: 17:00)	10:00	10:30		Car (travel to Jaggery making units)	SESS-CTD visit		SH	
	10:30	14:00	SESS-CTD field visit		SESS-CTD visit	Mr. D. Raghunandan, Director, SESS/CTD and other. Beneficiaries of Jaggery making units	SH	
	14:00	17:00		Car (back to Delhi)			SH	
05.11.2015 Tuesday (start time: 11:00)	6:00	9:30	Travel	Delhi to Morena by Shatabdi Express (train)			SS	Stay in Morena (MP)
	11:00	13:30	Sujagriti SSS Office		Sujagriti SSS	Project Staff	SS	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
6:00; end time: 18:00)						(Shri Zakir Hussain, Shri Abdul Hussain, Shri O.P. Varma and Shri Manjar Ali)		
	14:00	17:00	Plantation sites	Morena to Piprai and Pipraipura villages by taxi / car (1:00hr)		Plantation site visit to Piprai and Pipraipura	SS	
	17:00	18:00	Travel	Pipraipura to Morena by taxi / car (1:00hr)			SS	
06.11.2015 Wednesday (start time: 9:00; end time: 18:45)	9:00	10:15	Sujagriti SSS Office			Dr. Atul Srivastav, JNKVV, Jabalpur	SS	
	10:45	12:00	Range Office, Forest Department, Morena	By taxi / car		Mr. Lakhan Sharma, Range Officer, Forest Department, Morena	SS	
	13:30	15:00	Village Bhindwa	By taxi / car		Meeting with villagers	SS	
	16:00	18:45	Village Piprai	By taxi / car		Meeting with Villagers	SS	
07.11.2015 Thursday (start time: 9:00; end time: 23:45)	9:00	12:15	Village Pipraipura	By taxi /car		Meeting with Villagers	SS	
	13:00	17:00	Village Pipraipura			site visits (farm bunding, check dams, etc.	SS	
	20:10	23:45	Travel	Morena to Delhi by Shatabdi Express (train)			SS	Stay in Delhi
08.11.2015 Friday (start time: 10:30; end time: 20:45)	10:30	12:45	Travel	Delhi-Goa by Flt SG 171	Goa Airport		SS	
	12:45	19:45	Travel	Goa to Sirsi by Taxi / car			SS	Stay in Sirsi
	19:45	20:45	Manu Vikasa Office		Manu Vikasa	Project staff Shri Harishchandra P. Bhat Ganpati Bhat and 5 staff of Manuvikasa (Prasanna Bhat, Manjunath Hegde, Sandeep Amadallikar, Channappa Lamani and	SS	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
						Yallamma H.)		
09.11.2015 Saturday (start time: 08:30; end time: 19:15)	8:30	10:00	Village Sannakheri	By taxi / car		Meeting with Villagers and plantation sites visit	SS	Stay in Sirsi
			Village Kumbrikodla			Meeting with Villagers and sites visit	SS	
	10:30	12:35	Village Gattikai	By taxi / car		Meeting with Villagers and sites visit	SS	
	13:00	14:45	Village Kansur	By taxi / car		Meeting with Villagers and sites visit	SS	
	15:30	16:30	Village Kodasur	By taxi / car		Meeting with Villagers and sites visit	SS	
	17:00	18:00	Village Kendigetota	By taxi / car		Meeting with Villagers and sites visit	SS	
	18:00	19.15	Village Kodgibale	By taxi / car		5 villagers of Kodgibale (Sujatha, Kamashi, Nagmani Lalita and Savitri)	SS	
10.11.2015 Sunday (start time: 10:30; end time: 21:00)	10:30	17:00	Travel	By taxi / car (Sirsi to Goa)			SS	
	18:40	21:00	Travel	Goa-Delhi by Flt G8 285			SS	Stay in Delhi
13.11.2015 Wednesday (start time: 10:25; end time: 17:30)	10:25	12:05	Travel	Delhi-Nagpur by Flt 6E 135			SS	
	12:05	15:15	Travel	Nagpur to Seoni by taxi / car			SS	Stay in Seoni
	15:15	17:30	SYSS Office		SYSS	Project staff (Rajesh Tambre, Rajesh Baghel, Mahender Rahangdale)	SS	
14.11.2015 Thursday (start time: 08:30; end	8:30	12:30	Village Kamasur	By taxi / car		16 villagers of Kamasur (Jaiwan, Sarita, Pushpa, Saroj, Jaldharavi, Lakhubai, Ansuniya,		

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
time: 17:30)						Ishwanti, Sharda, Beda bai, Banshi, Rambati bai, Shyama bai, Munsitaram, Ravi Uekey and Bhimram)		
	13:00	17:30	Village Nanhikar	By taxi / car		17 villagers of Nanhikar (Babita, Manishvati, Anjali, Sabita, Sangeeta, Durga, Rajni, Dhanno bai, Premvati, Dhanwanta, Chaitobai, Pravavati, Sonvati, Kamla, Memvati, Phoolvati and Sukman)	SS	
15.11.2015 Friday (start time: 07:30; end time: 21:30)	7:30	9:15	Village Mundiakheda			9 villagers from Mundiakheda (Bhunswari, Parmala bai, Meera bai, Anita, Chandrakal, Sunbati bai and Kiran Bai from Pari SHG; Pratap and Radheshyam- Bio gas beneficiaries)	SS	
	9:30	10:45	Village Meharbori			10 villagers from Meharbori (Rajni, Sapna, Kaushlya, Devhuti, Dhaneswari, Bela, Sunita Anuradha, Janka and Dharman from Jai Satya Sai SHG)	SS	
	11:00	12:45	Village Aamgaon	By Taxi / car		10 villagers from Aamgaon (Kiran, Kaushal, Mamoti, Rampyari, Mahavati, Shantabai,	SS	

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						Kiranbai, Ratibai, Motiabibai and Nausarbai from Parvati SHG)		
	12:55	14:00	Village Aamgaon	By Taxi / car		15 Youth from Aamgaon (Sangeeta, Puja, Meena, Rajni, Shruti, Shakuntala, Renu, Kavita, Durga, Kanta, Neha, Ramkali, Sapna, Anjum, Jubeda, from Tailoring Training Centre)	SS	
	15:00	18:00	Travel	Seoni to Nagpur by taxi / car			SS	
	19:45	21:30	Travel	Return from Nagpur to Delhi by Flt 6E 202 at 1945 hrs.			SS	Stay in Delhi
16.11.15 Monday (start time: 9:00; end time: 18:00)	09.00	13.00	India Habitat Centre			Meeting with MTR Consultants	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	14.00	15.30	UNDP Conference Hall	Car	UNDP	Meeting with UNDP Team, Dr. Preeti Soni, Dr. Ruchi Pant	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	16.20	18.00	MoEF & CC	Car	MoEF & CC	Meeting with MoEF official, Mr. Hem Pande, Special Secretary	VR, SH, SS, NS	
17.11.15 Tuesday (start time: 6:00; end time: 20:00)	6:10	9:45		Train (Delhi to Etawah)			VR, SH, SS, NS	
	10.00	16.30	Sainik Foundation	At Project site & village	Sainik Foundation visit	Maj. Gen. APS Chauhan	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	17:00	20:00		Car (Etawah to Kanpur)			VR, SH, SS, NS	Night stay at Kanpur
18.11.15 Wed'day (start time: 8:00; end time: 19:30)	8:00	9:30	Hotel Manoj International	-	-	Meeting with MTR Consultants	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	9:30	13:00		Car (Kanpur to Allahabad)			VR, SH, SS, NS	
	13:00	18.30	BIOVED Training Institute		BIOVED visit	Visit BIOVED, Dr. B.K. Dwivedi	VR, SH, SS, NS	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
	18:30	19:30		Car (Travel to Hotel)			VR, SH, SS, NS	Night stay at Allahabad
19.11.15 Thursday (start time: 8:00; end time: 16:30)	8:00	10:00	Hotel Yatrik	-	-	Meeting with MTR Consultants	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	10:00	12:00	Ministry of Agriculture		District Agricultural Officer	Mr. Bhatt, DAO, Ministry of Agriculture	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	13:00	13:45		Car (Hotel to Airport, Allahabad)			VR, SH, SS, NS	
	14:30	16:30		Flight (Allahabad to Delhi)			VR, SH, SS, NS	
20.11.15 Friday (start time: 9:00; end time: 19:30)	09:00	10:30	UNDP Conference Hall		UNDP	Meeting with UNDP, Dr. Ruchi Pant	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	10:30	11:30		Car (Travel to CEE)			VR, SH, SS, NS	
	11:30	19:30	CEE Office	-	CEE/PMU	Meeting with CEE, PS Sodhi & Anil Arora	VR, SH, SS, NS	
21.11.15 Saturday (start time: 10:00; end time: 22:30)	10:00	13:30	IIC Annex Conference hall	-	NSC Members	Meeting with NSC members; Ms. Uma Reddy, Ms. Karuna A. Singh and Dr. Pramathesh Ambasta	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	13:30	14:30		Car (Travel to Delhi airport)			VR, SS, NS	
	17:25	19:15		Flight (Delhi to Raipur)	Paramparagat, Raipur		VR, SS, NS	
	19:30	20:00		Car (Travel to hotel)			VR, SS, NS	Night stay at Raipur
	20:30	22:30		Hotel Babylon International, Raipur	Medicinal Plants Board and Forest Department	Dinner meeting with Mr. Pradeep Pant , PCCF, Chhattisgarh; A.K. Dwivedi, CEO, State Medicinal Plant Board,	VR, SS, NS	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
						Chhattisgarh and A.K. Geda , Professor, IGAU, Raipur		
22.11.15 Sunday (start time: 7:30; end time: 19:30)	07.30	8.00	C.G. State Medicinal Plant Board	Raipur to Bilaspur by Taxi / Car		Botanical Garden	VR, SS, NS	
	10:00	11:15	Residence of Prof. Vinod D. Rangari of Guru Ghasidas Central University, Bilaspur			Meeting with Prof. Vinod D. Rangari	VR, SS, NS	
	11:15	19:30	Village Tatidhar, Acchanakmar Tiger Reserve, Keonchi	By taxi / car	Parampara-gat field visit	12 villagers from Tatidhar Village; 108 members of Traditional Healers' Association; SHG members, Sanjivini Outlet, etc.	VR, SS, NS	Night stay at Sal Valley Resorts, Keonchi, Pendra Road
23.11.15 Monday (start time: 8:00; end time: 21:15)	08.00	9.30	Acchanakmar Tiger Reserve (Keonchi) MPCA site	By taxi / car	Nursery & MPCA site visit	Interaction with care takers and Forest Officials (Dy Range Officer & Beat Guard)	VR, SS, NS	
	10:30	17:00	Travel	Keonchi to Raipur (Airport)			VR, SS	
	18:55	20:55		Flight (Raipur to Delhi)			NS	
	19:45	21:15	Travel	Leave by Flt 6E 383 at 19.45-2105 hrs for Hyderabad			VR, SS	Night stay at Hotel Novotel, close to Airport complex.

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23.11.15 Monday (start time: 10:00; end time: 19:30)	10.00	19.30	CHINTAN's Office, collection center & landfill site visit	Car	CHINTAN visit	Visit CHINTAN, Ms. Bharati Chaturvedi	SH	-
24.11.15 Tuesday (start time: 6:20; end time: 21:30)	06.20	09.00	Visit Vivekananda Trust, Straight to the village in Chamraj nagar	Flight (Delhi to Bangalore)	Vivekananda Trust visit	Meeting with Vivekanand Trust Director Vishwanath P, Project coordinator; Mr. Bhushan, Project coordinator (CEE, South Regional Office)	NS	Night stay at Mysore
	9.00	16:30	From Airport to Chamrajnagar block	Car			NS	
	16:30	21:30	Visit to Gowdahalli village	Car		Forest ranger office (V.K Padmanabha); Gram Panchayat President (Mr S.Ravi) Manager HP gas agency, beneficiaries, Field staff	NS	
24.11.15 Tuesday (start time: 7:10; end time: 20:00)	07.10	09.00		Flight: Delhi to Bhubaneswar	CORE visit		SH	Stay at Bhubaneswar
	09:30	13:00		Car (airport/ hotel to CORE office)			SH	
	13:00	17:30		CORE		Visit CORE, Mr. Anjan Jena	SH	
	17:30	20:00		Car (back to hotel)			SH	
24.11.15	08.15	09.45	Bhubaneshwar	H'bad to Bhubaneswar by Flt	APOWA		VR, SS	Night stay at

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
Tuesday (start time: 08:15; end time: 19:30)				6E 266 at 08.15 hrs.				Bhitarkanika
	09:45	12:15	KVK, Kendra Para	By taxi / car		Met to 3 scientist at Office of Dr. Anjali	VR, SS	
	14:30	17:30	Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnaga Office, Rajnagar			Mr Bimal Prasan Acharya, DFO, Rashmi Ranjan Dash, Block Coordinator (Odisha Livelihood Mission(OLM), Rajnagar)	VR, SS	
	17:30	20:30	Travel	Rajnagar to Bhitarkanika by taxi / car			VR, SS	
25.11.15 Wed'day (start time: 10:00; end time: 20:30)	10:00	15:00	Bhubaneshwar			Meeting with CORE, Sunil Kumar Mohanty (transporter), Gouri Shankar Mishra (DFID)	SH	Night stay at Bhubaneswar
	19:30	20:30	Bhubaneshwar			Meeting with NSC member Dr. Ajit Pattnaik, IFS	VR, SH, SS	
25.11.15 Wed'day (start time: 7:00; end time: 22:25)	7:00	10:30	Hotel Yatrik, Mysore		Vivekananda Trust visit	Meeting with Vivekananda Trust, Director Vishwanath P, Project coordinator; Mr. Bhushan, Project coordinator (CEE, South Regional Office)	NS	
	19.50	22.25		Flight (Bangalore to Delhi)			NS	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
25.11.15 Wed'day (start time: 7:10; end time: 19:30)	08.00	9:45	Travel	Bhitarkanika to Junasnagar by Boat	APOWA field		VR, SS	Night stay at Bhitarkanika
	10:30	12:30	Village Junasnagar			Meeting with 15 Villagers of Junusnagar (VMC); SHG members	VR, SS	
	13:30	14:45	Village Garatganda			12 Villagers of Garatganda; 10 SHG members (Phulabasi Baidya, Sumitra Mandal and others)	VR, SS	
	14:45	18.30	Travel	Garatganda to Bhubaneswar by taxi / car			VR, SS	
26.11.15 Thursday (start time: 8:40; end time: 17:30)	08.40	11.05		Flight (Bhubaneshwar to Delhi)			VR, SH, SS	
	15.45	16.15	UNDP conference hall		UNDP	Meeting with UNDP Dr. Ruchi Pant	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	16.15	17:30	UNDP conference hall		UNDP	Meeting with UNDP Ms. Marina Walter, DCD	VR, SH, SS, NS	
27.11.15 Friday (start time: 9:30; end time: 19:30)	09.30	14.00	CEE Office		CPMU - CEE	Meeting with CEE, PS Sodhi & Anil Arora	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	15:00	15:30	UNDP conference hall			Meeting with MTR Consultants	VR, SH, SS, NS	

Date	Meeting Start Time	Meeting End Time	Meeting Place (City/ town Building, Address)	Mode of Travel Required	Name of Organization, Institution or Project	Name, Organizational Affiliation & Title /Position of Person/s with whom the MTR met	MTR Members	Notes
	15:30	17:30	UNDP conference hall		UNDP	UNDP Office	VR, SH, SS, NS	
	18:00	19:30	MoEF & CC (Room No: 302)		MoEF & CC	Preliminary presentation to Mr. A.K. Mehta, Joint Secretary, NSC members, UNDP and CPMU	VR, SH, SS, NS	
28.11.15 Saturday (start time: 9:30; end time: 17:30)	09:30	17:30	UNDP conference hall		Wrap Up with National Consultants	Meeting with MTR Consultants	VR, SH, SS	
	10:00	17:30	CEE office		CEE	Meeting with CEE, PS Sodhi	NS	
29.11.15 Sunday	Sunday (Free Day)							
30.11.15 Monday (start time: 9:30; end time: 19:00)	09:30	19:00	ACT office	Car	ACT visit	Visit ACT, Ms. Gurpreet Kaur, Secretary ACT; RWA beneficiaries	SH	
30.11.15 Monday	08:00			Flight (Depart of Virginia)			VR	

Annex 5. List of Projects Visited by the MTR Team

Project Title	Project Partner	GEF Focal Area	Project Location	MTR Team members who visited the project ⁵
Swasti-V land management measures for rejuvenation of biodegraded Yamuna Ravines at Pratapner	Sainik Foundation	LD	Pratapner, Uttar Pradesh	VR, SH, SK, NS
Low carbon technology adoption and dissemination through community led initiatives	TIDE	CC	Malleshrum, Karnataka	SH
Multi Stakeholders ownership initiative for reclamation of Grazing Lands and Establishment of Agro forestry for Fodder Generation and Management	Conservation of Nature Through Rural Awakening (CONARE)	BD	Mehboob Nagar, Andhra Pradesh	SK
Development Of Under-Cultivated/ Degraded Land Of Small Farmers And Strengthening Their Livelihood	Nagarika Sewa Trust (Nagarika)	LD	Karnataka	SK
Climate change mitigation with focus on alternate energy resources, livelihoods and better quality of life for the tribal community	Vivekanand Trust	CC	Chamraja nagar District, Yelanadur, Mysore	NS
Scaling up of Goat Rearing in poor marginalized women SHGs for better livelihoods and fodder introduction 10 rural villages in Cuddalore block	Madhar Nala Thondu Niruvanam (MNTN)	BD	Cuddalore. Tamil Nadu	NS
Conservation of Rare, Endangered and Threatened species in fast degrading Betta Land through protection of species, plant enrichment and wetland creation in Siddapur Taluq of North Kanara District	MANUVIKASA	BD+LD	North Kanara district, Karnataka	SK
Ensuring Sustainable Livelihoods for locals from risks and affects of Climate Change Vaqriability on agricultural production	Gram Vikas Navyuvak Mandal (GVNML)	CC	Jaipur, Rajasthan	SK
Community action to reduce pressure on forests through sustainable land use & Local Biodiversity Management around the Protected areas in tribal belts of Seoni District	Swatantra Yuva Shakti Sangathan (SYSS)	CC, LD & SFM	Seoni, Madhya Pradesh	SK
Up scaling the projects of reclamation of ravines through endogenous technology & in-situ conservation of local bio diversity and strengthen the livelihood security in four Panchayats of Morena District	Sujagraiti	LD, BD & SFM	Morena, Madhya Pradesh	SK
Community driven mangrove resources management, conservation and restoration in selected villages around the Bhitarkanika mangroves areas	APOWA	BD	Kendrapara, Odisha	VR, SK
Improving the livelihoods of the community following the basic principles of Biodiversity Conservation by sustainable Community-led natural resource management	Paribesh Unnayan Parishad (PUPA)	CC	24 Paraganas district, West Bengal	SH, NS
Strengthening Rural Women Society for Fuel Efficient Energy Productions through Pyrolysis and Briquetting	Zougam Institute for Community Resources and Development (ZICORD)	CC	Imphal, Manipur	SH
Preventing Unintended POPs Releases through POPs Prevention Partnerships (PPP) for E-waste	Chintan Environmental	CC	New Delhi	SH

⁵ VR: Virginia Ravndal; SH: Shankar Haldar; SK: Samir Stephan Kujur; NS: Nittie Srivastava

Project Title	Project Partner	GEF Focal Area	Project Location	MTR Team members who visited the project ⁵
	Research and Action Group			
Waste to Livelihoods (Eco-friendly Recycling Unit for Paper and Plastic Waste Management).	Action in Community and Training (ACT)	CC	Lakkarpur Village, Faridabad, Haryana	SH
Demonstrate & create business models for Conservation of lac (Kerria lacca) through value addition products preparation technologies	Bioved Research Institute of Agriculture & Technology	BD	Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	VR, SH, SK, NS
Technology Demonstration and Capacity-building in Energy-Saving Rural Jaggery-making Systems in Selected Clusters in North Indian States using 3-Pan Systems	Society for Economic & Social Studies (SESS-CTD)	CC	Western Uttar Pradesh	SH
Creating responsible actions for promoting resilient, low carbon construction (fly ash) for better environment and livelihood in rural Odisha	Co-operation for Rural Excellence (CORE)	CC	Cuttack, Odisha	SH
Conservation of threatened medicinal plants through in-situ practices, micro enterprise development for health & livelihood security in three Districts of Chhattisgarh	Paramparagat	BD	Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh	VR, SK

Annex 6. Stakeholders Met by the MTR Team

S. No.	Name / Designation	Organization
A. Central and State Government		
1.	Hem Pandey, Special Secretary	MoEF & CC, New Delhi
2.	Susheel Kumar, OFP and Chairman, GEF-SGP	MoEF & CC, New Delhi
3.	Ajit Kumar Patnaik, Prl.CCF (PD OFSDP) (I/C) F & PD), ICZMP & Chief Executive, Chilika Development Authority	Odisha State Forest Department (Bhubaneswar, Odisha)
4.	Pradeep Pant, PCCF	State Govt.(Chhattisgarh)
5.	P. Balaswamy, Divisional Forest Officer- Wildlife	State Govt. (Karnataka)
6.	A.K. Dwivedi, CEO, State Medicinal Plant Board	State Govt.(Chhattisgarh)
7.	Banvir Singh, Director	Regional Fodder Centre, Hyderabad
8.	Mr Bimal Prasan Acharya, DFO (WL) Mangrove Forest Division(Wildlife), Rajnagar	State Govt. (Odisha)
9.	Mr Manidar Pattnaik, ACF, Mangrove Forest Division(Wildlife), Gupti	State Govt. (Odisha)
10.	Lakhan Sharma, Forest Range Officer, Morena	State Govt. (Madhya Pradesh)
11.	Ganesh Prasad Dubey, District Agriculture Officer, Allahabad	State Govt. (Uttar Pradesh)
12.	Pukhrambam Boicha Meitei, Asst. Manager	NABARD
13.	Dr. B.S. Negi, R&D Coordination and Biogas Power (Off Grid Programme)	MNRE
14.	Rashmi Ranjan Dash, Block Coordinator	Odisha Livelihood Mission(OLM), Rajnagar
B. UNDP		
1.	Marina Walter, Deputy Country Director	UNDP India, New Delhi
2.	Preeti Soni, Advisor, Climate Change	UNDP India, New Delhi
3.	Ruchi Pant, Programme Analyst	UNDP India, New Delhi
4.	Manisha Choudhary, Project Officer	UNDP India, New Delhi
C. Implementing Partner (CEE)		
1.	Prabhjot Sodhi, Country Programme Manager	CEE Regional Office (Delhi)
2.	Anil Arora, Senior programme Officer	CEE Regional Office (Delhi)
3.	Abhinandan, Programme Officer (Knowledge Management)	CEE Regional Office (Delhi)
4.	A. Swarnamayee Das, Project Officer	CEE Regional Office (Bangalore)
5.	Bibhu Tripathy	CEE Regional Office (Bhubaneswar)
D. NSC Members		
1.	Susheel Kumar, OFP and Chairman, GEF-SGP	MoEF & CC, New Delhi
2.	Ajit Kumar Patnaik, Prl.CCF (PD OFSDP) (I/C) F & PD), ICZMP & CE, Chilika Development Authority	Odisha State Forest Department (Bhubaneswar, Odisha)
3.	Pradeep Pant, PCCF	State Govt.(Chhattisgarh)
4.	Prathamesh, Member	Samaj Pragati Sahayog (NGO)
5.	Uma Reddy, Member	Messrs. Hitech Magnetics & Electronics Pvt. Ltd
6.	Karuna Singh, Member	Country Director-India Earth Day Network
E. Regional Committee Member		
1.	Ajit Kumar Patnaik, Prl.CCF (PD OFSDP) (I/C) F & PD), ICZMP & CE, Chilika Development Authority	Odisha State Forest Department (Bhubaneswar, Odisha)
2.	Pradeep Pant, PCCF	State Govt.(Chhattisgarh)
3.	Prathamesh, Member	Samaj Pragati Sahayog (NGO)
4.	Uma Reddy, Member	Messrs. Hitech Magnetics & Electronics Pvt. Ltd
5.	Karuna Singh, Member	Country Director-India Earth Day Network

F. Academic and Research Institutions		
1.	Atul Srivastav	JNKVV, Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh)
2.	Hulen Misao	Member of InSIDE-North East (Local support to mobilize SHG's & conduct of training programs)
3.	A.K. Geda, Professor	Indira Gandhi Agriculture University, Raipur
4.	Vinod D. Rangari	Guru Ghasidas Central University, Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)
5.	3 Scientists at Office of Dr. Anjali Roy	Krushi Vigyan Kendra(KVK), Kendrapara
G. NGOs Partners		
1.	Viswanath P, Director	Vivekanand Trust
2.	K.Bhushan, Project Coordinator	Vivekanand Trust
3.	N.Mullu, Field staff	Vivekanand Trust
4.	Maj. Gen. APS Chauhan	Sainik Foundation
5.	Svati Bhogle	Secretary, TIDE
6.	K Sumathy	Executive Director, TIDE
7.	Pramila Perdoor	Senior Project Manager, TIDE, SGP Coordinator
8.	Jayaraman S	Accounts Manager, TIDE
9.	Shobha Ananad Reddy	Senior Faculty, MGIRE, technical support to SGP
10.	Subramaniam Parmesh	Manager, OCOL, SGP service provider
11.	M. A. Saleem	CONARE
12.	K.Somanath Nayak	Nagarika Seva Trust
13.	Ranjan Rao Yerdoor	Nagarika Seva Trust
14.	Mr. B.K.Parameshwara Rao	Nagarika Seva Trust
15.	4 Project Staff (Raghuram Prabhu, Shridhar, Shrinivas and Somya)	Nagarika Seva Trust
16.	2 Community Mobilizers (Nagesh & Jagarnath)	Nagarika Seva Trust
17.	P Rajendran, Director	MNTN
18.	R.S Srimati, Senior Project Coordinator	MNTN
19.	S.Indumati, Monitoring person	MNTN
20.	M.Parimala, Translator	MNTN
21.	V.Jayanti, Field staff	MNTN
22.	K.Vijaylakshmi, Community organizer(GOAT PROJECT)	MNTN
23.	R.Ramakrishnan, Goat project In charge	MNTN
24.	N.Gandhimadhi, Accountant	MNTN
25.	R.Gunasekar, Community organizer (GOAT PROJECT)	MNTN
26.	Shri Harishchandra P. Bhat, Settlor of the Trust	Manuvikasa
27.	Ganpati Bhat, Project Staff	Manuvikasa
28.	5 project staff of Manuvikasa (Prasanna Bhat, Manjunath Hegde, Sandeep Amadallikar, Channappa Lamani and Yallamma H.)	Manuvikasa
29.	3 Project staff (Jagveer Singh, Hanuman Singh and Rameshwar Lal Saini)	GVNML
30.	Rajesh Tambre, President	SYSS
31.	Rajesh Baghe, Vice President	SYSS
32.	Mahender Rahangdale, Project Staff	SYSS
33.	Zakir Hussain, Director	Sujagriti SSS
34.	Abdul Hussain, Project Staff	Sujagriti SSS
35.	O.P. Varma, Project Staff	Sujagriti SSS
36.	Manjar Ali, Project Staff	Sujagriti SSS
37.	Bijaya Ku Kabi, Director	APOWA
38.	Mr Rashmi Ranjan Dash, Block Coordinator	APOWA
39.	Santanu Mitra, President	
40.	Amales Misra , Secretary	PUPA
41.	Prof. Sunita Das, Members of Executive	PUPA

	Committee	
42.	M. Acharya, SGP-Project Coordinator	PUPA
43.	Sudipti Halder, SGP-Staff	PUPA
44.	Anima Das, SGP Staff (part-time)	PUPA
45.	Dayal Bhuniya, Coordinator	PUPA
46.	Saheba Khatun, Coordinator	PUPA
47.	Albert Z.M, Secretary, ZIRCOD (Project Staff)	ZICORD
48.	Haupu Gangte, Technical Facilitator, ZIRCOD (Project Staff)	ZICORD
49.	Mimi, Accountant, ZIRCOD (Project Staff)	ZICORD
50.	Bharati Chaturvedi, Secretary	CHINTAN
51.	Rajat Mohan, SGP Coordinator	CHINTAN
52.	Malcome Mukherjee, SGP Project staff	CHINTAN
53.	Mohd. Ibrahim, SGP Project staff	CHINTAN
54.	Gurpreet Kaur, Secretary	ACT
55.	Tapas Chartterjee, CEO; SGP coordinator	ACT
56.	Dr S.D Mishra, Chairman	BIOVED
57.	Dr. B.K Dwivedi, Director	BIOVED
58.	Namrata Jaiswal, Research Assistant	BIOVED
59.	Shubham Srivastava, Research Assistant	BIOVED
60.	Anjali Mishra, Research Assistant	BIOVED
61.	Reema, Supervisor	BIOVED
62.	Sangam, Field Officer	BIOVED
63.	Ved Prakash, Field Officer	BIOVED
64.	D. Raghunandan, Director	SESS/CTD
65.	K.P. Singh, Project Field Manager and SGP Project Coordinator	SESS/CTD
66.	Anjan Jena, Secretary	CORE
67.	Nirmal Kumar Awasthi, Secretary	PARAMPARAGAT
H. Private Sector and Non-government co-financers		
1.	Gouri Shankar Mishra, Representative of DFID	Co-financing for SGP model replication in CORE
2.	Snigdha Mohanty, President	Maa Tareni Savings Credit House Building Primary Co-operation Ltd. (MTHC); Implementing SGP in CORE
3.	Manjulata Khillar, Zone leader	MTHC
4.	Sunil Kumar Mohanty, Supplier of fly ash in CORE	Talcher FLG Transport Company Pvt. Ltd.
I. Name of SHG / Villages		
1.	Silpara	PUPA
2.	Hendalketki	PUPA
3.	Mooriganga	PUPA
4.	Ptharpratima	PUPA
5.	Kachuberia	PUPU
6.	Phulbari	PUPA
7.	Kashtala	PUPA
8.	Indrapur	PUPA
9.	Kachuberia	PUPA
10.	Shibpur Sima	PUPA
11.	Rani Rashmoni	PUPA
12.	Subarna Lata	PUPA
13.	Manasha	PUPA
14.	Nil Diganta	PUPA
15.	Bamankhali	PUPA
16.	Moori ganga	PUPA
17.	Shilpara	PUPA
18.	Hendal Ketki	PUPA
19.	Satyadas	PUPA

20.	Dakshmin	PUPA
21.	Gobordhanpur	PUPA
22.	Indrapur	PUPA
23.	Murugan	MNTN
24.	Pachaivaziyamman	MNTN
25.	Sri Mariyamman	MNTN
26.	Thamarai	MNTN
27.	Velmurugan	MNTN
28.	Sri Kaathayi ammal	MNTN
29.	Saraswathi	MNTN
30.	Madhurambal	MNTN
31.	Senthamiz	MNTN
32.	Samanthi	MNTN
33.	Roja	MNTN
34.	Malargal	MNTN
35.	Kurinji	MNTN
36.	Sri MuthuMariyamman	MNTN
37.	Mariyal	MNTN
38.	Sevvanthi	MNTN
39.	Omsakthi	MNTN
40.	Malai Saral	MNTN
41.	Durgaiyamman	MNTN
42.	Marumalartchi	MNTN
43.	Aathi Parasakthi	MNTN
44.	Natchatram	MNTN
45.	Annaparavai	MNTN
46.	Semparuthi	MNTN
47.	Sirpi	MNTN
48.	Angaiyarkanni	MNTN
49.	Malaiyanoor Amman	MNTN
50.	Kadalpura	MNTN
51.	Sadhuragiri	MNTN
52.	Durgadevi	MNTN
53.	Sri Mariamman	MNTN
54.	Sri vinayagar	MNTN
55.	Kurinji	MNTN
56.	Badrakalama	VIVEKANAND TRUST
57.	Parvati	VIVEKANAND TRUST
58.	Kanan mahila aiwam sahayata	PARAMPARAGAT
59.	Tulasi mahila aiwam sahayata	PARAMPARAGAT
60.	Prarthana	PARAMPARAGAT
61.	Laxmi mahila	PARAMPARAGAT
62.	Nageshwari mahila	PARAMPARAGAT
63.	Sharda mahila aiwam sahayata	PARAMPARAGAT
64.	Jageshwari mahila	PARAMPARAGAT
65.	Ambay mahamaya	PARAMPARAGAT
66.	Ma Dugmai	PARAMPARAGAT
67.	Shiv shankar	PARAMPARAGAT
68.	12 villagers from Tatidhar Village	PARAMPARAGAT
69.	108 members of Traditional Healers' Association	PARAMPARAGAT
70.	Bindh Shyam	BIOVED
71.	Sarjana	BIOVED
72.	50 SHGs members	BIOVED
73.	10 Villagers of Veeram Rajpally	CONARE

74.	9 Villagers of Hajipur	CONARE
75.	10 villagers of Hajipur	CONARE
76.	23 villagers of Dokutanda	CONARE
77.	7 villagers of Madapur	CONARE
78.	5 Villagers of Laxmapur	CONARE
79.	22 villagers of Gattuthummen	CONARE
80.	13 villagers from Andinje	Nagarika Seva Trust
81.	21 villagers from Tannirpantha	Nagarika Seva Trust
82.	SHGs Members of Gowdahalli village	Vivekanand Trust
83.	Sitaramaya from Sannakheri village	Manuvikasa
84.	3 Villagers of Kumbrikodla (Deviki, Shalini and Malini)	Manuvikasa
85.	2 villagers of Kansur (Annapurna and Lalita)	Manuvikasa
86.	Gauri from Kodasur village	Manuvikasa
87.	Nagawini from Kendigetota village	Manuvikasa
88.	5 villagers of Kodgibale (Sujatha, Kamashi, Nagmani Lalita and Savitri)	Manuvikasa
89.	Hari from Benekhera village	GVNML
90.	5 villagers of Itakhoi (Ramdayal, Badri, Yograj, Radhamohan, Kishanlal)	GVNML
91.	13 villagers of Kamasur (Jaiwan, Sarita, Pushpa, Saroj, Jaldharavi, Lakhubai, Ansuniya, Ishwanti, Sharda, Beda bai, Banshi, Rambati bai, Shyama bai)	SYSS
92.	3 villagers of kamasur (Munsitaram, Ravi Uekey and Bhimram)	SYSS
93.	8 villagers of Nanhikar (Babita, Manishvati, Anjali, Sabita, Sangeeta, Durga, Rajni, Dhanno bai)	SYSS
94.	9 villagers of Nanhikar Premvati, Dhanwanta, Chaitobai, Pravavati, Sonvati, Kamla, Memvati, Phoolvati and Sukman)	SYSS
95.	7 villagers from Mundiakheda (Bhunswari, Parmala bai, Meera bai, Anita, Chandrakal, Sunbati bai and Kiran Bai from Pari SHG)	SYSS
96.	2 villagers from Mundiakheda (Pratap and Radheshyam- Bio gas beneficiaries)	SYSS
97.	10 villagers from Meharbori (Rajni, Sapna, Kaushlya, Devhuti, Dhaneswari, Bela, Sunita Anuradha, Janka and Dharman from Jai Satya Sai SHG)	SYSS
98.	10 villagers from Aamgaon (Kiran, Kaushal, Mamoti, Rampyari, Mahavati, Shantabai, Kiranbai, Ratibai, Motiabibai and Nausarbai from Parvati SHG)	SYSS
99.	Nutan lal from Aamgaon village	SYSS
100.	15 Youth from Aamgaon (Sangeeta, Puja, Meena, Rajni, Shruti, Shakuntala, Renu, Kavita, Durga, Kanta, Neha, Ramkali, Sapna, Anjum, Jubeda, from Tailoring Training Centre)	SYSS
101.	BMC President of Bhindwa village	Sujagriti SSS
102.	Ram Narayan from Piprai Village	Sujagriti SSS
103.	Asharam from Pipraipura Village	Sujagriti SSS
104.	4 members of Kalapatank Dal from Moreana	Sujagriti SSS
105.	15 Villagers of Junusnagar	APOWA
106.	12 Villagers of Garatganda	
107.	10 SHG members (Phulabasi Baidya, Sumitra Mandal and others)	APOWA
108.	3 SHG members from Junusnagar (Namitarani Mana, Sephali Mana and others)	APOWA
109.	Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of "A.A Ningshen Ara Aza SHG, Langol, District Imphal West"	ZIRCOD

110.	Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “D.L. Nupi Lom, Motbung Village, District Senapati”	ZIRCOD
111.	Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “Phaiyang Sanga SHG, Phaiyang village, Block Saikul, District Senapati”	ZIRCOD
112.	Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “Diamond Sower SHG, Thangkanphai village, Block Saikul, District Senapati”	ZIRCOD
113.	Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “P.L. Nupi Lom, Songthu avenue, Block Saikul, District Senapati”	ZIRCOD
114.	Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “Songthu Avenue VDC SHG, Songthu Avenue, Block Saikul, District Senapati”	ZIRCOD
115.	Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “Gamdei Veng Lhunkholam SHG, Gandeiphai Village, Block Saikul, District Senapati”	ZIRCOD
116.	Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “T.J. Lom SHG, Chulouphai village”	ZIRCOD
117.	Tina, President, Jorbagh RWA	CHINTAN
118.	Saira Banu, Waste picker (Cluster Leader), SGP trained	CHINTAN
119.	Lutpar, Waste picker, SGP trained and met with 4 other e-waste pickers , SGP trained waste pickers	CHINTAN
120.	Kavita Sharma, worker at recycling unit	ACT
121.	Babita, worker at recycling unit	ACT
122.	President of Woodberry RWA	ACT
123.	Sita Ram, Security guard of Woodberry RWA	ACT
124.	Amit Kumar, SGP Local coordinator	SESS/CTD
125.	Vinuj Kumar, Jaggery unit owner	SESS/CTD
126.	Devendra Kumar, Jaggery unit owner	SESS/CTD
127.	Bijendra Singh, Jaggery unit owner	SESS/CTD
128.	Devendra Kumar, Jaggery unit owner	SESS/CTD
129.	D. Pradhan, SGP trained mason	CORE
130.	M. Soyee, SGP trained mason	CORE
131.	30 Women SHG members	CORE

Annex 7. List of Documents Reviewed

Document
Project Documents
Copy of signed PRODOC
Copy of PIF submitted
Individual Project Fact Sheets of all projects supported
Completed and up to date log frames for all individual projects with their respective project work plans and budgets implemented (up to date as of MTR)
Work Plans
Work plan for the SGP for OP5
Tables
Annex 5 (Completed Project Information Table)
This table should be completed by the NCU or the UNDP CO and provided to the MTRT
Personnel
List of all persons (staff and consultants) currently working with the National Coordinating Unit of the SGP in the country, along with their title & their contact information and their Terms of Reference (in the case of consultants)
Name of UNDP ResRep, DRR, and Programme Officer responsible for SGP in country, along with their contact information
NSC
Comprehensive list of members of the National Steering Committee along with their contact information, titles, and area of expertise
List of criteria used to select the National Steering Committee
List of criteria used to review project proposals (along with any format/s used for this purpose)
Project proposal template currently used by project proponents
Minutes of the NSC meetings for the past 3 meetings
TOR for the NSC
Budget & Financial Information
Summary of co-financing received during OP5 (divided according to in-kind and in-cash, source, amount)
Implemented OP5 budget (actual expenditures by project outcome, M&E costs, management costs, etc.)
Monitoring Documents
Completed Tracking Tools for OP5 (The TTs must be finalized and provided to the MTR Team before the MTR mission takes place. As the GEF Tracking Tool must be completed before the MTR takes place, the MTR consultant(s) should NOT be completing the GEF Tracking Tool. The consultants should, however, be informed by the results reported in the TT. The GEF will not accept an MTR report without the corresponding completed GEF Tracking)
PIRs/APRs for all years during this Operational Phase of the SGP
Monitoring and Evaluation Plan adopted during OP5
All audit reports
Procurements
List of all contracts and procurement items over \$5,000 USD
List of all equipment purchased during OP5 & where the equipment is at present & how it is being used
Other Relevant Initiatives
List of related projects/initiatives contributing to project objectives and contact information for each

Project Publications & Communications
List of all project publications (books, brochures, articles, newsletters, etc..) published during OP5 (please provide a single printed copy of all publications to the Team on arrival in country – these will be returned prior to MTRT departure)
Link to Country SGP website
Maps
Map showing location of all project sites in OP5
Maps of all project sites to be visited during the MTR

Annex 8. Signed Consultant Code of Conduct

ANNEX E: EVALUATION CONSULTANT CODE OF CONDUCT AND AGREEMENT FORM

Evaluators:

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and how they are possible to be affected by the evaluation itself. Evolve local rights to receive results.
3. Must protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum access, maintain datasets on file, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with the general public.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases will be reported directly to the appropriate investigatory body. Evaluators should consult with other involved oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, traditions and customs and act with integrity and fairness in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-worth of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their products. They are responsible for the risks, arising out of written and/or oral communication of study limitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.

Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form ¹	
Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System	
Name of Consultant:	<u>A Virginia Karndal</u>
Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant):	_____
I confirm that I have reviewed and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.	
Signed at place on date:	<u>Winn RMC Santa Fe 3/28/13</u>
Signature:	<u>[Signature]</u>

www.unevaluation.org/usingcodeofconduct

Evaluators/Consultants:

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study limitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.

MTR Consultant Agreement Form

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System:

Name of Consultant: **Mr. Shankar Haldar**

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant): **INSPIRE Network for Environment**

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.

Signed at **New Delhi** (Place) on **4 September 2015** (Date)

Signature:



⁵² www.undp.org/uneqcodeofconduct

Evaluators/Consultants:

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study limitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.

MTR Consultant Agreement Form

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System:

Name of Consultant: **Mr. Samir Stephan Kujur**

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant): **InsPIRE Network for Environment**

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.

Signed at **New Delhi** (Place) on **4 September 2015** (Date)

Signature:



⁵² www.undp.org/unegcodeofconduct

ToR ANNEX D: UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluators/Midterm Review Consultants⁵²

Evaluators/Consultants:

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study limitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.

MTR Consultant Agreement Form

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System:

Name of Consultant: Nithre Srivastava

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant): _____

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.

Signed at New Delhi (Place) on 18 Oct. 2015 (Date)

Signature: Nithre Srivastava

Annex 9. Checklist for Gender Sensitive Mid-Term Review Analysis

	QUESTION	YES	NO	PARTIALLY
Project Design And Preparation	(a) Does the project document reflect attainable and clear gender-responsive objectives and results?	√		
	(b) Do the intervention objectives address needs of both men and women?	√		
Result Framework	(a) Does the results framework include gender responsive indicators and a baseline to monitor gender equality results?	√		
	(b) Does the project make it clear how women will be involved as active participants in the project implementation?	√		
	(c) Are targets set to guarantee a sufficient level of gender balance in activities?	√		
Monitoring And Evaluation	Has the monitoring and evaluation of the project cover gender issues and monitor behavioral changes towards greater gender equality?			√
Implementation	(a) Does executive agency has capacity to deliver benefits to or involve women?	√		
	(b) Does the project ensure gender balance in their board or staff?			√
Project impact	(a) Has the projects disaggregated the beneficiaries by sex?			√
	(b) Has the potential negative impact of the intervention been considered (e.g., potential increased burden on women and girls or social isolation of men and women)?	√		

Annex 10. Individual Project Assessments

#1: Sainik Foundation

Name of Evaluators: Virginia Ravndal, Shankar Haldar, Nittie Srivastava and Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: November 17, 2015

Project Title: Swasti – V Land Management Measures for Rejuvenation of Biodegraded Yamuna Ravines at Partapner

GEF Thematic Area/s: Land Degradation

SGP Funding: Rs. 23,93,000

Co-Financing: Rs. 37,31,170 (segregation by in cash and in kind was not available)

Project Objective: To consolidate land management measures for rejuvenating biodiversity in Pratapner ravine which will stabilize the impact thereof so that innate potential of this ravine system can be exploited with long term prospects of its benefits to biodiversity and environment and stepping up carbon absorption.

Brief Project Description: Construct check dam (Swasti V) to bring 10 villages, 5000 acres of land in use and enhance its productivity. Increase the height and fortify (by construction of wing walls) the check dam (Swasti – IV) by 1.5 meters to enhance impounding capacity so that water body can sustain form one to next monsoon season. Establish nursery with plantation of 2000 local plants. Disseminate the impact of water harvesting on land management and crop productivity to local schools and community people.

Overall Assessment: The NGO Partner is very committed and capable and will do what it takes to make the checkdam construction a reality. The construction/infrastructure development aspects of this project should not have been supported by the SGP. This should have been done with co-financing from government or other sources. Although the NGO, a group comprised of retired military, did indeed secure significant co-financing in the form of help from the military to construct checkdams in the area, the MTR maintains that no SGP funds should have been used for this purpose. The project has already been granted an extension (no-cost) but despite this time extension very few of what the MTR considers to be the most eligible types of planned activities (e.g., capacity building of the local youth, income generating activities, etc..) have even begun and there was apparently no intention to undertake these activities. Instead the remaining 50% of the funds were being reserved to build the dam once permission from the Forest Department was secured. This has presented an obstacle since the beginning of the project with very little progress made. The partner NGO openly admits they have no expertise and no capacity to pursue gender equality in their project. The NGO is an all-male NGO. Before approving this project, the NSC should have insisted that the NGO either identify a partner with such gender expertise or should have insisted that the NGO include in their budget provision for contracting a gender specialist as required to ensure that women would not only be beneficiaries of the

project but would be directly involved in it. This has not happened and as a result there has been no women involvement in this project other than paying women to provide food and cart water to the men working on the dam (the dam built in a former SGP supported project was reinforced and built up during the current project). The MTRT found the women in the village to be very interested and open to becoming involved and they committed themselves to form a SHG right then and there during the visit of the MTRT. They even followed up immediately by taking the matter to the Panchayat. The above is indicative that project monitoring was not sufficient either in terms of ensuring gender equality or in terms of ensuring that planned project activities were on track. This project also illustrates inadequate review by the NSC as the project as designed should not have been supported by the SGP. The MTRT also noted that although the tree species, guggal, was being successfully used in another SGP supported LD project, the partner NGO for this project was not aware of its use/potential, indicating a lack of cross-learning from other projects in this regard. The nurseries supported by the project are doing well although a greater number of species could have been included. The project limited the species it had in its nurseries to those provided by the Forest Department. Finally, although beekeeping was included in one of the planned activities, according to the partner NGO none of the beehives which had been provided in previous projects were currently being used. Further oi of why that situation existed and why apiculture was still being planned in this project should have been undertaken.

Strengths:

- Strong NGO commitment was observed in the ground
- While constructing check dams in the past the NGO mobilized and used Indian Army machineries and manpower for construction.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Project activity stopped due to noninsurance of “No Objection Certificate” by forest department to construct check dam Swasti – V
- Around 50% of the SGP funds are kept in reserve to construct and counter the price escalation for the main activity under the project construction of check dam, Swasti V. Due to adoption of fund reserve strategy, all other proposed activities under the project have ceased.
- Since Swasti – V is not constructed, 100 trees were planted at Swasti – I site. During the field visit it was observed that half of the plated trees were already dead due to no monsoon.
- Community upliftment programs, formation of women SHGs and their livelihood programs are not planned in the project.
- Lack in addressing gender component, could not start any planned activity that involved women in the project.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Formulation of joint committee comprising of PMU and NGO to unlock the deadlock

noninsurance of “No Objection Certificate” by forest department on a timely manner. Contingency plan should be prepared on what should be the strategy if its not possible to resolve the deadlock on a timely deadlock.

- SGP funds to be more effectively used in community development programs rather than construction of infrastructure like check dams. The infrastructure development nature projects should attract funds from various other government agencies and programs.
- Enough precaution in terms of watering the saplings planted should have been taken to avoid leaving half of the trees dead.
- A partner or a gender specialist that has capacity to address gender component should be involved/consulted at the project formulation phase. Screening a short documentary on success stories of women SHGs is a simple way to motivate women to form SHG and participate in the project.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- Plantation of medicinal plant like “Guggul” in the area would enhance the green cover and will be attractive livelihood activity. Another GEF/SGP NGO partner is carrying out Guggul plantation in nearby location, assistance from them should be taken.



Construction of check dam Swasti - IV



Nursery plantation visit



Construction of check dam Swasti - IV



Ravine of Swasti - IV

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #: Swasti – V Land Management Measures for Rejuvenation of Biodegraded Yamuna Ravines at Partapner {Sainak Foundation}

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): LD

Location of Project (State): Pratapner, District Etawah, Uttar Pradesh

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Construction of check dam to charge monsoon water resulting increase in the underground water level and bring to use the degraded land.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- a) Check dam Swasti – IV
- b) Check dam Swasti – I
- c) Visited Pratapner and Silayata village
- d) Sainik Foundaiton Etawah office

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Maj. Gen. APS Chauhan	M		
Sainik Foundation local ground office staff (4 nos.)			
Raja Singh	M	Villagers beneficiary from Swasti - I project	
Interaction with Silayata village women (nearly 15)			

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning activities, PRAs, village meetings, panchayat meetings, liaison and mobilization of community resources • SHGs formation and exposure on dam details • Baselines developed through village meetings, including dam data • Increase the height of check dam Swasti – IV by atleast 1.5 meters • Construct new check dam on Rura ravine – Swasti - V • Creating diversity on trees, grasses and local flora fauna • Plant 1000 saplings and create a nursey at Swasti - V • Harness solar energy, one solar array station with tube well • One exposure cum demonstration cum learning workshop on theme “ecology and field technologies as tools of land management for rural survival” • Organize children’s exchange program between Himalayan and ravine regions; one visit each to IGFRI, CRIG, and FRI by community leaders
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building of 10 rural youth volunteers on field handymanship. Dissemination of results through brochures Demonstration community level by contributory participation “gram kosh”
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with villagers / panchayats confirmed their participation and support SHG formed, leader and task leaders were selected. 5 exposure visits of the SHG team were made at site of Swasti – V to collect demographic details, identify survey points, detailed map planning, confirm the design Baseline data on average rain fall, water availability during rainy seasons were collected Height of the Swasti – IV was increased by 1.5 meters and two wing walls were created upstream to counter scouring Plantation of 100 saplings at Swasti – I instead of Swasti – V
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	40%
How long has the project been going on (# months)	27 months
What percent of the project time period remains	25% remaining (9 months)
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	Yes, project has been extended by one year. Permission to construct check dam Swasti – V to block Rura Khal was not granted by Forest Department
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	No, two more GEF/SGP projects were completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community initiative for Rejuvenation and Management of Environment Degraded Salaita Ravines (in 2007-08) Augmentation of Water Resources for Rejuvenation and Reclamation for Bio-degraded Yamuna Ravines by Harnessing Integral Perennial Water Source to create a Water Body for Fort Pratpner, Janpad, Etawah (in 2009-10)
How did they find out about the SGP?	Own Network and earlier contract with CEE

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The check dam height of Swasti – IV has been increased Due to no monsoon this year the impact, in terms of increase in ground water level is not observed. But during earlier years, the increase in water level was seen by the villagers (well water height increased by 6 feet) Land crop productivity has improved Bring into use degraded land to useful cultivated land The greenery cover of the area has increased due to tree plantation
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring into use degraded land to useful cultivated land The greenery cover of the area has increased due to tree plantation
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water level has increased Crop productivity has enhanced Increase in cultivated land
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community mobilization and income generation activities should be taken up

strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Including women into the program by formation of women SHGs Plantation of medical plants like "Guggul" for livelihood activities (Guggul is suitable in this type of climatic conditions)
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	There is difference in perception as the contraction activity of check dam should be funded from other sources and community mobilization should be carried out with GEF/SGP funds.

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	2500 HHs (residents of nearby villages will be benefited)
# men directly involved in the project	3000 HHs (residents of nearby villages will be benefited)
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	800 HHs (residents of nearby villages will be benefited)
# women in project decision-making positions	Nil
# men in project decision-making positions	Directly involved in the project implementation
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	No
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	Women participation should be made compulsory

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	Many a times PMU had visited. Meetings at CEE office was held many a times.
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	Assistance from Army wings for survey and in construction of check dams by using their machineries and manpower.
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	No modifications done.

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No. Only consumables - contraction materials purchased

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	None
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involvement of gram panchayats District administration Forest Department
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	No prominent benefits has been observed due to the partnership

Table 8: ***Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)***

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	Nil
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	None
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	Rs. 8,52,518

#33: Action for Protection of Wild Animals (APOWA)

Name of Evaluators: Virginia Ravndal and Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: November 24-26, 2015

Project Title (#33): Community driven mangrove resources management, conservation and restoration in selected villages around the Bhitarkanika mangroves areas

GEF Thematic Area/s: Biodiversity Conservation

SGP Funding: US \$29,973 (1 US\$=INR 53.38)

Co-Financing: (\$67,477 in total of which \$16,032 in cash and \$51,445 in kind)

Project Objective: Strengthening and sustaining community stewardship in conservation, restoration, sustainable management of mangroves; and ensuring sustainable livelihood security for local communities through conservation of ecologically significant natural resources.

Brief Project Description:

The Bhitarkanika Mangroves cover an area of 650 km² in the river delta of the Brahmani and Baitarani rivers and are widely considered to be India's second largest mangrove, in terms of area. The mangroves harbor one of India's largest populations of saltwater crocodiles, and Gahirmatha Beach, which separates the mangroves from the Bay of Bengal, is the world's most important nesting beach for olive ridley sea turtles. The Buffer Zone of Bhitarkanika Protected Area are under very fragile condition due to high deforestation and alteration of mangrove forest patches. This coastal ecosystem is now among the most threatened surroundings due to human pressure and alternation of mangrove patches.

In OP5, the project is working for promotion of community driven mangrove resources management, conservation and restoration in selected 8 villages viz. Purusottampur, Gartagandia, Uttar Bagapatia, Junusnagar, Ajagarpatia, Gupti, Chakamohanpur and Charigheria around the Bhitarkanika mangroves areas.

Overall Assessment: The project does target biodiversity of global significance in that the mangrove ecosystem and the extension of mangroves in this area can definitely be considered to be of global significance. The project appropriately targets the villages closest to the mangroves and in the buffer zone of the National Park. The project appropriately collaborates with a larger scale Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project. This is very helpful. The Partner NGO is very capable and committed and has long-term experience in the area, good rapport with the villagers, and expertise on mangrove conservation. Restoration of mangroves through community involvement is a solid approach. Community mangrove nurseries are doing well. Local people are enthused about rehabilitating the mangroves as they see a direct benefit to them of doing so, primarily in protection against storm surges. Although there were many good aspects of the project, there were also shortcomings. The project missed an important opportunity related to community-based

ecotourism. The Forest Department (Wildlife Division) had previously made an important investment in training 30 Wildlife Rangers in ecotourism. They were sent to visit 5 areas of the country in the course of this training. None of these 30 individuals are currently involved in ecotourism. They lost interest because there were no rules regarding minimum pay (say for ½ day or full day) and no requirement that visiting tourists had to use a certified guide (the boatman could be considered a guide, for example, and that met the loose requirement). There is significant potential for seasonal income related to community-based ecotourism and from what the MTR experienced during our visit, there is keen interest in this and very capable local people who could be trained and equipped as guides. A project could develop a training curriculum and a certification system for local guides, could equip the guides that get certified, and could work together with the responsible entity to influence policy so that it benefits local people and biodiversity (e.g., modify the policies so that visitors are required to enter the park with a certified guide, and institute a standard pay basis for the guides so they have adequate incentive).

Project monitoring failed to note that exotic species had been planted in the area specifically designated for mangrove restoration. This area was fenced by the project and a guard was being paid to ensure people would not access the area for unsustainable extractive purposes. The area was actively being planted with mangrove species to promote mangrove restoration. Yet all this effort would be defeated by the introduction of the exotic Eucalyptus trees. Many of them had been planted and they were at least a year old indicating that either the CEE Project Officer responsible for monitoring the project had not been to this site for over a year or that he did not have the technical background to identify this as an exotic species. Indeed, although the CEE Project Officer is very capable and committed and has an extraordinary gift of communicating effectively with villagers, his background is in IT not in a field related to BD.

The MTRT also noted that the single greatest threat to mangroves in the area was prawneries. These were so extensive as to cover at least 90% of the village community area we visited. Until and unless that threat is addressed, attempts to restore tiny patches of mangroves even if successful will have no significant impact on conserving biodiversity. The MTRT became aware that the government planned to classify all the area within which the project currently operates as “ecosensitive”, thereby outlawing prawneries. The villages that we met with were aware of this from reading a notice in the newspaper but the partner NGO had not informed them of this and had no plans for how their project might be able to offer a strategic intervention at this critical juncture. SGP projects in other countries have supported the rehabilitation of former prawneries, restoring the mangroves in these areas through the creation of channels and plantings, while offering income generation through indigenous crab cultivation in the areas.

Provision of 2 sewing machines to 2 SHGs may have helped generate new sources of income but there seemed to be little relationship between this and the conservation of the mangroves.

Strengths: (maximum 5)

- The organization is well recognized by the local government, NGOs and research institutions for its efforts towards community driven mangrove resource management in

the region. It has good rapport and linkages with KVK, Forest Department, Horticulture Department and Agriculture Department.

- The organization has rich experience of working in mangrove ecosystem. It has evaluated the mangrove plantation activities of Forest Department in Bhitarkanika.
- The Project has assisted families' members of 8 project villages in bringing under social security schemes towards compensating the losses from natural calamities. The project had worked out and abled to link SGP strategically with Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project (ICZMP), Odisha.
- The Project has mobilized community in the region and has made the efforts to create awareness about the importance of the mangroves among various stakeholders such as villagers, PRI representatives, school children & teachers, tourists, government officials, media personnel and NGOs.

Opportunities for Improvement: (maximum 5)

- In one of the planting sites, the visiting MTR team observed that Eucalyptus plants are also planted along with the mangrove native species. The age of plantation could be of more than a year old. It was reported that the project monitoring and supervision team from project as well as CEE have visited several times in last one year to this site. However, no corrective measures were initiated to remove or replace this exotic species.
- Paddy cultivation is the main occupation of families inhabit in all 7 project villages. The project has distributed 30 quintals of salt tolerant paddy seeds such as *Luni- Barial* and *Luni- Sampad* to farmers in 7 project villages through respective VMCs. However, it was distributed to 4-5 farmers (out of 60-70 farmers) from each project village, which could not cater the food security needs of entire village.
- The project has provided the financial support for purchasing of sewing machine to SHGs, which are promoted by National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM). The NRLM has made provisions of various types of funds to SHGs which are promoted under NRLM fold, such as **Revolving Fund** (3-4 months after formation of SHG), **Vulnerability Reduction Fund** (6 months after formation of the SHG), **Community Investment Fund** (6-9 months after formation of the SHG), **1st Dose Bank loan to SHG** (6 months after formation of SHG or before submission of application for credit linkage), **Subsequent Bank loan to SHG** (within 2 months of repayment of previous loan or before submission of application for bank loan) **and Livelihoods / Layering Fund** (for Livelihood Interventions related to farm and non-farm sector).
- It was observed that there are multiple village level institutions such as SHGs, EDCs, BMCs and VMCs existing in the project villages. There are overlapping on role and responsibilities among EDCs, BMCs and VMCs.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- The project should use the services of technical experts for selection and plantation of species in mangrove ecosystem for its greater impact.
- The project should scale up the organic agriculture-cum-salt tolerant paddy cultivation

to all farmers in the area.

- The project should avoid in providing financial support to resource rich institutions. They should be promoted and capacitated to use their resources efficiently. However, resource crunch institutions should be provided financial support for meeting the expected project results.
- EDCs and BMCs have the legal back up of their formation and existence. The project should focus on capacitating and strengthening of these institutions for community stewardship in conservation, restoration and sustainable management of mangroves.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- Mangroves are very fragile ecosystem, which have global significance. Addressing the vast problems and issues of mangroves are very difficult through a normal SGP. The project could have been considered and developed as one of the *Strategic Projects* of SGP for its greater impact.
- The government has declared mangrove as eco sensitive area. There are number of farmers in the project villages who are converting or have already converted their agriculture land into prawn farming ponds. The project would have promoted the alternative livelihood support system for these farmers and stopped or brought back these converted lands into mangrove plantation area.
- The government had trained a total of 33 tourist guides in the project area. However, there are no certified guides exists in the Bhitarkanika National Park. Tourists are either guided by the Forest Officials or the local ferry boat sailors. Project could have promoted community managed eco-tourism potential in the area.



Meeting with VMC



Meeting with SHG members



Plantation site



Community managed Nursery-cum-Plantation site



Plantation site



Regeneration in Mangrove

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference (#33): Community driven mangrove resources management, conservation and restoration in selected villages around the Bhitarkanika mangroves areas.

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): Biodiversity Conservation

Location of Project (State): 8 core villages (Purusottampur, Gartagandia, Uttar Bagapatia, Junusnagar, Ajagarpatia (Matha), Gupti, Chakamohanpur, Charigheria villages) around Bhitarkanika under Rajnagar block of Kendrapara district, Odisha state, India

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words):

Strengthening and sustaining community stewardship in conservation, restoration, sustainable management of mangroves; and ensuring sustainable livelihood security for local communities through conservation of ecologically significant natural resources.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- KVK, Kendrapara (Training & Extension Services)
- Village Uttar Bagapatia (plantation site of 6.2 ha)
- Village Junusnagar (plantation site of 9.4 ha, meeting with SHG, Meeting with VMC)
- Village Gartaganda (Meeting with SHG, Paddy field)

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Bijaya Ku Kabi	M	Project Staff (Director)	APOWA Office
Mr Bimal Prasan Acharya	M	Government Employee (Divisional Forest Officer)	Mangrove Forest Division(Wildlife), Rajnagar
Mr Manidar Pattnaik	M	Government Employee (Deputy Forest Range officer)	Mangrove Forest Division(Wildlife), Gupti
Mr Rashmi Ranjan Dash	M	Block coordinator	Odisha Livelihood Mission(OLM), Rajnagar
15 Villagers of Junusnagar ()	12M/3F	Beneficiary	Village Junusnagar
12 Villagers of Garatganda	4M/8F	Beneficiary	Village Garatganda
10 SHG members (Phulabasi Baidya, Sumitra Mandal and others)	F	Beneficiary (SHG)	Village Garatganda
3 SHG members from Junusnagar (Namitarani Mana, Scephali Mana and others)	F	Beneficiary (SHG)	Village Junusnagar

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc.)

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

<p>What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community-led Mangrove Plantation & Restoration. ▪ Formation and Strengthening of Village Mangrove Councils (VMC) for Sustainable Management of Mangrove Resources and Restoration process. ▪ Capacity Building of Community members, Women SHGs, CSOs, PRIs and other Stakeholders on Sustainable Mangrove Resource Management ▪ Community Awareness and Education and best practices on mangrove conservation management ▪ Spreading Mangrove Conservation Education through School Students ▪ Alternative Livelihood promotion of Mangrove Forest Dependent Families ▪ Provisioning of alternative mechanisms for fuel wood consumption (like improved chulhas + solar energy systems)
<p>What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mangrove nursery established at Badkot with capacity of 50,000 mangrove saplings (<i>Rhizophora apiculate</i>, <i>Candelia candel</i>, <i>Bruguiera sexangula</i>, <i>Avicennia Officinalis/alba</i>, <i>Excoecazia agallocha</i>, <i>Bruguiera parvijlora</i>); 10,000 saplings at Junusnagar and 8000 saplings at Gupti village. ▪ Community participated in mangrove plantation conducted in 20.6 ha area [5 ha area in Chakamohanpur under SGP, 6.2 ha in Uttar Bagapatia and 9.4 ha in Junusnagar village in convergence with ICZMP, Odisha. ▪ Field survey completed by technical team to conduct 15 ha. of more mangrove plantation in nearby villages. ▪ 8 Village Mangrove Councils (VMC) were formed in Gupti, Gartagandia, Junusnagar, Chakamohanpur, Uttar Bagapatia, Mattha (Ajagarpatia), Purussottampur, Ghadiamal villages around Bhitarkanika mangrove forest. ▪ Enhanced the knowledge and capacity of 140 VMC members of 8 villages' on VMC need, roles and responsibility of the core committee members and sustainable management of mangrove resources & participate restoration process. ▪ 80 members from project stakeholders like delegates from Mangrove Forest Division (WL), Rajnagar, TRIPTI (Targeted Rural Initiatives for Poverty Termination & Infrastructure), concerned Panchayat, PRI members; CSOs, VMCs, women SHGs, fishermen etc. actively participated in two stakeholder meetings. ▪ To the community, awareness was created through organized meetings with community members. A total of 314 community members were participated in the project activities. ▪ 5000 copies of project brochure were produced and distributed among stakeholders, media personnel, NGOs etc. ▪ 4 wall paintings are displayed in appropriate places and remain visible for community members as well as visitors to Bhitarkanika national park. ▪ 50 school students from 10 schools participated in Mangrove Art competition on subject "Why mangroves are important to my community". ▪ International Children's Mangrove Art contest conducted in 10 schools and 5 best entries sent to Mangrove Action Project, USA for further evaluation. ▪ Total 568 school students and 60 teachers participated in mangrove education program.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 57 men & 64 women participated in the mushroom training programme conducted by technical institution Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Kendrapara at Gartagandia and Junusnagar respectively and have started mushroom farming. ▪ 34 farmers participated in training on promotion of organic agriculture and pest control through organic process by Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Kendrapara. ▪ 30 quintals of salt tolerant paddy seeds like Luni- Barial, Luni-Sampad were distributed to farmers in 7 project villages through respective VMCs. ▪ 85 families were provided with 1000 banana saplings for horticulture based alternative livelihood. ▪ 80 coconut saplings were distributed in 2 villages. ▪ 102 HH selected and linked with Mo-Badi program of TRIPTI (Targeted Rural Initiatives for Poverty Termination & Infrastructure), Govt. of Odisha in Gupti G.P. ▪ 3 Farmers Field School cum Front Line Demonstration established in 3 villages on organic agriculture cum salt tolerant paddy. ▪ 474 mangrove forest dependant families supported with vegetable seeds and veg. saplings for kitchen gardening. ▪ 2 sewing machine supports were provided to mangrove forest dependant families of Gartaganda, in which 25 women members are taking training in first phase. ▪ 36 mangrove dependent people participated in skill development training on alternative sustainable livelihood at Krushi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kendrapara. ▪ 183 farmers adopted organic farming in their field. ▪ 356 persons covered under social security schemes in 8 project villages till date
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	60%
How long has the project being going on (# months)	21 months
What percent of the project time period remains	30%
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	N
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Y
How did they find out about the SGP?	Website of UNDP/SGP and CEE

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Knowledge and awareness among community about importance of mangrove increased ▪ Alternative livelihoods from tailoring, kitchen gardening, banana plantation. ▪ Mangrove forest dependent families members were covered under social security schemes in 8 project villages
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mangrove nursery established at Badkot, Junusnagar and Gupti villages.

beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community participated in mangrove plantation conducted in 20.6 ha area in Chakamohanpur, Uttar Bagapatia and Junusnagar villages ▪ Distribution of salt tolerant paddy seeds like Luni- Barial, Luni- Sampad to farmers in 7 project villages through respective VMCs.
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farmers were provided with banana, coconut saplings for horticulture based alternative livelihood. They were also provided skill development training on alternative sustainable livelihood at Krushi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kendrapara. ▪ Mangrove forest dependent families supported with vegetable seeds and veg. saplings for kitchen gardening ▪ Mangrove forest dependent families members were covered under social security schemes in 8 project villages
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scaling up of organic agriculture-cum-salt tolerant paddy ▪ Proper infrastructure for sewing training centre and more number of sewing machine for the groups ▪ Strengthening of village level institutions- SHGs, EDCs, BMCs, VMCs, etc.
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	-

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	794
# men directly involved in the project	988
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	568 (from 10 schools)
# women in project decision-making positions	-
# men in project decision-making positions	-
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formation of village level institutions- SHGs, EDCs, BMCs, VMCs, etc. ▪ Promotion of sewing training centre ▪ Skill development training on alternative sustainable livelihood at Krushi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kendrapara.
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scaling up of alternative livelihoods from tailoring, kitchen gardening, banana plantation.

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	2 times
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	No
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	No

Table 6: *Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)*

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No

Table 7: *Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)*

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community participated in mangrove plantation in convergence with ICZMP, Odisha.
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ICZMP, Odisha ▪ Mangrove Forest Division(WI), Rajnagar ▪ TRIPTI, Govt of Odisha ▪ KVK, Kendrapara ▪ Odisha Biodiversity Board, Deptt. of Forest and Environment, Govt of Odisha ▪ Horticulture Dept., Govt. of Odisha ▪ Gupti and Iswarpur Panchayat Office ▪ State Bank of India, Gupti
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	Credit facilities, social security schemes, training on alternative livelihoods like tailoring, kitchen gardening, etc. and support with vegetable seeds and veg. saplings for kitchen gardening

Table 8: *Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)*

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	\$ 51,445 from APOWA, ICZMP, Horticulture Department, Mangrove Forest Division, etc.
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	Training and capacity building programs, vegetable seeds, horticulture species saplings, etc.
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	\$ 16,032 from TRIPTI, KVK, ICZMP, Horticulture Department, Mangrove Forest Division, etc.

#59: Bioved Research Institute of Agriculture & Technology

Name of Evaluators: Virginia Ravndal, Shankar Haldar, Nittie Srivastava and Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: November 17-18, 2015

Project Title: Demonstrate & create business models for Conservation of lac (Kerria lacca) through value addition products preparation technologies

GEF Thematic Area/s: BD, LD and SFM

SGP Funding: Rs. 29,85,000/- (30,501 USD)

Co-Financing: Cash-Rs. 312,0000/- (4668.10 USD) and In-Kind-Rs. 1000000/- (14961.86USD)

Project Objective:

- Rehabilitate the community based poorest families through the technical training and knowledge about working apparatus and lac based value added products preparation technology in 10 NGOs partners.
- Provide all scientific know how about working apparatus, utensils and different dyes, colour decorative items and agro based materials etc to 10 partners.
- Provide buy back arrangement of the prepared lac value added products through framing federation of SHG's in each state and through partners after agreeing contracts.

Brief Project Description: The NGO- BRAIT is an international research organization engaged in research activity on Lac cultivation and preparation technology of value added products. The GEF-SGP project aims to scale the technology interventions in a more strategic way and scale it to more than 5/6 states through 10 GEF-SGP partner institutions. The project also provides a buy back arrangement of the prepared lac products through SHG federation.

Overall Assessment: The MTRT was unable to visit the areas where the project operates due to the distance and time required to visit those areas. Nevertheless, some of the NGO beneficiaries from the areas happened to be at the BIOVED institute when the MTRT visited there. This is basically a replication project. The title is confusing. It suggests that lac is the object of conservation. Lac is an insect that is not endangered and does not require conservation effort. The residue of the lac insect is the product of interest. Although it is clear how local people benefit, it is not clear to the MTRT exactly how biodiversity of global significance is being conserved by promoting the collection and preparation of lac and lac products. Lac can be cultivated on 400 some species of shrubs and trees, many of these can be grown in cultivated lands, i.e., a healthy forest is not required. So, what is the biodiversity of global significance that is to be conserved?

Another concern of the MTR was that lac is a well known product in India and around the world. There is a strong internal and export market for it. It is already totally economically

viable and has been widely commercialized. According to information received by the MTR, BIOVED made a 50% profit last year and has started up new processing plants in other States of India. So why should the SGP use its scarce funds to support a lac project. Replication does not mean that the SGP should replicate with its own funds. If this were the case, replication would be easy and always assured. Although some effort was made to reach out to government to get government to support replication in other areas, this effort was not as strong as it could have been. The MTRT made a point of visiting with the District Agricultural Office to find out if the project had approached that office with ideas for replication. The Officer with whom we met was new, but it was clear to the MTRT that BIOVED was not very interested in leveraging government support for replication.

Finally, although people are benefiting from the sale of lac they produce to BIOVED, they could be benefitting more if they sold primarily scraped lac instead of lac on sticks. The machine to scrape the lac is simple and not expensive, so perhaps a micro-loan arrangement so that more villages could afford this would be helpful. Value addition through creation of various handicrafts is there but many of the people undergoing the training said they could not achieve a level of expertise in making the handicrafts so that the limited training that was given, although much appreciated, was not very helpful in generating increased income.

Strengths:

- Developed scientific methods to improve lac production and effectively disseminated the technology to other NGO partners through training and exposure visits
- Effective strategy developed to counter production, processing and marketing constraints
- Buy back arrangement of raw lac and value added products

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Most beneficiaries said that they forget techniques taught to them about the cultivation and harvesting of lac by the time they actually impart it
- Unavailability of sex-disaggregated data for technical training of lac cultivation and harvest that could have helped in ensuring equal participation of women and men at all the stages in the programme. Women were found restricted to only post-harvesting work i.e hand scraping the lac and making value added products.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Training program should be conducted around the season of inoculation and cultivation of lac. Master trainers should visit the villages for guidance in the season and the brochures (that the NGO has already developed) on the methods of lac cultivation and harvesting should be made more user friendly so that it can bring benefit to the uneducated farmers too.
- Keeping a systematic record of the trainees, segregated by sex and the activity for which they were trained, will help in involving more women to be trained for lac cultivation and harvesting skills and not restricting them to only post harvesting work.



Lac Seeds



Processing Unit



The value added products made from Lac



Training of villagers in progress

Table 1: Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project (Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)	Contact info where available
Dr S.D Mishra	M	Chairman of the NGO	
Dr. B.K Dwivedi	M	Director	
Namrata Jaiswal	F	Research Assistant	
Shubham Srivastava	F	Research Assistant	
Anjali Mishra	F	Research Assistant	
Reema	F	Supervisor	
Sangam	M	Field Officer	
Ved Prakash	M	Field Officer	
SHGs members - 50	F/M	20 Beneficiaries	

Table 2: Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	How long has the project being going on (# months)	What percent of the project time period remains	Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	How did they find out about the SGP?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration and awakening programmes on hi-tech nursery,scientific methods of lac cultivation and value addition of bio-resource/agriculture material with lac • Training to 10 NGO partners and other beneficiaries from target area • Brood lac • Pest management Training • Training material(button lac,wood coal,decorative items,colour,base material and utensils) • One training centre for 10 villages of different NGO partner • Facilitating Processing of Lac • Facilitating marketing for value added prepared items • Plantation of lac host plants in barren land of beneficiaries • Organizing stalls in Haat,Mela etc. • Facilitating bank linkages for beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two trainings with NGO partners held • 2 NGOs provided with working apparatus,utensils,dyes,agro based material etc. • Trained NGO sold 7 q. scaped Lac • Prepared Lac buttons to provide it to beneficiaries for making value added products • Brochures and short film made on schematic system for production and processing of lac • Many awareness generating activities organized with the help of local Govt. bodies • Participated in Exhibition organized in capital city for sale of the product 	40%	11months	50%	This is the 2nd SGP project	Through internet

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The beneficiaries have gained scientific knowledge about Lac cultivation and harvesting Trained to make value added artifacts for extra income The buy back policy gave assurance and confidence to the beneficiaries to do more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before the projects the villagers used to cut the entire branch of the tree to extract lacs. Now with the technical knowledge they understand the judicious use of lac tree. 800 Plants of Palas and 200 of Ber trees have been conserved by adoption of lac culture technology, thereby stopping the emission of 1000 tons of co2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased income due to technical knowledge gained by the programme Buy back arrangement policy of the project has motivated them to increase the number of lac trees and now they want to plant more lac trees for cultivation Women now are also involved in making value added products from lac and generating extra income 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More exposure visits in the field should be held More training should be given to master the art of making the artifacts The NGO should provide knowledge to counter the disease that infest and reduce the productivity of lac 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More women should be involved in technical training for Lac cultivation and not restricted to training in only making value added products More number of training sessions on lac cultivation and making handicrafts should be held Pest-management training should be made more user friendly. Better monitoring from the NGO and frequent visits to monitor the infested trees.

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	# men directly involved in the project	# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	# women in project decision-making positions	# men in project decision-making positions	According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more
102 SHGs	NA	NA	NA	NA	The women involved looked happy that they were trained for enhancing their capacity building ability in lac value added products and the project gave them equal opportunity to be involved in the activities of the programme.	They wanted better price for the value added products that they were making.

Table 5: **M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)**

How many times has the PMU visited this project	If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important
- 2 times	1. ICAR- Once 2. NABARD- 2 times 3. CP Mgr-once	Not much modifications done.

Table 6: **Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?
Yes, all funds disbursed in time	Nil, no issues emerged during the project.	No problems

Table 7: **Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)**

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects	What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MGIRI- Awareness programme • RIF Project of NABARD- Training programme • NYKS- Demonstraion and training programme • BKPGM- Training workshop on youth leadership • UVS- Entrepreneurship development programme • -JICA- Bal Van Karykram of awareness generation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dept. of Animal Husbandry- Interaction sessions through Kisan Adalat • Forest Department- awareness generation on importance of plantation • ICAR- Talk on scientific developments in research • -NABRD- Sponsored Exhibition organized in State Capital • UPCAR- Brain storming session on improving impact of agriculture • Jagat Taran Degree College- Demonstration and workshop on lac • Veer Bahdur Singh Purvanchal University- Exposure Visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The beneficiaries through the association learnt more about the Lac cultivation that is taking place in other part of the country. • Through the exposure visits of other organization they were able to sell their product • In the exhibition held in State Capital many products were sold.

Table 8: **Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project
Sale of produced Lac - Rs 1,82,,000/-	Given back to beneficiaries	Pruning of Lac host plant@Rs. 100/- (1000 plants) per season= Rs.2,00,000
Remuneration of beneficiaries for implementation of the project@150/day/person(150x10days x 50 beneficiaries)=Rs.75,000/-		Production increased due to project training and scaling up as local 8,000 persons x @100=Rs.800,000

#65: Paramparagat Vanaushadi Prachikchit Vaidhya Sangh

Name of Evaluators: Virginia Ravndal, Nittie Srivastava and Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: November 21-23, 2015

Project Title (#65): Conservation of threatened medicinal plants through in-situ practices, micro enterprise development for health & livelihood security in three Districts of Chhattisgarh

GEF Thematic Area/s: Biodiversity and Climate Change

SGP Funding: US \$41438.74 (1US\$=INR 53.38)

Co-Financing: \$67477 (\$51445 in cash and 16032 in kind)

Project Objective: The project envisage to promote planting of threatened medicinal plants species in the community forest land & kitchen gardens, sustainable harvesting practices and to promote micro-enterprise establish outlets, linking them to government schemes and institutionalizing them.

Brief Project Description: One of the project sites of this project is near Achanakmar Biosphere Reserve in Chhattisgarh, India. The sanctuary houses a number of endangered animal species, including leopards, Bengal tigers, and wild bison. The forest type is Tropical Moist Deciduous and Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest. The reserve is quite rich in plant diversity, having a combination of different climatic and edaphic conditions at various altitudes.

The region provides shelter to various *thallophyte*, *bryophyte*, *pteridophyte*, *gymnosperm*, and *angiosperm* species. Almost 1500 plant species representing over 151 plant families can be found in the reserve. Apart from these, more than 105 species of medicinal plants are found in the Achanakmar Biosphere Reserve, of which 25 species are considered rare. The project has identified 12 threatened medicinal plants species viz. *Rauvolfia serpentine*, *Acorus calamus*, *Andrographis paniculata*, *Celastrus paniculatus*, *Chlorophytum tuberosum*, *Curcuma caesia*, *Dioscorea bulbifera*, *Embelia tsjeriamcottam*, *Gymnema sylvestre*, *Plumbago zeylanica*, *Rubia cardifolia* and *Asparagus racemosus* selected for eco-restoration in the project area.

The project area is covering 60 villages in three districts- Bilaspur; Korba and Mungeli of Chhattisgarh State. The project envisages about 10,000 households would be benefited at large (about 4800 households would be benefited from the core villages). Medicinal nursery garden would be developed in approximately 80 acres of land including the 50 acres land allocated by SMPB (State Medicinal Plant Board) for herbal farming in Bilaspur.

Overall Assessment: This project seems to be successfully enhancing the livelihoods of local people while at the same time generating global environmental benefits. The partner NGO is very capable and committed. The area in which the project operates is very appropriate – in the buffer zone of a Tiger Reserve. The SGP project is in large part successful because it strategically exists where another large-scale medicinal plants project existed which formed

an important foundation for the SGP project. There is much enthusiasm for the project. The project has made very good linkages with the State Medicinal Plants Board which even gives the partner NGO space for a lovely and very educational medicinal plants nursery. Community-level monitoring of the plant biodiversity to be conserved is good. A core conservation area for the wild medicinal plants has been established and it was clear to the MTRT that villagers know where this is and respect it. Nurseries established by the project are doing well and serving their purpose. A store front for selling the medicinal plant products at the entrance to the protected area is run by local people and is doing well and the partner NGO even has an outlet at the airport. Medicinal plant products such as herbal teas are being sold to the local hospitals. The UNDP CO has offered solid backstopping for this project as the Programme Analyst has a great deal of experience in this subject matter. There is every reason to believe this project will bring success in both benefiting local people and in conserving biodiversity.

There was one shortcoming noted by the MTR. Although the project document specifies that there will be a linkage with a certain university, there is really linkage with a different university. When the MTRT met with the university mentioned in the project document, they were not even aware that the project had been approved. According to the project, that university was supposed to elaborate an audio/visual training module for youth on medicinal plants. Even if they are eventually to do so (there is still time in this relatively young project) the budget for this is insufficient and the objective of this activity is unclear.

Strengths: (maximum 5)

- The project has very strong NGO commitment, good foothold at the community level and lead by technically qualified professional.
- The project has strong linkage with local government, NGOs, academic institutions and research & extension service providers in the state.
- The project has put forward focused interventions. It has identified 12 threatened medicinal plants species viz. *Rauwolfia serpentine*, *Acorus calamus*, *Andrographis paniculata*, *Celastrus paniculatus*, *Chlorophytum tuberosum*, *Curcuma caesia*, *Dioscorea bulbifera*, *Embelia tsjeriamcottam*, *Gymnema sylvestre*, *Plumbago zeylanica*, *Rubia cardifolia* and *Asparagus racemosus* selected for eco-restoration in the project area.
- In collaboration with the Chhattisgarh State Medicinal Plant Board, the project has come out with a booklet having list of 880 traditional healers of Chhattisgarh with their primary occupation and contact details. They have formed their association i.e. Traditional Healers Association (THA).

Opportunities for Improvement: (maximum 5)

- Most of the target villages' fuelwood requirements are fully dependent on forests. Project has a target of constructing 600 *smokeless chullas* (Cook Stoves) in the tribal houses. However, this activity is yet to be initiated.
- The project aims at planting and conservation of 100,000 (one hundred thousand) saplings of 12 identified threatened medicinal plants species in the family/ village

gardens through 100 women SHGs in 60 villages. However, this activity is yet to be initiated.

- Out of identified and listed 880 traditional healers in Chhattisgarh, about 30-35 per cent of them are women.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Project should initiate as earliest as possible the promotion of bio gas and smokeless chullas to reduce the pressure on forests.
- The project initiate as earliest as possible the promotion and strengthening of SHGs. Project should train them in growing and using of 12 identified threatened medicinal plants species for the primary healthcare.
- Project should make effort for identification and inclusion of more women traditional healers in to THA.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- The Memorandum of Agreement of this project is signed up to 15th May 2018. However, the OP5 of the GEF SGP India's end date is 30th June 2016 (As per signed Project Document). The project has very limited time left to carry forward its planned activities.



Meeting with the community



Meeting with the members of THA



Botanical Herbal Garden at CG MPB, Raipur



Visit of MPCA

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #: Conservation of threatened medicinal plants through in-situ practices, micro enterprise development for health & livelihood security in three Districts of Chhattisgarh (#65)

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): Biodiversity and Climate Change

Location of Project (State): 60 villages in three districts- Bilaspur, Korba and Mungeli in Chhattisgarh.

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Conserving 12 threatened plants by promoting kitchen garden with 10000 families for health security and livelihood security.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- Project Staff, Paramparagat
- Pradeep Pant , PCCF, Chhattisgarh
- A.K. Dwivedi, CEO, State Medicinal Plant Board, Chhattisgarh
- A.K. Geda , Professor, Guru Ghasidas Central University, Bilaspur
- Nursery, Acchanakmar Tiger Reserve
- MPCA, Acchanakmar Tiger Reserve
- Villagers of Tatidhar (Baiga Tribal village)
- 108 members of Traditional Healers' Association at Acchanakmar Tiger Reserve

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Pradeep Pant	M	PCCF (Government Official)	PCCF Office, Forest Department, Raipur (Chhattisgarh)
A.K. Dwivedi	M	CEO (Government Official)	State Medicinal Plant Board, Raipur (Chhattisgarh)
A.K. Geda	M	Professor	Guru Ghasidas Central University, Bilaspur
Nirmal Kumar Awasthi	M	Project Staff (Secretary)	Paramparagat Vanaushadi Prachikchit Vidhya Sangh [THA], Kargil Chouk, Kasturba Nagar, Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)
12 villagers from Tatidhar Village	7F/5M	Project Beneficiaries	Village Tatidhar
108 members of Traditional Healers' Association	85M / 23F	Project Beneficiaries	Acchanakmar Tiger Reserve

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identification of 60 villages, formation of 60 SHGs and institutional building ▪ Regular meetings of the 60 CBOs medicinal plants groups / SHGs and bank account opening ▪ Selection of 2/3 Jankars / Youth per CBO/SHG and trained them for selection, planting, harvesting and processing of plant base products ▪ Seed collection, nursery raising, planting 11 critically endangered species and 1 threatened species in 600 plots in 60 villages ▪ Raw material procurement for Micro Enterprise and processing at centre including honey and mahua ▪ Branding, lackaging, labeling and marketing of products ▪ Exposure visits for Jankars / Youth per CBO/SHG selected and trained in for selection, planting, harvesting and processing of plant base products ▪ Training of 100 youth for sustainable traditional practices ▪ Introduction of 10 cook stoves in every SHG (total 600 cook stoves) ▪ Establishment of processing centre for the procured products, preparatory work for factory, training, machinery set up, etc....legal compliances ▪ Management of the Centre for processing of medicines
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	New project. The 1 st installment was released in July 2015.
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	25%
How long has the project being going on (# months)	16 months (16 th July 2014 to 15 th May 2018)
What percent of the project time period remains	67%
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	Delay in releasing of 1 st installment
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Y
How did they find out about the SGP?	Website of UNDP/SGP

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additional income for families from medicinal plants and other NTFPs collection and selling ▪ Recognition of Traditional Healers and additional sources of income for their traditional healing services
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protection and sustainable harvesting of plants having medicinal values ▪ Plantation, protection and conservation of forest area
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training and exposures visits ▪ Value addition centres of medicinal plants and selling counters ▪ Formation of Traditional Healers' Association
According to the beneficiaries, what are the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Issuing the Identity Card for trained traditional healers. It will

3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<p>be the pass for collecting / harvesting medicinal plants from forest area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage women traditional healers for coming forward ▪ Promotion of bio gas, smokeless chullas, etc. to reduce pressure on forest
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	-

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	1000
# men directly involved in the project	740
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	100
# women in project decision-making positions	-
# men in project decision-making positions	-
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion and strengthening of SHGs ▪ Identification and inclusion of women traditional healers in to THA ▪ Raising medicinal plants in backyard / home garden
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion of smokeless chullas ▪ Income generation activities of SHGs

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	1 time
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	No
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	None

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	The fund was released in July 2015. However, the project was signed on 16 th June 2014.
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	-
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	Scaling up of UNDP-GEF supported project
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	C.G. State Medicinal Plant Board, Raipur; Guru Ghasidas Central University, Bilaspur; Forest Department; etc.
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical and financial support from C.G. State Medicinal Plant Board, Raipur ▪ Technical and financial support from Forest Department

Table 8: ***Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)***

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	\$51445 in cash from State Medicinal Plant Board; Central University Guru Ghasidas Vidhalaya, Bilaspur; CCD, etc.
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	Establishment of Botanical Garden, awareness programs in schools and institutions, Bio-cultural and Protocol and PBR, Home Herbal gardens, etc.
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	\$16032 in kind of labour work, services of THA, SHGs, NGO, etc.

#2: Technology Informatics Design Endeavour (TIDE)

Name of Evaluators: Shankar Haldar

Date of Field Visit: October 26-27, 2015

Project Title: Low Carbon Technology Adoption and Dissemination through Community

GEF Thematic Area/s: Climate Change Mitigation

SGP Funding: Rs. 19,00,000

Co-Financing: Rs. 36,62,000 (Segregation by in cash and in kind is not available)

Project Objective: To upgrade the technical and enterprise skills of communities in adopting and in offering low carbon / renewable energy technologies and also to create dissemination mechanism to spread the reach of low carbon technologies till the last mile.

Brief Project Description: The project is to initiate, establish and integrate efforts at the community level into the climate change mitigation process through adoption of low carbon products and upgrading technical and enterprise skills of communities. Set up a retail centre “SGP-TIDE Energy Store” to facilitate communities to become a bridge between low carbon technology providers and rural end users like small businesses, individuals, etc.

Overall Assessment: The project is overall satisfactorily implemented.

Strengths:

- Direct linkage established between women micro entrepreneurship and energy efficient appliance suppliers to get the appliance at distributor price and avail credit.
- TIDE played the role of catalyst hence established direct linkage among the women micro entrepreneurship and energy efficient appliance suppliers, now after the project is completed, the link still works and the sustainability of the business model is intact and still working.
- Access to Finance – Women micro entrepreneurship accessed finance from banks to increase and widen their business activity.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Implementing projects to new location or villages where NGOs lack strong presence and foot hold at grass root level, it's more difficult to implement with the assistance / partnership with local NGO as happened in Thichy and Coimbatore.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- While screening the proposals, it should be seen that the NGO have strong presence and foothold in the areas where the project is to be implemented. In case there is a

partnership is present then also assessment of the NGO partnership should also be assessed.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- Capturing CSR market for the replication of “TIDE Sarala Stoves” at individual household level would be great opportunity.



Solar Products on display



MTR interaction with Women SHGs



Sarala cookstove installed



TIDE Women Technology Park at Aralaguppe

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #: “Low Carbon Technology Adoption and Dissemination through Community” (#2) {Project PIA: Technology Informatics Design Endeavour (TIDE)}

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): CC

Location of Project (State): Karnataka and Tamil Nadu

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Generate demand for low carbon technologies at grass root level through awareness campaigns and meet the demand by establishing sustainable supply chain mechanism.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- Project presentation and discussion at TIDE office
- Field visit and meeting / interview with women members of SHGs at Aralaguppe, Tumkur district
- Visited 6 households to see the installation of low carbon technology products
- Met one service provider “One Child One Light” supplying solar products
- Visited TIDE Women Technology Park at Aralaguppe
- Met professionals of Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Energy & Development

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Svati Bhogle	F	Secretary, TIDE	+91-08-23315656; svati.bhogle@gmail.com
K Sumathy	F	Executive Director, TIDE	+91-08-23315656; ksumathykrishnan@gmail.com
Pramila Perdoor	F	Senior Project Manager, TIDE, SGP coordinator	+91-9980752064; pramilaperdoor@yahoo.com
Jayaraman S	M	Accounts Manager, TIDE	
Dr. Shobha Ananad Reddy	F	Senior Faculty, MGIRED, technical support to SGP	+91-9886145932; mgired@hotmail.com
Subramaniam Parmesh	M	Manager, OCOL, SGP service provider	+91-9886769722; parmesh@onechildonelight.org
Meeting with SHGs/women & men entrepreneurs/school teachers		Around 20 women and 6 men	

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

<p>What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Markets • SGP-TIDE Energy Store • Awareness / Knowledge sharing • Skill Development • Monitoring and Evaluation activities • Sales of LCTs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Domestic stoves – 200 – Commercial stoves – 300 – Solar power based products – 100 – Energy efficient lighting solutions – 200 – Other products - 50 • Reduction of CO₂ emission – 21,800 tons of CO₂ during lifetime of the equipments installed
<p>What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Markets 75 women housewives changed to Micro Entrepreneurship Karnataka – 2 districts, 5 taluks and 250 villages; Tamil Nadu – 2 towns and 10 villages • Identified LCT products Solar products – Solar mini lights, solar emergency lamps, solar study lamp, solar lanterns, CFL/LED bulbs, solar home lighting, solar fans, solar mobile charger; Low carbon cooking solutions – Pyro commercial stoves, Pyro multipurpose cooking stoves, Pyro mini house hold stoves, Pyro tava stoves, Sarai cooker, Smokeless Sarala stove) Agreement with 11 service providers to supply LCT products Sustaintech Pvt Ltd. (Pyro Stoves) Samuchit (Sarai Solar Cookers) Grameen Indian Innovations Pvt. Ltd. (Solar mobile chargers) One Child One Light (Solar lanterns, mobile chargers) Flexitron (Solar products) Concept 4E (Multiple LED Lantern) VK Nardep (Shakthi surabhi biogas) Kripa Lights (Solar products) Electromag (Solar home lighting system) Rajalaxmi Traders (CFL & LED bulbs) ORB Energy (Solar home lighting) • SGP-TIDE Energy Store (Trichy center; Coimbatore centre with NGO NERD; TIDE WTP at Aralaguppe) • Awareness / Knowledge sharing (100 nos.; 7050 participants) • Skill Development (25 nos.; 600 participants) • Monitoring and Evaluation activities • Sales of LCTs (total 2555 nos.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Domestic stoves – 230 (Sarala cook stoves) – Commercial stoves – 300 (Pyro stoves) – Solar power based products – 1000 (solar lamps, study lamp, lanterns, home lighting system, LED bulbs) – CFL – 1000 – Samuchith Sarai cooker - 25 • Reduction of CO₂ emission – 22,892 tons of CO₂ (5% more than committed) during lifetime of the equipments installed
<p>Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget</p>	<p>100% (approx. Rs. 19.00 lakhs)</p>
<p>How long has the project being going on (# months)</p>	<p>27 months</p>

What percent of the project time period remains	Nil
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	Yes, 3 months To complete the sale target and some left out activities
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	No Project title: GHG Emission Reduction through Energy Efficient Technologies by Textile Processing Units in Tamil Nadu” Supported by: UNIOPS Period: 2006-08
How did they find out about the SGP?	NGO network

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass root participation in low carbon product supply chain has been successfully demonstrated • 75 women as micro entrepreneurship • LCT product suppliers agreement to supply products to women micro entrepreneurship on credit basis • Collectively income generation enhanced by Rs. 1,55,000 • Awareness generation of low carbon lifestyle to villagers • Women have invested Rs. 72,000 to stock the products • Women in decision making process at house and society
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	Savings in firewood and kerosene, leading to reduction and avoidance of CO ₂ emissions. Reduction of CO ₂ emission – 22,892 tons of CO ₂ (5% more than committed) during lifetime of the equipments installed
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of micro entrepreneurship • Outlook of women has enhanced in house and society • Some micro entrepreneurship had moved to business ideas increasing their income many folds and providing employment opportunities to others • Women are now confident to do business
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impart training to carry out minor repair in solar products to avoid sending the products back to the LCT suppliers • Identify additional products to enhance the sales
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	The impact by the project was seen in the field and assessed via interviews and discussions with various direct and indirect stakeholders, it was perceived that the same impact is observed.

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	75 (25 dealing with solar products, domestic and commercial stoves; 50 dealing with solar products)
# men directly involved in the project	10 (3 in Karnataka dealing with home lighting system; 7 in Tamil Nadu dealing with Pyro stoves)
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	None
# women in project decision-making positions	75
# men in project decision-making positions	10
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any	The women gained enterprise skills, communication skills, marketing skills, confidence and income generation through sales of LCT

way? If so, how specifically?	products. This has enhanced the women status both at house and in society. Now they are consulted in taken decisions at home and also called in various society meetings to express their views in resolving society issues.
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	Enhance working capital / loan to increase their business furthermore and diversify to other products

Table 5: **M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)**

How many times has the PMU visited this project	Yes, PMU visited 6 times
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	<p>NGOs/SHGs Partners in Karnataka Bhoomi, Ramnagaram SKDRDP, Devanahalli and Nelmanagal Vidyaranya, Ramanagarm Mamatha Makkala Mandira (R), Channpatanam SHGs of villages (Gubbi, Truvekere, Tiptur, Channapatanam & Doodabhallapura, Vadegere)</p> <p>NGOs/SHGs Partners in Tamil Nadu NERD Society, Coimbatore VERDS, Manapparai ASA Grama Vidiyal, Trichy SEVAI, Trichy</p> <p>Government / Institutions: Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Energy & Development World Agro Forestry Hutti Gold MINE Limited, Chithradurga SGP partners TIDE for Sarala cook stoves Program (KEEP, Kaigal; NST, Belthangady; We care Society, Raichur)</p>
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarala smokeless cook stove was added to the LCT product list • Vehicle campaigns with product display • Project coverage areas was enhanced to Bangalore (Tumkur district) and Mysore (Ramnagar district)

Table 6: **Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No

Table 7: **Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)**

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	Created partnership with local 7 NGOs, SHGs, Gram panchyaths, 11 LCT product suppliers, training institutes – MGIRE, KVIC for bank linkages, linking with PMEG scheme, 2 corporate private. This partnership created awareness, dissemination, identification of SHGs, sales of LCT products, training and skill upgradation
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What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	The partnership had helped to connect with local NGOs/CBOs, universities, and government to establish the linkages between various stakeholders under the project. The linkages had helped to secure better technical knowledge, identify LCT products, and co-financing to enhance better implementation of the project.
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linking LCT product suppliers with 75 women micro entrepreneurship with 1 months credit • Worked with Gram panchyaths to spread information about LCT products and its benefits • Partnership with MGIRED for training on renewable energy and energy conservation • Tapping corporate sector for cook stove dissemination – Hutti Gold Mine & World Agro Forestry

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	Rs. 13,36,010 (Rs. 2,02,000 as direct cash from Hutti Gold Mines & World Agro Forestry) (Rs. 11,34,010 as supply of LCT products & sales of products by women micro entrepreneurship)
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of 65 women in construction of smokeless cook stoves • LCT supply of Pyro MP and Tava stoves • LCT supply of sarai cookers charcoal • Sales of LCT products by women micro entrepreneurship • Investment by women micro entrepreneurship
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	Space provided by NERD society for SGP – TIDE dissemination centre

#33: Action for Protection of Wild Animals (APOWA)

Name of Evaluators: Virginia Ravndal and Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: November 24-26, 2015

Project Title (#33): Community driven mangrove resources management, conservation and restoration in selected villages around the Bhitarkanika mangroves areas

GEF Thematic Area/s: Biodiversity Conservation

SGP Funding: US \$29973.77 (1 US\$=INR 53.38)

Co-Financing: (if available disaggregated by in cash and in kind)- \$67477 (\$16032 in cash and \$51445 in kind)

Project Objective: Strengthening and sustaining community stewardship in conservation, restoration, sustainable management of mangroves; and ensuring sustainable livelihood security for local communities through conservation of ecologically significant natural resources.

Brief Project Description:

The Bhitarkanika Mangroves cover an area of 650 km² in the river delta of the Brahmani and Baitarani rivers and are widely considered to be India's second largest mangrove, in terms of area. The mangroves harbor one of India's largest populations of saltwater crocodiles, and Gahirmatha Beach, which separates the mangroves from the Bay of Bengal, is the world's most important nesting beach for olive ridley sea turtles. The Buffer Zone of Bhitarkanika Protected Area are under very fragile condition due to high deforestation and alteration of mangrove forest patches. This coastal ecosystem is now among the most threatened surroundings due to human pressure and alternation of mangrove patches.

In OP5, the project is working for promotion of community driven mangrove resources management, conservation and restoration in selected 8 villages viz. Purusottampur, Gartagandia, Uttar Bagapatia, Junusnagar, Ajagarpatia, Gupti, Chakamohanpur and Charigheria around the Bhitarkanika mangroves areas.

Overall Assessment: The project is rated as Moderately Satisfactory for its overall implementation (using 6 point Progress Towards Results Rating Scale i.e. Highly Satisfactory, Satisfactory, Moderately Satisfactory, Moderately Unsatisfactory, Unsatisfactory, Highly Unsatisfactory).

Strengths: (maximum 5)

- The organization is well recognized by the local government, NGOs and research institutions for its efforts towards community driven mangrove resource management in the region. It has good rapport and linkages with KVK, Forest Department, Horticulture Department and Agriculture Department.
- The organization has rich experience of working in mangrove ecosystem. It has evaluated the mangrove plantation activities of Forest Department in Bhitarkanika.

- The Project has assisted families' members of 8 project villages in bringing under social security schemes towards compensating the losses from natural calamities. The project had worked out and abled to link SGP strategically with Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project (ICZMP), Odisha.
- The Project has mobilized community in the region and has made the efforts to create awareness about the importance of the mangroves among various stakeholders such as villagers, PRI representatives, school children & teachers, tourists, government officials, media personnel and NGOs.

Opportunities for Improvement: (maximum 5)

- In one of the planting sites, the visiting MTR team observed that Eucalyptus plants are also planted along with the mangrove native species. The age of plantation could be of more than a year old. It was reported that the project monitoring and supervision team from project as well as CEE have visited several times in last one year to this site. However, no corrective measures were initiated to remove or replace this exotic species.
- Paddy cultivation is the main occupation of families inhabit in all 7 project villages. The project has distributed 30 quintals of salt tolerant paddy seeds such as *Luni- Barial* and *Luni- Sampad* to farmers in 7 project villages through respective VMCs. However, it was distributed to 4-5 farmers (out of 60-70 farmers) from each project village, which could not cater the food security needs of entire village.
- The project has provided the financial support for purchasing of sewing machine to SHGs, which are promoted by National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM). The NRLM has made provisions of various types of funds to SHGs which are promoted under NRLM fold, such as **Revolving Fund** (3-4 months after formation of SHG), **Vulnerability Reduction Fund** (6 months after formation of the SHG), **Community Investment Fund** (6-9 months after formation of the SHG), **1st Dose Bank loan to SHG** (6 months after formation of SHG or before submission of application for credit linkage), **Subsequent Bank loan to SHG** (within 2 months of repayment of previous loan or before submission of application for bank loan) **and Livelihoods / Layering Fund** (for Livelihood Interventions related to farm and non-farm sector).
- It was observed that there are multiple village level institutions such as SHGs, EDCs, BMCs and VMCs existing in the project villages. There are overlapping on role and responsibilities among EDCs, BMCs and VMCs.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- The project should use the services of technical experts for selection and plantation of species in mangrove ecosystem for its greater impact.
- The project should scale up the organic agriculture-cum-salt tolerant paddy cultivation to all farmers in the area.
- The project should avoid in providing financial support to resource rich institutions. They should be promoted and capacitated to use their resources efficiently. However, resource crunch institutions should be provided financial support for meeting the expected project results.
- EDCs and BMCs have the legal back up of their formation and existence. The project should focus on capacitating and strengthening of these institutions for community

stewardship in conservation, restoration and sustainable management of mangroves.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- Mangroves are very fragile ecosystem, which have global significance. Addressing the vast problems and issues of mangroves are very difficult through a normal SGP. The project could have been considered and developed as one of the *Strategic Projects* of SGP for its greater impact.
- The government has declared mangrove as eco sensitive area. There are number of farmers in the project villages who are converting or have already converted their agriculture land into prawn farming ponds. The project would have promoted the alternative livelihood support system for these farmers and stopped or brought back these converted lands into mangrove plantation area.
- The government had trained a total of 33 tourist guides in the project area. However, there are no certified guides exists in the Bhitarkanika National Park. Tourists are either guided by the Forest Officials or the local ferry boat sailors. Project could have promoted community managed eco-tourism potential in the area.



Meeting with VMC



Meeting with SHG members



Plantation site



Community managed Nursery-cum-Plantation site



Plantation site



Regeneration in Mangrove

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference (#33): Community driven mangrove resources management, conservation and restoration in selected villages around the Bhitarkanika mangroves areas.

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): Biodiversity Conservation

Location of Project (State): 8 core villages (Purusottampur, Gartagandia, Uttar Bagapatia, Junusnagar, Ajagarpatia (Matha), Gupti, Chakamohanpur, Charigheria villages) around Bhitarkanika under Rajnagar block of Kendrapara district, Odisha state, India

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words):

Strengthening and sustaining community stewardship in conservation, restoration, sustainable management of mangroves; and ensuring sustainable livelihood security for local communities through conservation of ecologically significant natural resources.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- KVK, Kendrapara (Training & Extension Services)
- Village Uttar Bagapatia (plantation site of 6.2 ha)
- Village Junusnagar (plantation site of 9.4 ha, meeting with SHG, Meeting with VMC)
- Village Gartaganda (Meeting with SHG, Paddy field)

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Bijaya Ku Kabi	M	Project Staff (Director)	APOWA Office
Mr Bimal Prasan Acharya	M	Government Employee (Divisional Forest Officer)	Mangrove Forest Division(Wildlife), Rajnagar
Mr Manidar Pattnaik	M	Government Employee (Deputy Forest Range officer)	Mangrove Forest Division(Wildlife), Gupti
Mr Rashmi Ranjan Dash	M	Block coordinator	Odisha Livelihood Mission(OLM), Rajnagar
15 Villagers of Junusnagar ()	12M/3F	Beneficiary	Village Junusnagar
12 Villagers of Garatganda	4M/8F	Beneficiary	Village Garatganda
10 SHG members (Phulabasi Baidya, Sumitra Mandal and others)	F	Beneficiary (SHG)	Village Garatganda
3 SHG members from Junusnagar (Namitarani Mana, Sephali Mana and others)	F	Beneficiary (SHG)	Village Junusnagar

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc.)

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

<p>What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community-led Mangrove Plantation & Restoration. ▪ Formation and Strengthening of Village Mangrove Councils (VMC) for Sustainable Management of Mangrove Resources and Restoration process. ▪ Capacity Building of Community members, Women SHGs, CSOs, PRIs and other Stakeholders on Sustainable Mangrove Resource Management ▪ Community Awareness and Education and best practices on mangrove conservation management ▪ Spreading Mangrove Conservation Education through School Students ▪ Alternative Livelihood promotion of Mangrove Forest Dependent Families ▪ Provisioning of alternative mechanisms for fuel wood consumption (like improved chulhas + solar energy systems)
<p>What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mangrove nursery established at Badkot with capacity of 50,000 mangrove saplings (<i>Rhizophora apiculate</i>, <i>Candelia candel</i>, <i>Bruguiera sexangula</i>, <i>Avicennia Officinalis/alba</i>, <i>Excoecazia agallocha</i>, <i>Bruguiera parvijlora</i>); 10,000 saplings at Junusnagar and 8000 saplings at Gupti village. ▪ Community participated in mangrove plantation conducted in 20.6 ha area [5 ha area in Chakamohanpur under SGP, 6.2 ha in Uttar Bagapatia and 9.4 ha in Junusnagar village in convergence with ICZMP, Odisha. ▪ Field survey completed by technical team to conduct 15 ha. of more mangrove plantation in nearby villages. ▪ 8 Village Mangrove Councils (VMC) were formed in Gupti, Gartagandia, Junusnagar, Chakamohanpur, Uttar Bagapatia, Mattha (Ajagarpatia), Purussottampur, Ghadiamal villages around Bhitarkanika mangrove forest. ▪ Enhanced the knowledge and capacity of 140 VMC members of 8 villages' on VMC need, roles and responsibility of the core committee members and sustainable management of mangrove resources & participate restoration process. ▪ 80 members from project stakeholders like delegates from Mangrove Forest Division (WL), Rajnagar, TRIPTI (Targeted Rural Initiatives for Poverty Termination & Infrastructure), concerned Panchayat, PRI members; CSOs, VMCs, women SHGs, fishermen etc. actively participated in two stakeholder meetings. ▪ To the community, awareness was created through organized meetings with community members. A total of 314 community members were participated in the project activities. ▪ 5000 copies of project brochure were produced and distributed among stakeholders, media personnel, NGOs etc. ▪ 4 wall paintings are displayed in appropriate places and remain visible for community members as well as visitors to Bhitarkanika national park. ▪ 50 school students from 10 schools participated in Mangrove Art competition on subject "Why mangroves are important to my community". ▪ International Children's Mangrove Art contest conducted in 10 schools and 5 best entries sent to Mangrove Action Project, USA for further evaluation. ▪ Total 568 school students and 60 teachers participated in

	<p>mangrove education program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 57 men & 64 women participated in the mushroom training programme conducted by technical institution Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Kendrapara at Gartagandia and Junusnagar respectively and have started mushroom farming. ▪ 34 farmers participated in training on promotion of organic agriculture and pest control through organic process by Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Kendrapara. ▪ 30 quintals of salt tolerant paddy seeds like Luni- Barial, Luni-Sampad were distributed to farmers in 7 project villages through respective VMCS. ▪ 85 families were provided with 1000 banana saplings for horticulture based alternative livelihood. ▪ 80 coconut saplings were distributed in 2 villages. ▪ 102 HH selected and linked with Mo-Badi program of TRIPTI (Targeted Rural Initiatives for Poverty Termination & Infrastructure), Govt. of Odisha in Gupti G.P. ▪ 3 Farmers Field School cum Front Line Demonstration established in 3 villages on organic agriculture cum salt tolerant paddy. ▪ 474 mangrove forest dependant families supported with vegetable seeds and veg. saplings for kitchen gardening. ▪ 2 sewing machine supports were provided to mangrove forest dependant families of Gartaganda, in which 25 women members are taking training in first phase. ▪ 36 mangrove dependent people participated in skill development training on alternative sustainable livelihood at Krushi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kendrapara. ▪ 183 farmers adopted organic farming in their field. ▪ 356 persons covered under social security schemes in 8 project villages till date
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	60%
How long has the project being going on (# months)	21 months
What percent of the project time period remains	30%
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	N
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Y
How did they find out about the SGP?	Website of UNDP/SGP and CEE

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Knowledge and awareness among community about importance of mangrove increased ▪ Alternative livelihoods from tailoring, kitchen gardening, banana plantation. ▪ Mangrove forest dependent families members were covered under social security schemes in 8 project villages
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mangrove nursery established at Badkot, Junusnagar and Gupti villages. ▪ Community participated in mangrove plantation conducted in 20.6 ha area in Chakamohanpur, Uttar Bagapatia and

	<p>Junusnagar villages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distribution of salt tolerant paddy seeds like Luni- Barial, Luni- Sampad to farmers in 7 project villages through respective VMCs.
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farmers were provided with banana, coconut saplings for horticulture based alternative livelihood. They were also provided skill development training on alternative sustainable livelihood at Krushi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kendrapara. ▪ Mangrove forest dependent families supported with vegetable seeds and veg. saplings for kitchen gardening ▪ Mangrove forest dependent families members were covered under social security schemes in 8 project villages
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scaling up of organic agriculture-cum-salt tolerant paddy ▪ Proper infrastructure for sewing training centre and more number of sewing machine for the groups ▪ Strengthening of village level institutions- SHGs, EDCs, BMCs, VMCs, etc.
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	-

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	794
# men directly involved in the project	988
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	568 (from 10 schools)
# women in project decision-making positions	-
# men in project decision-making positions	-
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formation of village level institutions- SHGs, EDCs, BMCs, VMCs, etc. ▪ Promotion of sewing training centre ▪ Skill development training on alternative sustainable livelihood at Krushi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kendrapara.
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scaling up of alternative livelihoods from tailoring, kitchen gardening, banana plantation.

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	2 times
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	No
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	No

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community participated in mangrove plantation in convergence with ICZMP, Odisha.
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ICZMP, Odisha ▪ Mangrove Forest Division(WI), Rajnagar ▪ TRIPTI, Govt of Odisha ▪ KVK, Kendrapara ▪ Odisha Biodiversity Board, Deptt. of Forest and Environment, Govt of Odisha ▪ Horticulture Dept., Govt. of Odisha ▪ Gupti and Iswarpur Panchayat Office ▪ State Bank of India, Gupti
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	Credit facilities, social security schemes, training on alternative livelihoods like tailoring, kitchen gardening, etc. and support with vegetable seeds and veg. saplings for kitchen gardening

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	\$ 51,445 from APOWA, ICZMP, Horticulture Department, Mangrove Forest Division, etc.
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	Training and capacity building programs, vegetable seeds, horticulture species saplings, etc.
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	\$ 16,032 from TRIPTI, KVK, ICZMP, Horticulture Department, Mangrove Forest Division, etc.

#4: Nagarika Seva Trust

Name of Evaluators: Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: October 27-29, 2015

Project Title (#4): Development of Under-Cultivated/ Degraded Land of Small Farmers and Strengthening their Livelihood

GEF Thematic Area/s: Biodiversity / Climate Change / Land Development

SGP Funding: \$30535.78

Co-Financing: (if available disaggregated by in cash and in kind): \$6211 (in cash \$4683; in kind \$1527)

Project Objective: Strengthening of livelihood of small farmers by development of under cultivated and degraded lands

Brief Project Description:

In Dakshin Kannada District, about 90 per cent farmers are having less than 2 hectares of land. They are small farmers as well as agricultural labourers. Agricultural income from their land is not up to expectation. Some of these lands are either not fully cultivated or under cultivated degraded lands. These lands are low productive due to heavy soil erosion and improper agricultural practices. Moreover, farmers are depending on outside markets for vegetables for their use. Although the area receives more than 3500 mm of rain fall every year, but in summer there is water scarcity. Ground water table is declining.

The SGP supported project is working towards strengthening the livelihoods of 300 small farmers in 200 hectares through promotion of various SMC works to minimize soil erosion, increase soil fertility, increase ground water table and increase sustainable agricultural practices. Project is assisting community for conversion of degraded land into fertile land, increase green cover, vegetable cultivation and horticulture as well as forestry plantations by using local technology.

Overall Assessment: The project is rated as Moderately Satisfactory for its overall implementation (using 6 point Progress Towards Results Rating Scale i.e. Highly Satisfactory, Satisfactory, Moderately Satisfactory, Moderately Unsatisfactory, Unsatisfactory, Highly Unsatisfactory).

Strengths: (maximum 5)

- Nagarika is a grassroots level organization located at village Guruvayanakere, having its own building and 1.5 acres of land with well-established Resource and Training Centre facilities.
- It has well known, experienced and professionally qualified management trustees and human resources. It practices the decentralized planning and decision making processes.
- The organization has rich experience in community mobilization and organizing them for issue based mass movements. It has helped the community for attitudinal changes for working without payment in their fields towards long-term investment and converted

uncultivated and degraded lands into greenery.

- Nagarika has implemented 2 Projects funded by CAPART on Sustainable Agriculture and implementing 2 Organic Village Programme (one at Inekidu village of Sullia taluk another Yadadi Matyadi village of Kundapur taluk) funded by the Agriculture Department, Govt. of Karnataka.

Opportunities for Improvement: (maximum 5)

- Most of farmers in Dakshin Kannada Districts are either having less than 2 hectares of land or landless. They are small farmers as well as agricultural labourers. The project lacks the activities for securing the livelihoods of landless families.
- MTRT observed that the development of under cultivated and degraded lands has increased the availability of fodder in the area.
- The organization is working with the Community from 1976. It has promoted the People's Organization called (i) Krishikara Vedike – Farmers Forum; (ii) Karavali Mahila Jagrathi Vedike - Women's Forum; and (iii) Dakshinakannada Parisarasaktara Vedike – Environmentalist Forum.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Some of the project villages communities, especially women are engaged in rearing of 5-6 local poultry birds. It does not require huge area. This activity will be suitable for landless families. Project should work towards promotion of poultry for landless families.
- Project should work towards promotion of dairy for land holders, where availability of fodder has increased.
- The services of People's Organization should be used for strengthening the project initiatives, especially for bringing the policy level changes in the area.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- Timely approval and sanction of the project proposal would have been more successful. It was awarded after remained long pending for 3 years of the submission of project proposal.
- The project area is very near to the ecologically sensitive Western Ghats, which has global significance. The project would have work towards identification and conservation of Rare, Endangered and Threatened flora species.



Uncultivable land converted into cultivable



Plantation in under cultivated land



Plantation of Jasmin



Project Beneficiaries in village Tannirpantha

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #4: Development of Under-Cultivated/ Degraded Land of Small Farmers and Strengthening their Livelihood

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): Biodiversity / Climate Change / Land Development

Location of Project (State): Andinje, Koyyuru, and Tannirpantha villages in Belthangady Taluk, Dakshina Kannada

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Strengthening of livelihood of small farmers by development of under cultivated and degraded lands

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- Office of Nagarika Seva Trust- Meeting with project staff (4) and Trustees (3)
- Village Andinje- Areca nut plantation (1 site), Jasmin plantation (3 sites), Cashew plantation (2 sites), Smokeless stove (1 site), soil development (2 sites) and water conservation structures (4 sites)
- Village Tannirpantha- Areca nut plantation (4 sites), Cashew plantation (1 site), Jashmin plantation (2 sites) and Land leveling / water conservation (2 sites)

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Mr. K.Somanath Nayak	M	NST Trustee	Nagarika Seva Trust, Guruvayanakere-574217, Belthangady Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka.
Mr. Ranjan Rao Yerdoor	M	NST Trustee	Nagarika Seva Trust, Guruvayanakere-574217, Belthangady Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka
Mr. B.K.Parameshwara Rao	M	NST Trustee	Nagarika Seva Trust, Guruvayanakere-574217, Belthangady Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka
4 Project Staff (Raghuram Prabhu, Shridhar, Shrinivas and Somya)	M/F	Project Staff (4)	Nagarika Seva Trust, Guruvayanakere-574217, Belthangady Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka.
2 Community Mobilizers (Nagesh & Jagarnath)	M	Community Mobilizers (2)	Village Andinje & Village Tannirprantha
Soma	M	Beneficiary	Village Andinje
Anand Poojary	M	Beneficiary	Village Andinje
Radha Nayika	F	Beneficiary	Village Andinje
Mohini	F	Beneficiary	Village Andinje
Chanda Poojary	F	Beneficiary	Village Andinje
8 villagers (Harish, Satish, Griiappa, Devki, Swadari,	M/F	Beneficiary	Village Andinje

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Ramesh and Shalini)from Andinje			
21 villagers () from Tannirpantha	M/F	Beneficiary	Village Tannirpantha

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline Data Collection, Documentation, Beneficiaries selection and preparation of Family wise Action Plan • Capacity Building of staff and community (training, workshops, consultations, exposure visits, etc.) • Land Development Activities (Soil & Water Conservation / Water Resource Development Activities, Horticulture Plantation, Forestry Plantation, Agriculture Activities, Vermi Composting, etc.) i.e. in uncultivated land, degraded land and ensure employment / livelihood
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Exposure visits (2 Exposure visit Directorate of cashew, Puttur. 1 to Kolli hatti to see Sarala chulla) • 2 Training programs (Adhunika geru besaya padadati, Smokeless Chulla) • 8 families vegetable cultivation in backyard for self-consumption • 4675 cashew grafts planted • 5200 areca seedling planted • 200 coconut planted • 750 Jasmin plants planted • 15 vermi composting units • 100 smokeless chullas • 105 families Kitchen gardening • Water conservation activities (like trench, percolation pits, etc.) in plantation sites (Initiated by 120 Beneficiaries)
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	40%
How long has the project being going on (# months)	28 months (from 15.07.2013)
What percent of the project time period remains	20 months (extended up to 14.07.2017)
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project partner has made a request for extension of the project till 14th July 2017. The project was awarded after remained long pending for 3 years of submission of the project proposal.
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Y
How did they find out about the SGP?	The project partner had earlier implemented Biodiversity Project supported by CEE.

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The daily labour charge of a person in the region varies from Rs. 300 to Rs. 400/-. Prior to the project, people were engaged in labour work for short-term benefits. The project helped the community is attitudinal changes for working (without payment) in their fields towards long-term investment.
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncultivated and degraded lands converted into greenery Water level in ponds increasing (water conservation)
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water conservation activities (like trench, percolation pits, etc.) in plantation sites Cashew grafts, Coconut, Jasmin and Areca seedling plantation Introduction of smokeless chullas
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely approval and sanction of the project proposal would have been more successful. It was awarded after remained long pending for 3 years of the submission of project proposal. Promotion of poultry for landless, Promotion of dairy for land holders)
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	-

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beneficiaries of 100 smokeless chullas
# men directly involved in the project	248
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	-
# women in project decision-making positions	-
# men in project decision-making positions	-
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of smokeless chullah in the project.
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion and strengthening of horticulture and forestry plantations.

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	1 time (CEE Bangalore Office)
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	NA
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	Incorporated smokeless chullas for insuring women participation in the project. It was incorporated after the visit of Ms. Swarnamayee Das, Programme Officer, CEE, Bangalore.

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Only 1 st installment was disbursed and utilized.
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	Internal Mid-term Review is pending. The second installment will be disbursed after MTR.
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land based activities for some members of Krishikara Ghataka and Mahila Jagruthi Samithi
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TIDE- for exposure and training • Horticulture Deptt.- extension services for cashew plantation (Directorate of Cashew Research) • Watershed Department: Water conservation activities (like trench, percolation pits, etc.) in plantation sites • CPCR- extension services for coconut & areca nut
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and strengthening of farmers' unit (Krishikara Ghataka and Mahila Jagruthi Samithi) • Supply of horticulture and forestry plants at subsidized rate.

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	\$4683 from horticulture and watershed department
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	Planting materials (cashew grafts, areca seedlings, coconut sapling, jasmine plants, vegetable seeds, etc.)
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	\$1527 by the community as manpower / labour work in plantation sites

#6: Vivekananda Trust

Name of Evaluators: Nittie Srivastava

Date of Field Visit: November 24-25, 2015

Project Title: Climate change mitigation with focus on alternate energy resources, livelihoods and better quality of life for the tribal community

GEF Thematic Area/s: CC

SGP Funding: Rs. 20,31000/- (30,501 USD)

Co-Financing: (if available disaggregated by in cash and in kind)/: Rs. 25,65470/-(38,528 USD)

Project Objective: To reduce the pressure and climate change mitigation on local reserved forest falling under the B.R Hills Wild Life Sanctuary, by using low cost energy efficiency through cook stove.

Brief Project Description: The Vivekananda Trust has been working to reverse the process of de-forestation and climate change mitigation in the fringe area falling under the B.R. Hills Wild life Sanctuary, Yelandur Taluka, Chamaraja Nagara District, Karnataka for past two decades. The project with community participation constructed low-cost smoke-less Chulhas with an intention to reduce pressure on local reserved forest area and to provide better health and quality of life to the target villagers. The project also focused on awareness generation on de-forestation and climate change mitigation, technology capacity building and strengthening the CBO/SHGs.

* The project had already concluded at the time of MTR visit. There was a government intervention in distribution of subsidized LPG (under the Direct Benefit Transfer scheme) in the entire Chamraja Nagar district when this GEF-SGP project was in the middle of its operational phase.

Due to the time constrain, I could meet only two direct beneficiaries and both of them had LPG connections as well as smoke-less chulhas. Most of the house -holds in the village I visited had LPG connections now.

Overall Assessment: The GEF-SGP on smokeless Chulhas has implemented the planned activities well on time and the progress achieved appears to be satisfactory.

Strengths:

- Targeting the beneficiaries residing near and dependent for firewood on protected area of forest falling under the B.R. Hills Wild life Sanctuary
- Developed cost-effective, fuel efficient design using local resources that were durable having minimum maintenance.
- The project consciously integrated 'Women Development' by providing them technical training for capacity building especially to educated unemployed girls

Opportunities for Improvement/ weakness:

- The adoption of the smokeless Chulhas were moderate and beneficiaries were using both the traditional and smokeless Chulhas at the same time as they found the burners of smokeless chulhas too broad for their small utensils
- Poor synergy between NGO and Government bodies
- Youth who were given technical training but not facilitated access to credits.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Design of the stoves should be tailor-made according to the individual need of the beneficiaries by reducing/increasing the size of the burners
- A proactive approach of the project and a better synergy with the Government agencies responsible for distributing subsidized LPG would have helped in mid- term course correction in the project activities e.g instead of constructing remaining Chulhas imparting training on prevailing sericulture in the district would have been more constructive.
- More number of educated unemployed youth should be engaged in capacity building programmes of the projects. Training in the principles of micro-credit would help the youth establish micro-enterprises for a sustainable source of income.



Sewing Machine given by the Project



A Traditional Chulha



Smokeless Chulha constructed by project



Meeting with women SHGs

Table 1: *Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project*

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project (Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)	Contact info where available
Viswanath P	M	Director of the NGO	9480044182
K.Bhushan	M	Project Coordinator	9482591630
N.Mullu	F	Field staff	9611538795
Members of SHGs Gowdahalli	F		
A.Swarnamayee Das	F	Project Officer	9945815801
S. Ravi	M	Village panchayat president	
K.V Padamanabha	M	Forest Range Officer	
Prabhaswami	M	Dy. Forest Range Officer	
Mallayam	M	HP, Govt. Gas agency Manager	

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	How long has the project being going on (# months)	What percent of the project time period remains	Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	How did they find out about the SGP?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of VDC/SHGs awareness generation and capacity building of selected beneficiaries • construction of Chulhas by engaging masons and procurement of items • Skill development for livelihood • Handing over chulhas to beneficiaries • Training the beneficiaries on handling minor problems/Dissimination workshops etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness creation programmes and in-house training for VDCs held. About 1500 people benefitted by awareness programme • Over 1000 Chulhas constructed and handed over to beneficiaries • Training in • Tailoring and embroidery given in given to 29 young girls and women • 9 educated enemployed village youths were trained in skill development • 4 youth trained for • Motor rewinding and 5 for Mobile repair • 15 youths trained for • computer • (DTP) and computer tally classe • 10 sewing machines given to trained beneficiaries • Beneficiaries trained to handle minor problems related to maintenance of Chulhas 	100%	26 months	0%	This is the 2nd SGP project the NGO is doing	Through internet.

Table 3: *Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)*

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before the project, the beneficiaries cooked on traditional chulhas that emitted lot of smoke. Now with the use of smokeless chulhas there is less smoke and less consumption of fuel-wood. • women who were trained for tailoring wanted to improve their skills so that they could start their own business. • Trained Youth got employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The beneficiaries thought that now after the project provided them smokeless chulhas, they brought less fuel-wood from the forest. • The pressure on the forest has reduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The beneficiaries think that smokeless chulhas have contributed to reduce the pressure on forest. • Those who got tailoring machines wanted to learn more to improve their skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More income generation activities like tailoring and soft skill development should be the taken up. • Although the NGO has facilitated them to be link to banks for easy loans, they were still not able get the loan. • Since now many of them have LPG connection through Govt.,the • NGO should focus more on giving more training on tailoring and other skill development activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to time constrains, unfortunately I was not able to meet many beneficiaries. To the ones I met, most of them seem more interested in capacity building activity of the project than in the smokeless chulhas. This may be due to the fact that the beneficiaries to whom I met now had LPG connection and found it to be more convenient to use. • According to the local forest officer, LPG intervention has positively contributed in reducing the pressure on the forest in terms of fire-wood collection by villages.

Table 4: *Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)*

# women directly involved in the project	# men directly involved in the project	# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	# women in project decision-making positions	# men in project decision-making positions	According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more
1400	200	3600	40	05	Yes, women participated throughout the project cycle. The VDC formed predominantly consisted of women. Also equal number of women participated in trainings and capacity building programmes.	They want more income activities, including more computer training for young girls and training more women/young girls for soft skills.

Table 5: *M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)*

How many times has the PMU visited this project	If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important
-6 times	Karuna Trust for training beneficiaries in capacity building activity visited many times.	As informed by the project coordinator, the project had to undertake the construction of 8 bio gas plants. But during the feasibility study it was found that the number of cattle was insufficient to start a bio-gas plant in the target villages. Also, bio gas plants require a large space to be built and most of the beneficiaries houses were situated in narrow streets.

Table 6: *Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)*

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?
Yes, all funds were disbursed on time	Nil, no issues emerged during the project.	Yes, they purchased Pipes and sewing machines. There have been no issues in purchasing them.

Table 7: *Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)*

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects	What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gramothan Foundation, Reva Automobiles, IISc - Bangalore, CAPART Mysore and CREST Mysore were consulted for the technical assistance. Karuna Trust assisted them for capacity building trainings. 	The effort has been to create links with other NGOs CDOT (Bihar), Gramothan a Faoundation, Bangalore, to exchange technical knowledge and innovations in technology in cook-stoves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karuna Trust being the NGO's parent organization has been working in the target area for many years. The beneficiaries felt that their presence gave them an assurance that they are always there for them and strengthened mutual trust between NGO and beneficiaries. Knowledge exchange of innovation in design of cook stove between NGOs

Table 8: *Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)*

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project
		Man Power - Rs 396000.00/-
		Training - Rs 41400/-
No cash co-financing		Contract- Rs 1491750/-
		Miscellaneous(Travel)- Rs 60000/-

#12: Madhar Nala Thondu Niruvanam (MNTN)

Name of Evaluators: Nittie Srivastava

Date of Field Visit: October 19-21, 2015

Project Title: Scaling up of Goat Rearing in poor marginalized women SHGs for better livelihoods and fodder introduction 10 rural villages in Cuddalore block.

GEF Thematic Area/s: BD

SGP Funding: Rs. 17,40,300/- (26,124.43USD)

Co-Financing: (if available disaggregated by in cash and in kind)/: in Cash-Rs. 101,00,000/- (151615.68USD) In kind- Rs. 14,45,200/- (21694.55USD)

Project Objective:

- Introduction and adoption of local fodder species and goat breeds at community level, enhancing genetic variability and conservation.
- Strengthen the Rural Women SHGs into Micro Enterprises for enhancing their income generation capacity through conservation practices.

Brief Project Description:

MNTN is a women led organization which is working in Cuddalore Block of Cuddalore district, Tamil Nadu. It developed a pilot women based goat rearing enterprise managed through women groups. The project aims to build confidence in women SHGs; securing local breed improvement for goats for better incomes and introducing fodder species both cereal and leguminous for better milk quality and meat formation in goats and increasing soil fertility at the same time.

Overall Assessment: Although this GEF-SGP project missed the Global significance, it implemented the planned activities well on time and the progress achieved appears to be very good.

Strengths:

- The project was successful in setting up a sustainable community-based goat breed improvement system managed by women SHGs resulting in enhanced incomes of women farmers and improved rural livelihoods
- Developed fodder plots using leguminous variety on wastelands contributing to soil fertility and fodder availability even in the dry season
- An innovative co financing business model introduced by the NGO in association with NABFINS for increased livestock management capacity of beneficiaries
- Institutionalization of SHGs in the form of federation as a platform for sharing and learning and linking them to bank for more income generating activities and sustainability.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- The poor record keeping of goats by the beneficiaries acted as hindrance in scope for improvement in goat management programme
- Mortality of goats in target villages due to lack of clinical services
- Sheds were constructed for the goats with an intention to provide shelter/ stall feeding and a chance to collect manure for other agricultural activities, but there was no effective method adopted for manure collection.
- Conflict among beneficiaries of the target village about the decisions taken in terms of selection of beneficiaries and distribution of goats.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Beneficiaries should be trained to keep a record of the number of Birth/Death of improved breed of goats in a simple register format. This will be very helpful in taking informed decisions at management level.
- Involvement of a livestock officer and clinical services should be ascertained to keep a check on mortality and spread of disease in the goats.
- The droppings of the goat should be properly utilized as manure by developing a management system for collection, storage and utilization.
- While making the selections, judicious composition of the target group should be ascertained i.e. sufficient representation from the poorest of the poor village (in this case-‘the colony’) should be targeted as beneficiaries.



***Meeting with SHG Presidents
goats***



***Meeting with the beneficiaries with their
goats***



Goat shed for stall feeding



Fodder Plots developed by NGO

Table 1: Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project (Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)	Contact info where available
P Rajendran	M	Director of the NGO	9442210977
R.S Srimati	F	Senior Project Coordinator	9443748735
S.Indumati	F	Monitoring person	9790589542
M.Parimala	F	Translator	9786861898
V.Jayanti	F	Field staff	7639655563
K.Vijaylakshmi	F	Community organizer(GOAT PROJECT)	9095675529
R.Ramakrishnan	M	Goat project In charge	8883760144
N.Gandhimadhi	F	Accountant	9047757495
R.Gunasekar	M	Community organizer (GOAT PROJECT)	9171701658
Women SHGs members - 50	F	Beneficiaries	

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	How long has the project being going on (# months)	What percent of the project time period remains	Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	How did they find out about the SGP?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop women federation Indiscreet breeds Goats female 5 each to 100 SHGM 5-female native breed Goat to 100 SHGM in 10 SHGs Exposure to 50 women to Goat breeding farms 10 animal health camps 10 fodder plots 2 stall feeding sheds EDP and Micro enterprise training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 women federation developed Indiscreet breeds Goats female 5 each to 100 SHGM 1 Male Cross Breed Goat lambs to 200 SHGM in 20 SHGs Exposure to 55 women to Goat breeding farms 20 animal health camps 42 fodder plots 2 stall feeding sheds 1 EDP and 5 Micro enterprise training provided 	100%	26 months	0%	No. This is the 2nd SGP project	Through NGO Guidance workshops done during Tsunami by the GEF/SGP in 2005.

Table 3: **Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)**

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries
<p>-The beneficiaries have gained knowledge and capacities in goat rearing; fodder varieties development</p> <p>- price because of increased weight</p> <p>-increased incomes emerging due to savings in groups</p>	<p>- Using wastelands for fodder plots</p> <p>- Increased land fertility of soil due to leguminous fodder plants.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Exposure to goat breeding program and increased number of goats. Many bank accounts opened and access to cheap loan facilitated that helped them in investing in children's education and other assets. A new confidence emerged among women and they felt that they are now given respect in the society. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> More income generation activities like tailoring skills; poultry units Strengthen veterinary services More capacity building programme for youth 	The project had constructed sheds for the goats with an intention to provide shelter for the goats and a chance to collect manure for other agricultural activities. However, none of beneficiary were aware of the benefits of organic manure and not collecting the dropping for making manure.

Table 4: *Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)*

# women directly involved in the project	# men directly involved in the project	# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	# women in project decision-making positions	# men in project decision-making positions	According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more
225	13	54	200 women members in SHGs	03	The women involved appreciated the fact that the project was started with the intention of benefitting and improving the livelihood of women. According to them, there has been a marked improvement in the gender equality as they were now considered to be one of the 'bread earners' of the family. They were not only given equal opportunity to opine and speak on any decision making issues in the family but also their opinion was heard too.	They want more income activities, including cashew nuts, poultry and dairy and scaling up of goat project as many of them have large land that they want to convert into farms.

Table 5: **M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)**

How many times has the PMU visited this project	If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important
- 4 times during the project period.	1. Vijay Farms –Mr. Vijay- MD- visited 4 times 2. Veterinary doctors – visited 20 times 3. Insurance Officer Mr. Mohan- visited 10 times 4. Nabfins officers - visited 10 times	Not much modifications done.

Table 6: **Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?
Yes, all funds disbursed in time	Nil, no issues emerged during the project.	No equipment was purchased.

Table 7: **Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)**

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects	What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit to Vechur Trust another GEF/SGP NGO partner to learn about breeding programs. - Vijay Farms, to create a buy back arrangements for goats - NABARD, NABFIN, Link to access of loans/credit lines for the women SHGs. - Local Rural bnaks, opening of bank accounts for the women members and the women SHGs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agriculture University, Livestock Deptt., Chennai, for taking up of the pure breed stock of Malabari, Thalsherry, Sirohi breeds - Forage and Fodder research Station, Ministry of Agriculture, Chennai, taking up the fodder seeds, Napier Slips etc. - Livestock and Fodder, University of Sciences, Bangalore, learn about the smokeless chulhas and poultry breed trainings; also to learn about the Fodder species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Two members from each target SHG were trained to be trainers for other members by VECHUR TRUST. -Linking with bank gave them a sense of confidence and a hope to start micro enterprises.

Table 8: **Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project
MNTN Cash - Rs 664,000/-	Salaries of the team members working on the project	Communities times in village meetings: Rs 500 per meetings, per village SHG group in 24 months = 24 monthsx500/- x225 SHGs = Rs 27,00,000
COMMUNITIES contributions and savings in SHGs - Rs 14,45,250/-	Savings in banks	Fodder Slips: Rs 20,000 Fodder Seeds: Rs 10,000
Pen Sock by federation - Rs 320,000/-	Establishing a pen stock for keeping the pure breeds of Malabari	
NABFIN - Rs 8,70,00,000/-	Loans to purchase 5 goats of non descript breed by each of the SHGM in the 225 SHG members	

13: Manuvikasa

Name of Evaluators: Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: November 8-10, 2015

Project Title: Conservation of Rare, Endangered and Threatened species in fast degrading Betta Land through protection of species, plant enrichment and wetland creation in Siddapur Taluq of North Kanada District

GEF Thematic Area/s: Biodiversity, Climate Change, International Water and Land Degradation

SGP Funding: \$ 35369.05 (1US\$=INR 53.38)

Co-Financing: (if available disaggregated by in cash and in kind): \$ 1127443 (\$1051909 In cash and \$75533.91 in kind)

Project Objective: Enable actions by community, forest department and NGOs for the protection and conservation of Rare, Endangered and Threatened plant species through up-gradation of fast degrading Betta Land

Brief Project Description: The project area is located in the ecologically sensitive Western Ghats, which has global significance. *Betta lands* are in the heart of the Western Ghats and Northern part of the Malanad Kodagu Corridor which come under CEPF investment priority area. This entire *Betta Land* is dominated by Moist Deciduous and Evergreen Forest Type. The total area of the *Betta Land* in North Kannada District is more than sixty thousand hectares. *Betta Lands* (Leafy Forest) legally belongs to Forest Department and handed over to communities for collection of bark, leaves and NTFPs. Reckless commercial composting with large scale and continuous clearing of forest floors also pose threat to *Soppina Bettas*. These Leafy forests are being converted into grazing lands where demand for grass has increased. Few farmers have encroached such *Betta Lands* and converted them for horticulture plantation and mining activities. These activities are affecting the flora and fauna of the area.

SGP supported project aimed at working for regeneration of *Betta Lands* through plant enrichment, control soil erosion and rain water harvesting for conservation of globally significant species like *Hopea ponga*, *Saraca asoca* and *Vateria indica*. It is also working towards improvement of NTFPs and fruit bearing trees in *Betta Lands* to improve food security of human and animal. The project is making efforts to reduce the pressure of communities on forest for fire wood through promotion of energy efficient chullas.

Overall Assessment: The project is rated as Satisfactory for its overall implementation (using 6 point Progress Towards Results Rating Scale i.e. Highly Satisfactory, Satisfactory, Moderately Satisfactory, Moderately Unsatisfactory, Unsatisfactory, Highly Unsatisfactory).

Strengths: (maximum 5)

- Manuvikasa is a local and grassroots level organization. It is well recognized by the local government, corporates, NGOs, financial institutions, research institutions in the region.

- It is a micro-finance based organization. The systems are well placed for monitoring of day-to-day activities. The interventions are credit-based, where members are linked to micro-insurance schemes for their safety and securities.
- The project has established the linkages with Deshpande Foundation, GIVE India, NABARD, College of Forestry, Agriculture University and KVK for leveraging of technical and financial resources.

Opportunities for Improvement: (maximum 5)

- The Western Ghats has globally significance for its ecosystem (i.e. Rare, Endangered and Threatened plant flora and fauna species), which require special attention.
- Looking at the topography and human habitation, SHG model looks quite complex and unsustainable (minimum of 10 members per SHG). The houses are spread over in a radius of 4-5 kilometers in villages.
- The project has proposed to have the plan for conservation of globally threatened species; however it lacks well documented and written Betta Land Development and Management Plan.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- The project should give more attention on protection and conservation of identified Rare, Endangered and Threatened plant species.
- Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) should be formed and strengthened for achieving the better results.
- Site specific Betta Land Development and Management Plan should be prepared for management of Betta lands. Betta Users Group should be strengthened for proper execution of the Betta Land Development and Management Plan.



Community Managed Nursery



Model Plantation site in Village Kumbrikodla



Boutique / Ladies dress shop in village Kansur



SHG run Boutique / Ladies dress shop

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #13: Conservation of Rare, Endangered and Threatened species in fast degrading Betta Land through protection of species, plant enrichment and wetland creation in Siddapur Taluq of North Kanada District

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): Biodiversity, Climate Change, International Water and Land Degradation

Location of Project (State): 21 villages in Sirsi & Siddapur of North Kanada District

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Enable actions by community, forest department and NGOs for the protection and conservation of Rare, Endangered and Threatened plant species through up-gradation of fast degrading Betta Land

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- Village Sannakheri-private tank (1)
- Village Khabgar- common tank (1)
- Village Kumbrikodla- Nursery (1), Plantation site (1)
- Village Gattikai- Agriculture field (1)
- Village Kansur- SHG run Ladies dress shop / boutique (1)
- Village Kodasur- Smokeless chullah (1)
- Village Kendigetota- Smokeless chullah (1)
- Village Kodgibale- SHG (1)

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project^	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Shri Harishchandra P. Bhat	M	Settlor of the Trust	At Karjagi, P.O. Balur, Taluk- Siddapur, Uttara Kannada
Ganpati Bhat	M	Project Staff	At Karjagi, P.O. Balur, Taluk- Siddapur, Uttara Kannada
4 staff of Manuvikasa (Prasanna Bhat, Manjunath Hegde, Sandeep Amadallikar, Channappa Lamani)	M	Project Staff	At Karjagi, P.O. Balur, Taluk- Siddapur, Uttara Kannada
Yallamma H.	F	Project staff	At Karjagi, P.O. Balur, Taluk- Siddapur, Uttara Kannada
Sitaramaya	M	Beneficiary (tank)	Village Sannakheri
3 Villagers of Kumbrikodla (Deviki, Shalini and Malini)	F	Beneficiary (nursery)	Village Kumbrikodla
Rama	M	Beneficiary	Village Gattikai
2 villagers of Kansur (Annapurna and Lalita)	F	Beneficiary (Ladies dress shop / boutique)	Village Kansur
Gauri	F	Beneficiary (Smokeless chullah)	Village Kodasur

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Nagawini	F	Beneficiary (Smokeless chullah)	Village Kendigetota
5 villagers of Kodgibale (Sujatha, Kamashi, Nagmani Lalita and Savitri)	F	Beneficiary (SHG)	Village Kodgibale

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of the villages, area and team meetings to develop common understanding of project. • Village Meetings and linking the women SHGs with activities. • Developing the systems and approach for the Activities with SD in mind • Development and procurement of 10000 NTFP and fruit bearing saplings nursery. Rs. 20 per saplings including watering and maintenance 12"X13" size • Development of tanks in at least 50 sites (One to two Guntas as per land availability) • Replication of the tanks and Chullas with SHGs • Promotion of 40 smokeless Chullas @ Rs. 8000 Per Chullas • Providing training to 200 Betta users on effective Betta management for one day including officials • Community led poultry farmers in the Region • Budding and Grafting in Raising small community nurseries • Agricultural Links created with Farmers • Educational Support Systems • Links and Partnerships • Kinetic Energy decentralized micro Hydels
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized 3 meetings, developed ideas, contacted with GPs and other lead farmers, women SHGs and selected 100 villages to start the program • Monthly meeting with SHGs. There are 300 SHGs @10 members in each SHG. • Developed the systems and approaches for sustainable management of tank and cook stoves / smokeless chullas. • Developed two community / SHG managed nurseries and raised 8600 plants • Assisted farmers in digging of 113 tanks in the project area. • Deshpande Foundation US \$127388.54 to widen the tanks digging activity and GIVE India helped in scaling up of 29 more tanks • Promoted 52 smokeless chullas @ Rs. 8000 per chullas (on loan basis) • Promoted 15 Betta Users Group and 127 members enrolled in the group. • Linkages with College of Forestry, Agriculture University, Banks, Deshpande Foundation, GIVE India and KVK
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	80%
How long has the project being going on (# months)	28 months
What percent of the project time period remains	11 months
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	no-cost extension

Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Y
How did they find out about the SGP?	Website of UNDP/SGP

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved financial status and social cohesiveness of families through promotion of SHGs Reduction in domestic activity time of women and fuel requirement through promotion of smokeless chullas
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water conservation by digging of tanks in the project area. Reduction of quantity of fuelwood through promotion of smokeless chullas. Betta land conservation, development through promotion of Betta Users Group
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digging of tanks in the project area. Promotion and strengthening of Betta Users Group, SHGs and federation Promotion and demonstration of smokeless chullas
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formation and strengthening of Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) Promotion of Poultry Scaling up of smokeless chullas
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project should give more focus on protection and conservation of identified Rare, Endangered and Threatened plant species

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	3000 (300 SHGs @ 10 members in each group)
# men directly involved in the project	127 (from 15 Betta User Groups)
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	-
# women in project decision-making positions	402 (392 SHG and Federation leaders and 10 community level resource person)
# men in project decision-making positions	25 (15 leaders of Betta User Groups and 10 community level resource person)
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formation of women SHGs and federation Promotion of smokeless chullas Promotion of community level nurseries
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	Promotion of poultry farming in the Region

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	Once from CEE Delhi Office
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	No
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	No

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	Yes from the amount of co-financing (2 Earth movers)

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deshpande Foundation, GIVE India to widen the tanks digging activity • NABARD and Banks for SHGs and Bank linkages
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deshpande Foundation, GIVE India, NABARD, College of Forestry, Agriculture University and KVK
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial support from Deshpande Foundation, GIVE India to widen the tanks digging activity • Financial support from NABARD and Banks for SHGs and Bank linkages • Extension services from College of Forestry, Agriculture University and KVK

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	\$ 1051909 (\$127388.5 by Deshpande Foundation, \$5636.943 by community, \$18733.61 by Give India, \$4683.402 by NABARD, \$146122.1 by Women SHGs and \$749344.3 through Bank Linkages of SHGs)
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	Digging of tanks, smokeless chullas, Earth Movers, etc.
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	\$ 75533.91 (NGO for space & administrative expenses, community contribution in meetings & labour work)

#21: Gram Vikas Navyuvak Mandal (GVNML)

Name of Evaluators: Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: October 31, 2015 and November 1-2, 2015

Project Title (#21): Ensuring Sustainable livelihoods for locals from risks and effects of climate change variability on agriculture production

GEF Thematic Area/s: Climate Change

SGP Funding: \$36208.32 (1US\$=INR 53.38)

Co-Financing: (if available disaggregated by in cash and in kind): US \$ 222285.5 in cash (\$ 72416.64 from Wells for India, \$ 149868.8647 from Mpower, \$-----Indian Oil Corporation Limited). Co-financing in kind is not calculated.

Project Objective: Developing the resource base and capacities of partner community; and strengthening peoples' institution to cope adverse effect of climatic change.

Brief Project Description: The project area lies in the Banas River Basin in Rajasthan. The area has low water retention capacity, soil erosion (from both, wind as well as water) and salinity. Susceptibility of prevalent to drought with a high or moderate intensity is a common phenomenon in the area. The adaptability of climate change is very poor in the state; however the state has seen 27 droughts in last 50 years. As a result, the land productivity has gone down, soil salinity and erosion increased, vegetal cover reduced and common property resources turned unproductive leading to crisis for marginalized and indigenous communities.

The SGP supported project has covered eight villages viz. Laporiya, Gangardu, Karia Khurd, Itakhoi, Rahalana, Benekhera, Karia Bujurg and Mahatgaon of Dudu block in Jaipur district. There are 2719 families (with a population of 14598) inhabit in the area. Majority of them are OBC (62%), followed by SC (24%), General (10%) and ST (4%). The project is working for protection of livelihood sources from Climate Change. It is working towards strengthening the climate change adaptability of project community. The project has adopted dual strategy viz. Social Interventions and Technical Interventions to address these issues.

Social Interventions covers: (i) Formation/reformation of VDC, SHG and Gwal Group, (ii) Capacity enhancement of CBOs, (iii) Dialogue and joint plan with Panchayat and VDC.

Technical Interventions covers: (i) Development of pastureland through *Chauka System*, (ii) Moisture fixing, recharging ground water and creating irrigation by constructing *Naada* (farm pond), (iii) Roof Rain Water Harvesting structure at private houses of poor families, (iv) Organizing and maintaining eco-parks, (v) Channel repairing to save surface stored water, (vi) Overflow linkages to next *Talab*

Overall Assessment: The project is rated as Moderately Satisfactory for its overall implementation (using 6 point Progress Towards Results Rating Scale i.e. Highly Satisfactory, Satisfactory, Moderately Satisfactory, Moderately Unsatisfactory, Unsatisfactory, Highly Unsatisfactory).

Strengths: (maximum 5)

- The organization is initiated and headed by Mr. Laxman Singh, the influential personality to mobilize community as well as resources from local government in the region. The organization is working towards addressing the issues of “Water and Pastureland” for decades. The organization has assisted the VDCs and *Gowal Committees* in freeing the hectares of community pastures from private encroachments.
- GVNML has developed the technique for improvement of pastureland through *Chauka System* and applied it in many parts of Rajasthan, which has documented by UNICEF and many other INGOs. This is being applied in Rahalana, Beenikhera, Itakhoi and Laporiya villages (in approximately 17 hectare area). It is SMC activity that has very good results for recharging ground water, supporting local ecology & biodiversity and sub-surface area for enhancing greenery.
- Three *Naada* (Farm Pond) are constructed or reconstructed of old ones where catchment areas are irrigated leading to have double cropping. It was completed on 50 per cent cost sharing basis by benefitting families. This initiative helps in moisture fixing, recharging ground water and creating irrigation.

Opportunities for Improvement: (maximum 5)

- About 60-70 per cent families in the area are dependent on ground water for drinking purpose. The ground water quality is not drinkable. TDS is more than 2000, fluoride is equal or more than 3 PPM in the ground water. To avail safer drinking water, the project has promoted Roof Rain Water Harvesting structures at private houses for poor families. However, the construction of roof rain water harvesting structures is done with the limited number of families.
- The project has promoted conservation of 5-10 per cent area of pastureland for wildlife habitation (Eco-park), where human beings as well as domestic animals are not allowed. This initiative supports in maintaining the biodiversity of the area. However, it was reported that wildlife-livestock conflict in pastureland (for fodder) and human-wildlife conflict in agriculture land (damage standing crops) still exist in the area.
- The project has constructed number water harvesting and SMC structures in the project area. The community may lack funds for the maintenance of these structures in future.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Project should work towards scaling-up of roof rain water harvesting initiatives with all project beneficiaries for climate change impact adaptability.
- The concept of Eco-park is a good practice. Project should scale up this initiative to avoid the wildlife-livestock and human-wildlife conflicts in the area.
- Looking at the sustainability aspect, MTRT recommends to project for motivating community towards creating funds for maintenance of structures constructed under water resource development and pasture land development & management.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- Charcoal making from *Prosopis juliflora*: Livelihood opportunities for landless families and reduction of harmful gas emission for climate change.
- *Capparis decidua* collection and pickle making: Livelihood opportunities for landless families.



Anna Sagar Tank, village Laporiya



Rain water harvesting structures in village Itakhoi



Chauka system of Pastureland Management



Pastureland freed from encroachment



Meeting with Villagers



Development of Eco-Park

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #21: Ensuring Sustainable livelihoods for locals from risks and effects of climate change variability on agriculture production

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): Climate Change

Location of Project (State): Block-Dudu, District-Jaipur, State-Rajasthan

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Developing the resource base and capacities of partner community; and strengthening peoples' institution to cope adverse effect of climatic change.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- Village Rehalana- Pastureland (chauka system), Tank / talab (1)
- Village Kharia Khurd- Pastureland
- Village Laporiya- Pastureland, Anna Sagar channel, bund and overflow construction
- Village Itakhoi-Rain water harvesting structures (Tanka), VDC, Eco Park
- Village Benekhera-Pastureland (chauka system)

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Jagveer Singh	M	Project staff	GVNML Villages Laporiya, Post – Gagardu Dist. Jaipur Rajasthan, Courier and Speed post address: Plot no. 21, Arjun Nagar, Behind Dalda Factory, Durgapura, Jaipur-300201
Hanuman Singh	M	Project staff	GVNML Villages Laporiya, Post – Gagardu Dist. Jaipur Rajasthan, Courier and Speed post address: Plot no. 21, Arjun Nagar, Behind Dalda Factory, Durgapura, Jaipur-300201
Rameshwar Lal Saini	M	Project staff	GVNML Villages Laporiya, Post – Gagardu Dist. Jaipur Rajasthan, Courier and Speed post address: Plot no. 21, Arjun Nagar, Behind Dalda Factory, Durgapura, Jaipur-300201
Hari	M	Beneficiary	Village Benekhera
5 villagers of Itakhoi (Ramdayal, Badri, Yograj, Radhamohan, Kishanlal)	M	Beneficiary	Village- Itakhoi

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation/reformation of VDC, SHG and Gwal Group. • Capacity enhancement of CBOs. • Dialogue and joint plan with Panchayat and VDC. • Development of pastureland through Chauka system. • Moisture fixing, recharging ground water and creating irrigation by constructing Naada (farm pond). • Roof Rain Water Harvesting structure at private houses of poor families. • Organizing and maintaining eco-parks. • Channel repairing to save surface stored water. • Overflow linkages to next Talab
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 SHGs, 8 VDCs (of 15 members) and Gwal Groups formed and strengthened. • Roof rain water harvesting structure at private house of poor families • Repairing of Anna Sagar of Laporía channel, bund strengthen and overflow construction • Pastureland development by <i>Chaouka</i> system in Rahalana and Beenekheda village • Capacity building (training, exposure, etc.) of staff, VDC, SHGs • Recording and documentation of weather data
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	80%
How long has the project being going on (# months)	25 months
What percent of the project time period remains	11 months
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	No-cost budget extension
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Y
How did they find out about the SGP?	Website of UNDP / SGP

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of fodder increased in pasture land for livestock and wildlife • Improvement in water level • Availability of safe drinking water
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement in water level • Availability of fodder in Eco parks for wildlife • Increase in vegetative cover, especially in pasture lands
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of pasture land. Encroachment on 45 hectare common pasture land is removed. • Repairing of channel, bunds and overflow construction (Anna Sagar in Laporía) • Construction of roof rain water harvesting structures
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaling-up of roof rain water harvesting initiatives • Support for farm bunding (agriculture land) • Removal of encroached common pasture land

Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	-
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Table 4: **Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)**

# women directly involved in the project	386
# men directly involved in the project	392
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	-
# women in project decision-making positions	28
# men in project decision-making positions	42
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	Formation and strengthening of SHGs
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	Construction of roof rain water harvesting structures

Table 5: **M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)**

How many times has the PMU visited this project	Once from CEE, Delhi Office (Mr. Anil Arora during September 23-24, 2014)
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	No
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	-

Table 6: **Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No

Table 7: **Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)**

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	Linking of physical works like <i>chaukas</i> in pasture lands, farm bunding, etc. with MGNREGA
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	Financial support from Wells for India
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	More resources for greater geographical area coverage

Table 8: **Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	More than US \$ 222285.5 (\$ 72416.64 from Wells for India, \$ 149868.8647 from Mpower, \$-----Indian Oil Corporation Limited)
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	Physical works for pasture land development, construction of water harvesting structures and availing drinking water supply and management
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	Community contribution in terms of labour work

#27: Swatantra Yuva Shakti Sangathan (SYSS)

Name of Evaluators: Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: November 13-15, 2015

Project Title (#27): Community action to reduce pressure on forests through sustainable land use & Local Biodiversity Management around the Protected Areas in tribal belts of Seoni District

GEF Thematic Area/s: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation

SGP Funding: \$44301.61 (1US\$=INR 53.38)

Co-Financing: (if available disaggregated by in cash and in kind): \$30074 (\$6498 in cash and \$23576 in kind)

Project Objective: Strengthening community based natural resource conservation efforts and securing the livelihood of forest fringe community.

Brief Project Description:

The project area is located near the “Pench Tiger Reserve” in Madhya Pradesh. The Biogeographic Location is a true representative of the Central Highland which comes under the Deccan Peninsula. The Biogeographic region which it represents is Satpuda Maikal Division. The forest type is Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Teak and Southern Tropical Mixed Deciduous Forest with other species of shrubs, trees and climbers. The people inhabiting these areas have limited livelihood opportunities. They are dependent on local natural resource which is limited and degrading and requires attention for its improvement. People are extracting fuelwood from forest for sale purpose. It is creating pressure on forest. The current fuelwood use practices on provider and user sides are inefficient and they are unaware about improved practices.

The project is working in Seoni District of Madhya Pradesh in which a total of 7 villages viz. Kamkasur, Nanhikar, Mundiakheda, Meharbori, Aamgoav, Aamagarh and Barwah are the part of the project. The project targets about 304 forest dwelling tribal families for promotion of alternate livelihood options. The project aims at securing livelihoods of Gond tribals through community-based natural resource conservation and management. The project has adopted dual strategies viz. Promotion of Alternate Livelihoods Options and Promotion of Alternate Energy Sources to achieve the expected results. Promotion of alternate livelihoods option were carried out through poultry rearing, ecotourism, nursery raising, NTFP collection and marketing, vegetable cultivation, leaf plate/ cup making, incense stick making, handicraft making, minor millet processing units, lac cultivation and silk worm cultivation on tasar. However, promotion of alternate energy sources was done through introduction of energy cake unit, sarai cooker, LPG, bio gas and smokeless chullas.

Overall Assessment: The project is rated as Satisfactory for its overall implementation (using 6 point Progress Towards Results Rating Scale i.e. Highly Satisfactory, Satisfactory, Moderately Satisfactory, Moderately Unsatisfactory, Unsatisfactory, Highly Unsatisfactory).

Strengths: (maximum 5)

- SYSS is about a decade old decentralized grassroots organization. It is promoted by a group of local youth (college friends), who were participating in the awareness and capacity building programs of forest department during their college education. The project is working for addressing the environmental issues in the area.
- SYSS is well recognized by the local government (e.g. Forest Department, Agriculture Department, M.P. Biodiversity Board, etc.) and community (*Gram Panchayats*). The organization has prepared the Micro plans for JFMCs and Public Biodiversity Register (PBR) at panchayat level.
- In Nanikanhar (one of the project villages), all households (about 28 households who belong to *Gond Tribes*, inhabit in the village) have replaced their traditional chullas with smokeless chullas. The project has reduced the pressure on forest as well as almost 50 per cent of fuel wood consumption in the village. This initiative has also helped in reduction of harmful gas emission for climate change.
- The project is promoting for revival of *desaj* (local) paddy varieties and minor millets through organic farming in the area. About 19 types of *desaj* paddy have been identified, collected and distributed among farmers. There are 30 families (from 7 villages) are engaged in organic farming of minor millets in the area. They have also promoted two nurseries and carried out plantation of *Morinda citrifolia* and *Buchanania lanzan* rare species in the area.

Opportunities for Improvement: (maximum 5)

- The project area is located on the periphery of “Pench Tiger Reserve”. Project could not focus on conservation and scaling up of globally significant endangered plant species, especially medicinal plants (although they have the list of 45 medicinal plant species exist in the area).
- The farmers had visited Bioved (Allahabad), one of the SGP partner organizations in India and attended the training on lac cultivation. After attending the training, some of the farmers have started cultivation on *Butea monosperma*, *Ziziphus jujuba* and *Flemingia semialata*. However, they are having difficulties in its proper cultivation, processing and marketing.
- Intaglio- is emerging as one of the additional sources of income in the area. In addition, community is adopting faster, especially women and girls for garland making, embroideries, handicrafts and assembling work of these accessories as additional sources of income in the project area.
- The promoted alternate livelihoods options such as poultry rearing, eco-tourism, nursery raising, NTFP collection and marketing, vegetable cultivation, leaf plate/ cup making, incense stick making, handicraft making, minor millet processing units, lac cultivation and rearing of tasar silk worm are at very initial stage and limited to few families only.
- Promote alternate efficient energy practices (e.g. energy cake units, LPG connections, smokeless chullas and sarai cookers) are limited to few villages and families only.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Project should identify globally significant flora and fauna species exist in the area and work towards their conservation.
- The farmers engaged in lac cultivation should encouraged and provided technical trainings as well as handholding support for tree preparation, methods of putting lac on trees, maintenance, harvesting, processing and marketing. Project should work towards promotion of lac cultivation demonstration plots in the area.
- The project has flooded number of alternative livelihood options and additional income generating activities to the project community. Project should work towards scaling up of sustainable alternate livelihood options and additional income generating activities promoted in the project area.
- Project should make efforts for scaling up of alternate efficient energy practices in the region. Smokeless chullas should be promoted in all Forest Villages exist in the district on priority basis.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- The biogeographic location of the project area is a true representative of the Central Highland, which comes under the *Deccan Peninsula*. The biogeographic region, which it represents, is *Satpuda Maikal Division*. Project could not focus on globally significant flora and fauna species for its identification and conservation.



Lac work in village Kamkasur



Incense stick making in village Kamkasur



Promotion of local variety of Paddy



Meeting with SHG members of village Nanhikar



***Tailoring Training Participants in village
Aamgoav***



***Tailoring Training Participants with their
product***

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #27: Community action to reduce pressure on forests through sustainable land use & Local Biodiversity Management around the Protected Areas in tribal belts of Seoni District

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation

Location of Project (State): 7 villages viz. Kamkasur, Meharbori, Nanhikar, Mundiakheda, Aamagad, Aamgoav and Barvah in Seoni District of Madhya Pradesh

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Strengthening community based natural resource conservation efforts and securing the livelihood of forest fringe community.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- SYSS Staff, Seoni-
- Village Kamkasur- SHG (1), Poultry Farm (1), Incense stick making (1), lac work group (1), Garland making group (1), Smokeless chullah (3), Lac cultivators (2), Paddy cultivators (2), urja cakes production unit (1)
- Village Nanikanhar- Smokeless chullah maker (1), Smokeless chullah (3), Energy Cake maker (1), small millet processing unit (1), SHG (1), Incense stick making (1), Garland making group (1)
- Village Mundiakheda- SHG (2), Bio gas (2)
- Village Meharbori- SHG (1)
- Village Aamgoav- SHG (1), leaf & paper cup / plate unit (1), Tailoring Training Centre (1), Poultry Farm (1)

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Rajesh Tambre	M	Project Staff (President)	SYSS Office, Seoni
Rajesh Baghel	M	Project Staff (Vice President)	SYSS Office, Seoni
Mahender Rahangdale	M	Project Staff	SYSS Office, Seoni
13 villagers of Kamasur (Jaiwan, Sarita, Pushpa, Saroj, Jaldharavi, Lakhubai, Ansuniya, Ishwanti, Sharda, Beda bai, Banshi, Rambati bai, Shyama bai)	F	Beneficiary	Village Kamkasur
3 villagers of kamasur (Munsitaram, Ravi Uekey and Bhimram)	M	Beneficiary	Village Kamkasur
Sheela Tekam	F	Beneficiary	Village Nanikanharr
8 villagers of Nanikanhar (Babita, Manishvati, Anjali, Sabita, Sangeeta, Durga, Rajni, Dhanno bai)	F	Beneficiary	Village Nanikanhar
9 villagers of Nanikanhar Premvati,	F	Beneficiary	Village Nanikanhar

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Dhanwanta, Chaitobai, Pravavati, Sonvati, Kamla, Memvati, Phoolvati and Sukman)			
7 villagers from Mundiakheda (Bhunswari, Parmala bai, Meera bai, Anita, Chandrakal, Sunbati bai and Kiran Bai from Pari SHG)	F	Beneficiaries	Village Mundiakheda
2 villagers from Mundiakheda (Pratap and Radheshyam- Bio gas beneficiaries)	M	Beneficiaries	Village Mundiakheda
10 villagers from Meharbori (Rajni, Sapna, Kaushlya, Devhuti, Dhaneswari, Bela, Sunita Anuradha, Janka and Dharman from Jai Satya Sai SHG)	F	Beneficiaries	Village Meharbori
10 villagers from Aamgaon (Kiran, Kaushal, Mamoti, Rampyari, Mahavati, Shantabai, Kiranbai, Ratibai, Motiabibai and Nausarbai from Parvati SHG)	F	Beneficiaries	Village Aamgaon
Nutan lal (Poultry beneficiary)	M	Beneficiary	Village Aamgaon
15 Youth from Aamgaon (Sangeeta, Puja, Meena, Rajni, Shruti, Shakuntala, Renu, Kavita, Durga, Kanta, Neha, Ramkali, Sapna, Anjum, Jubeda, from Tailoring Training Centre)	F	Beneficiaries	Villages- Aamgaon, Nanhikanar, Kamkasur, Mudiakheda, Gudma and Parwara

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide alternate livelihood options to 304 tribal families (e.g. energy cake units, poultry rearing units, eco-tourism, nursery raising, NTFP collection and marketing, leaf cup/plate units, incense stick making, tailoring, handicrafts/ garland making, embroidery, minor millets processing units, lac production, etc.) • Promote alternate efficient energy practices (e.g. energy cake units, LPG connections, smokeless chullas, etc.) • Conservation of local paddy, medicinal and endangered plant species • Nursery and plantation of <i>Morinda citrifolia</i> (Noni) and <i>Buchanania lanzan</i> (Chirounje) rare species • Conservation and processing of minor millets
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 LPG connections for BPL families in semi-urban areas • 2 Energy cake units • 4 bio gas units • 139 smokeless chullas • 2 Poultry units • 2 leaf cup/plate making units • 1 Tailoring Training Centre • Trainings and Exposure visits • Incense stick making and marketing • Promotion of local paddy variety, minor millets and organic farming in project villages • Lac cultivation in 4 villages
Total percentage expended to date of	40%

assigned project budget	
How long has the project being going on (# months)	25 months
What percent of the project time period remains	11 months
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	No cost extension.
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Y
How did they find out about the SGP?	Earlier project done with CEE

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternate livelihood options (e.g. lac cultivation, local variety of paddy, minor millets, poultry, tailoring, leaf cup / plate making, incense stick making, etc.) • Alternate efficient energy practices (e.g. bio gas, smokeless chullas, energy cake units, LPG connection, etc.)
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction on forest dependency for fuel wood / energy • Reduction in quantum used of fuel wood (about 4kg per day per household reduction)
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LPG connections for BPL families • Smokeless chullas • Tailoring Training Centre
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of alternate livelihood activities like garland making/embroideries / handicrafts in the project • Proper training and facilitation to farmers for Lac cultivation, processing and marketing • Establishment of backward and forward linkages of alternate livelihood options promoted in the project area
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	-

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	814
# men directly involved in the project	1843
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	40
# women in project decision-making positions	18
# men in project decision-making positions	14
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation and strengthening (training, exposure, and handholding support, etc.) of SHGs • Promotion of LPG, smokeless chullas, • Establishment of Tailoring Training Centre • Promotion of alternative livelihoods tailoring, leaf cup / plate making, incense stick making, art & craft, etc.)
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	-

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	2 times Mr. P. Sodhi- July 14-15, 2014 Regional Office- July 11-22, 2015
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	No
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	No

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Delay in release of 2 nd installment
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	Late submission of UC and MTR by the project partner
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy cake production machines (2 units)- It requires 3HP connection • Leaf and paper cup / plate making units (2)- Manually operated, plate making machine is not working properly • Minor millet processing machine (1 unit)

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	No partnership between the projects and other projects.
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	Technical and financial support. Agriculture Department, M.P. State Biodiversity Board, Gram Panchayat (MGNREGA), M.P. Agro.
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	Agriculture Department & M.P. Agro.- Minor millet processing unit (1), Biogas (4) M.P. State Biodiversity Board- Plantation of <i>Morinda citrifolia</i> and <i>Buchanania lanzan</i> (99 farmers) Gram Panchayat (MGNREGA)- Bunding work (12 farmers), Well (2 farmers), Pond (1 farmer)

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	\$6498 in cash
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	LPG connection, honorarium to Tailoring Training Trainer, Computer Operator, etc.
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	\$23576 in kind. Used as bunding work, digging of wells, pond, establishment of minor millet processing and biogas units, etc.

#30: Sujagriti Samaj Sevi Sanstha (SSSS)

Name of Evaluators: Samir Stephan Kujur

Date of Field Visit: November 5-7, 2015

Project Title (#30): Up scaling the project of reclamation of ravines through endogenous technology & in-situ conservation of local biodiversity, and strengthen the livelihood security in three Panchayats of Morena District

GEF Thematic Area/s: Land Degradation and Biodiversity

SGP Funding: US \$ 46474.34 (1US \$=INR 53.38)

Co-Financing: (if available disaggregated by in cash and in kind): US \$49439.87 (\$14780.82 in cash and \$34659.05 in kind)

Project Objective: Reclamation of ravines; conservation and protection of Guggul (*Commiphora wightii*); and promotion of organic farming.

Brief Project Description:

The Chambal river is a tributary of the Yamuna river in central India, and flows northeast through Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and then forming the boundary between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh before turning southeast to join the Yamuna in Uttar Pradesh state. The Chambal and its tributaries drain the Malwa region of north-western Madhya Pradesh, while its tributary, the Banas, which rises in the Aravalli Range, drains southeastern Rajasthan. The Chambal ravines, covers a total area of 110 km, are the result of years of soil erosion due to extensive, and indiscriminate deforestation. Due to ravines many villages have disappeared.

The SGP supported project is working towards addressing the issue of land degradation and desertification in the area. It attempts to check and reverse the process at local level. Further, the project applies endogenous measures both engineering and vegetative for checking ravines and preventing land desertification. The process is local specific and community owned and thus cost effective and sustainable. The project is applying the learning from the previous SGP project on Land Desertification.

Overall Assessment: The project is rated as Satisfactory for its overall implementation (using 6 point Progress Towards Results Rating Scale i.e. Highly Satisfactory, Satisfactory, Moderately Satisfactory, Moderately Unsatisfactory, Unsatisfactory, Highly Unsatisfactory).

Strengths: (maximum 5)

- The organization is working for last 12 years on “Save Water Campaign”; and working in tribal rural villages viz. Khadariyapura, Kaharpur and Telri; and developing wells and *dorbandi* (farm bunding). It has field office in Pahadgad (Block Headquarter) and Head office based at Morena (District Headquarter).
- The organization is well recognized by the community, government, NGOs, corporates,

research and extension institutions. It has received number of awards viz. (i) Biodiversity Conservation by Biodiversity Board in 2012 (ii) Forest Protection and Plantation by MoEFCC in 2013 (iii) Biodiversity Conservation by Biodiversity Board in 2014 (iv) Basaman Mama Award for Forest and Forest Being Conservation in 2015 for rendering their services. The organization was engaged by the Madhya Pradesh Biodiversity Board for preparation of village wise Public Biodiversity Registers (PBRs), which was considered the best in the state.

- Sujagriti has experience of community mobilization for *Commiphora wightii* conservation, protection and sustainable harvesting of *Guggul* resin (use of instruments for resin extraction promoted by JNKVK, Jabalpur). Price of *Guggul* resin has increased from Rs. 400/- to Rs. 900/- per kg (minimum support price from Madhya Pradesh Forest Department) in Madhya Pradesh.
- Sujagriti has rich experience on working for reduction in soil erosion, reclamation of ravines and improvement in water level. In OP5 SGP, the project has made reclamation of about 800ha ravines (about 400 ha of forest land, 300 ha of private agricultural land and 100 ha of panchayat land).

Opportunities for Improvement: (maximum 5)

- Project has major focus on *Commiphora wightii* plantation. There are possibilities for promotion of flora species which can reduce the soil erosion in ravines. However, there are little efforts made by the project for plantation and conservation of some ravine suitable trees and medicinal plants.
- The project has formed some village level institution like SHGs and BMCs for conservation and management of plantation. The project has also promoted *smokeless chullas* and sewing enterprises on demonstration basis.
- The project has initiated organic farming and conservation of traditional seeds such as *Pennisetum glaucum*, *Vigna radiata*, *Vigna mungo* and *Cajanus cajan* in the project area.
- It was observed that monkeys have suddenly inhabited near *Baba Devpuri* temple area and are causing a wreck to the natural habitat there. Many of the 4000 *Guggul* saplings that were growing there have been damaged. They have also damaged the trees around the temple, so the NGO has scrapped the plan to create a biodiversity park in the premises.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- The project should also focus on plantation and scaling up of grasses, medicinal plants and trees to check soil erosion such as *Dendrocalamus calostachyus*, *Cordia dichotoma*, *Carissa carandas*, *Pithecellobium dulce*, *Manilkara hexandra*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Limonia acidissima*, *Annona reticulate*, *Annona squamosa*, *Ziziphus zuzuba*, *Ficus racemosa*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Ficus benghalensis*, *Ficus religiosa*, *Acacia nilotica*, *Morus nigra*, *Borassus flabellifer*, *Phoenix dactylifera*, *Pandanus odorifer*, *Neolamarckia cadamba*, *Magnolia champaca*, *Asparagus racemosus* and *Caparis decidua* which are suitable for ravines.

- The MTRT recommends that project should work towards strengthening of BMCs and SHGs; increase women participation through scaling up of *smokeless chullah* for energy efficiency and sewing enterprises for additional sources of income to the community.
- Project should promote and scale up the organic farming and conservation of traditional and climate resistant seeds such as *Pennisetum glaucum*, *Vigna radiata*, *Vigna mungo* and *Cajanus cajan* for food security.
- Project should report the problems of monkeys to Forest Department (Wildlife) and request them for taking the necessary steps.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- Ravines are very fragile ecosystem, which have global significance. Addressing the vast problems and issues of ravines are very difficult through a normal SGP. The project could have been considered and developed as one of the *Strategic Projects* of SGP for its greater impact.



Guggul Nursery



Guggul plants in Chambal Ravines



Interaction with farmer in village Praipura



Dorbandi and Check dam

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #30: Up scaling the project of reclamation of ravines through endogenous technology & in-situ conservation of local biodiversity, and strengthen the livelihood security in three Panchayats of Morena District

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): LD & BD

Location of Project (State): Piprai, Pipraipura, Bhanpur, Jaitpur, Maksoodpur, Bhindwa and Nadupura in Morena District, Madhya Pradesh

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Reclamation of ravines; conservation and protection of Guggul (*Commiphora wightii*); and promotion of organic farming.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- Office of Sujagriti, Morena
- Forest Department, Morena
- Guggul Plantation site, Piprai
- SHG (1) in Piprai
- Dorbandi sites and Check Dams (4) in Bhindwa
- Dorbandi sites in Pipraipura
- Agro Farming sites (3) in Praipura
- SHG (1), Nadupura
- 4 Members of Kalapatank Dal (Artist Group)

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Shri Zakir Hussain	M	Project Staff (Director)	L.I.G. 914, Mayur Van New Housing Board Colony Morena (M.P.), PIN - 476001
Shri Abdul Hussain	M	Project Staff	L.I.G. 914, Mayur Van New Housing Board Colony Morena (M.P.), PIN - 476001
Shri O.P. Varma	M	Project Staff	L.I.G. 914, Mayur Van New Housing Board Colony Morena (M.P.), PIN - 476001
Shri Manjar Ali	M	Project Staff	L.I.G. 914, Mayur Van New Housing Board Colony Morena (M.P.), PIN - 476001
Dr. Atul Srivastav	M	Technical Adviser	JNKVV, Jabalpur
Mr. Lakhan Sharma,	M	Range Officer, Forest Department, Morena	Range Office, Forest Department, Morena
BMC President	M	Beneficiary	Village Bhindwa
Ram Narayan	M	Beneficiary	Village Piprai
Asharam	M	Beneficiary	Village Pipraipura
4 members of Kalapatank Dal	M	Artist Group for Awareness	Morena

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up scaling of protection measures against ravines ingress through traditional methods • Guggul plantation for reduction of soil erosion and saved community land • Establish institutional arrangement for up scaling piloted action and enhanced economic returns for biodiversity based livelihoods • Promote organic farming and conserve the local traditional seed varieties
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community mobilization- Awareness programs in villages, village institutions for better Equity and Management (JFMC, BMC, SHG, etc.) • Reclamation of Ravines- site survey and suitability assessment, soil and water conservation works (e.g. construction of stop dams, Field bunds, drainage systems (Jal nikas nali) • Guggul (<i>Commiphora wightii</i>) conservation and protection- seed collection, nursery development, plantation and conservation, marketing, etc. • Organic farming and conservation of traditional seeds
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	40%
How long has the project being going on (# months)	25 months
What percent of the project time period remains	11 months
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	No cost extension
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	N First phase of SGP was for “Guggul planting and dorbandi” during the period of June, 2007 to May, 2009. The total budget of the first phase was INR 1600000/-
How did they find out about the SGP?	Website of UNDP/ SGP and CEE

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable harvesting of Guggul gum (use of instruments promoted by JNKVK, Jabalpur) • Price of Guggul gum increased from Rs. 400/- to Rs. 900/- per kg (minimum support price from Madhya Pradesh Forest Department) • Reduction in soil erosion and reclamation of ravines
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclamation of Ravines and improvement in water level • <i>Commiphora wightii</i> (Guggul) conservation and protection
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclamation of Ravines- about 400 ha of forest land, 300 ha of private agricultural land and 100 ha of panchayat land • Conservation and protection of <i>Commiphora wightii</i> (Guggul) - plantation in about 30 ha and conservation in 1000 ha of land. • Organic farming and conservation of traditional seeds
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plantation of medicinal plants suitable in ravines (e.g. <i>Aloe vera</i>) • Strengthening of BMCs, increase women participation through scaling up of smokeless chullah and sewing

	enterprises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organic farming and conservation of traditional seeds- <i>Pennisetum glaucum</i> (Desi bajra), <i>Vigna radiata</i> (moong bean), <i>Vigna mungo</i> (urad), etc.
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	-

Table 4: **Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)**

# women directly involved in the project	200
# men directly involved in the project	1000
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	-
# women in project decision-making positions	66
# men in project decision-making positions	800
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	SHG promotion
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	Scaling up and strengthening of SHGs and dairies.

Table 5: **M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)**

How many times has the PMU visited this project	4 times
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	No
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	No

Table 6: **Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	Paryavaran Mitra Program from 2012 in 125 schools of Morena District with the support of Ministry of Environment & Forests and Centre for Environment Education, Delhi and Bhopal. At the State level, 15 teachers, 15 schools and 9 organizations were awarded. Out of these, Sujagriti Samaj Sewi Sanstha, (SSSS) Morena was selected for the Best Work and was awarded on 29 April 2014 in a function organized at the Conference Hall of the Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal.
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	M.P. Biodiversity Board; Organic Farming Institute at Ghaziabad; KVK; JNKVV; Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur; Aditya Birla; CCD North Durg MP; Samarthan, Bhopal; Actionaid, Bhopal; Forest Department, Morena, M.P.; Prayas Sanstha Ambarvada, Chhinvada; Jan Abhiyan Parisad, Morena; Dabur Company, Delhi; CEE, Delhi; Woman Power Connect, Delhi; JNKVV, Jabalpur; Agriculture Department, Morena; Zila Panchayat, Morena; Horticulture Department, Morena; National Medicinal Plant Board, M.P. and Delhi.
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	M.P. Biodiversity Board- financial support for preparation of Public Biodiversity Register (PBR) Organic Farming Institute at Ghaziabad- Organic Farming. KVK, JNKVV and Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur - Research and Extension services Aditya Birla- Sewing (silai) centre for one SHG (10 members)

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	US \$14780.82 (\$ 6463.10 fromMGNREGA; \$ 1142.75 from Guggul seed selling; \$ 599.48 from JNKVV; \$ 5170.48 from Govt. and JNKVV for training, awareness and capacity building program; \$ 1405 from M.P. Biodiversity Board)
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	Dorbandhi, Medicine spraying, training, awareness and capacity building programs, PBR preparation.
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	US \$ 34659.05 (for stop dam construction, dorbandhi, drainage system, smokeless chullas, Guggul plantation, training, awareness and capacity building programs)

#36: Paribesh Unnayan Parishad (PUPA)

Name of Evaluators: Shankar Haldar and Nittie Srivastava

Date of Field Visit: October 28-31, 2015

Project Title: Conservation of local agro biodiversity for better livelihoods through use of local resources in response to poor areas of Sundarbans.

GEF Thematic Area/s: Biodiversity conservation

SGP Funding: Rs. 20,00,000

Co-Financing: Rs. 10,92,000 (segregation in cash and in-kind is not possible)

Project Objective: The overall objective of the project is to improve the quality of life and reduce the poverty of the rural communities in a sustainable way by various interventions in diversified livelihood options, specially on climate change resilient development, biodiversity conservation and enhancing the socio-economic enhancement.

Brief Project Description: The activities are centered on biodiversity conservation, social-economic upliftment through local resource management and equitable sharing of benefits by the local community at selected villages of Sagar Island and Pathatpratima, in district South 24 parganas, West Bengal. To enhance the livelihood security of small and marginal farmers through conservation and sustainable utilization of indigenous agro-biodiversity resources, particularly, salt varieties of paddy and empower the farmers with proper training (especially on capacity building, eco-friendly and alternative employment generation activities like vermicomposting, kitchen gardening, diversified integrated bio-farming including poultry, livestock, fishery, etc.) as climate resilient livelihood development to uplift themselves on their living environment.

Overall Assessment:

Strengths:

- Very strong NGO commitment and good foothold at the community level.
- Identified and field level tested more than 100 variety of traditional paddy and 22 salt tolerant paddy were field tested among them 5 variants, namely, Kerala Sundari, Dudheswar, Malabati, Kalo Bakra, and Hamiltan were found to be most successful as salt tolerant paddy in these regions.
- The project directly involved women to build their capacity in fish and poultry management to bring out direct source of alternate income and instill self-esteem and empowerment.
- Introduced an innovative Cost & Benefit Sharing revolving fund (interest free loan) to the farmers for generating extra income targeting especially female beneficiaries.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- The revolving funds intended to assist the women SHGs groups for capacity building to meet their specific needs lacked effectiveness in terms of when the fund will be returned and who will be next SHG member to avail the loan is not known.
- The SHGs are unable to understand how the revolving fund works as the scheme is explained verbally to the SHG members and after sometime they don't remember the guidelines of the scheme.
- The proposed project activities are too much diversified and many which is difficult to achieve within the stipulated project timeframe.
- Women play major role in paddy cultivation but very few participated in technical training workshops on paddy cultivation conducted by the project due to various domestic engagements.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- To make 'Cost & Benefit Sharing Loan Model' more effective a time-frame should be defined for returning the loan. A list of 'next-who' or subsequent beneficiaries should be listed at the start of the loan disbursement to create a peer-pressure to return the loan on time.
- To make the revolving fund more effective the scheme should be documented in leaflet containing how the scheme operates, the terms and conditions, how this loan can be used. The leaflet should have pictorial representation with captions in local language and used to disseminate the scheme among the SGHs and circulated among them.
- At proposal screening stage the activities to be assessed whether it's doable or not within the budget and timeframe. A more realistic doable proposal should be funded, to avoid the shift from the main thematic areas.
- To ensure the increase in participation of women in training programs targets in terms of nos. of women to be trained should be set. A few members from the village should be trained to become master trainers for imparting training at village level.

Missed Opportunities (if any):

- The plethora of knowledge and database available with other organizations like West Bengal, Forest Department, WWF and ENDEV that are doing similar type of research work in that area, could have been used by the project implementing authorities. The project authorities could prepare a handbook or ready recknor containing information for the farmers with handy information e.g. which variety to use at what salinity level of the soil etc. This could have been done by compiling pre-existing data and their own locally identified indicators.



Salt tolerant demonstration Paddy field



Integrated farming system



The first demonstration plot for salt tolerant paddy



Interaction with women SHGs

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #: “Conversation of local agro biodiversity for better livelihoods through use of local resources in response to poor areas of Sundarbans” (#36) {Project PIA : Paribesh Unnayan Parishad (PUPA)}

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): BD

Location of Project (State): Sundarbans, West Bengal

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Make use of degraded saline land to for paddy cultivation and reduce poverty in the rural communities

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant)

Visited 9 villages in Sagar Island and Patharpratima block, namely : Dhablahat Shibpur, Bamankhali, Moori ganga, Shilpara, Hendal Ketki, Satyadas Pur (Tribal village), Dakshmin Sitarampur, Gobordhanpur and Indrapur.

Visited PUPA office

Seed Bank and Biodiversity Research

Information and Training Centre

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Dr. Santanu Mitra	M	President, PUPA	+91-9331014283, mitrasantanufeb@gmail.com
Dr. Amales Misra	M	Secretary, PUPA & Contact person, SGP project	+91-9002497090, amagram.pupa@gmail.com
Prof. Sunita Das	F	Members, Executive Committee, PUPA	+91-9433102806
M. Acharya	M	SGP, Project Coordinator	
Ms. Sudipti Halder	F	SGP Staff	
Ms. Anima Das	F	SGP Staff (part-time)	
Dayal Bhuniya	M	Coordinator, PUPA	
Saheba Khatun	F	Coordinator, PUPA	
Meeting with SHGs			
Women SHGs: 1. Shibpur Sima S.H.G 2. Nil Diganta S.H.G 3. Rani Rashmoni S.G.S.Y 4. Subarna Lata S.G.S.Y 5. Ma Manasha S.H.G	Met 40 women		
Other Beneficiaries			
Abul Kalam Sekh	M		
Sekh Suleman	M		

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

<p>What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide</p>	<p>Project activities will be carried out in 3 geographical areas, namely, Sagar Island, Patharpratima, and Diamond Harbor –II. Broadly proposed activities are;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Planning and conduct of sensitisation and awareness programs b) Establish biodiversity conservation farming system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation of biotic components • Use of organic fertilizers/manure c) Rain water harvesting (excavation of ponds) d) Establish Biodiversity Research, Information and Training Centre e) Capacity Building initiatives f) Open marketing channels / outlets
<p>What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date</p>	<p>The project activities are carried out in 2 geographical locations, namely, Sagar Island, and Patharpratima. In Sagar Island activities were conducted at 14 villages involving 432 HHs and around 2,200 populations. In Patharpratima, 13 villages involving 521 HHs and around 2,606 populations were targeted.</p> <p>The details of the activities till date carried out are;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Planning and conduct of sensitisation and awareness programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Sagar Island, 53 SHGs with 784 members, 389 farmers including 10 Farmer Clubs and in Patharpratima, 55 SHGs with 842 members, 261 farmers including 14 Farmers Clubs • 6 Sensitisation and awareness programs were conducted on World Environment Day, Earth day, International Biodiversity day, Forest week, Women Day and Health awareness programs at Sagar Island b) Establish biodiversity conservation farming system (Seven at Sagar Island, five at Patharpratima) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation of biotic components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Traditional varieties of paddy conservation (Aman & Boro) (SRI & conventional methods) (More than 100 varieties of traditional paddy, conserved in the Demo Farm, Phulbari, including 22 saline tolerant) – Fishing of self-breeding indigenous fishes (Koi, Magur, Singi, Snake headed fishes, etc) (15 and 10 in Sagar Island and Patharpratima respectively) – Formation of Kitchen Garden/Nutritional Garden/Herbal Garden (50 and 41 SHG members at Sagar Island and Patharpratima respectively) – Horticulture (Fruit plants) (more than 350 at Sagar Island and 50 at Patharpratima) – Promoting area specific fertilizer tree [Dhaincha (<i>Sesbania baculeate</i>), Bokful (<i>Sesbania grandiflora</i>), Sunhemp (<i>Crotalaria Juncea</i>), Cowpea (<i>Vigna sp.</i>), Black Gram (<i>Vigna mungo</i>), etc (These plants are cultivated in Demo Farm for seed production. The seeds are then distributed to more than 50 farmers of Sagar island) – Promoting agro-forestry (Tree based cultivation at Integrated Farms started. 7 at Sagar and 5 at Patharpratima were encouraged along with their Integrated Farming System Farms) – Organic Betel Vine yard (More than 30 farmers started using Vermicompost and bio-fertilizers in their Betel vine yard at Sagar Island)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nursery plantations (mangrove, avenue plants, fruit plants (particularly mango grafting), Vegetables (traditional varieties)) (16 at Sagar Island and 5 at Patharpratima. Fruit plant saplings were supplied twice (once under SGP and another co-financed by KREEPA) - Endemic poultry, duck, goat (black Bengal variety), Sheep (Garole variety); backyard poultry birds (Deshi variety) (Cruiolers, RIR & Banaraja variety supplied to 50 farmers at Sagar Island and 10 SHG members at Patharpratima) - Opening and maintaining of Fodder Bank, Seed Bank, Worm Bank, etc. (One Seed Bank is established at Sagar Island) • Use of organic fertilizers/manure - Use of Green Manures (Dhaincha is being used as green manure by more than 20 farmers at Sagar and 15 farmers at Patharpratima) - Use of Compost/FYM (Compost is used by 25 and 16 Farmers at Sagar Island and Patharpratima) - Making and using of Vermicompost/Vermi Wash (Vermicompost is produced by more than 40 farmers at Sagar Island and 14 at Patharpratima) - Liquid Bio-manures (Jeebamrutha - cow dung, cow urine, bason, molasses, good soil); Fish tonic (fish waste & molasses); Cow urine (Cow dung & cow urine mixture) (Liquid bio-manures is used by 35 farmers at Sagar and 50 at Patharpratima) - Motivate to use of Bio-fertilizers available in the market (Bio-fertilizers procured from companies like VIB, and Nimpith are used by 30 betel vine yard owners) - Bio-pesticides (like neem, tobacco dust, cow urine, etc.) (used by nearly 15 farmers at Sagar Island) c) Rain water harvesting (excavation of ponds) (RWH arrangements alongwith each Integrated Farms (7) at Sagar Island and five at Patharpratima) d) Biodiversity Research, Information and Training Centre (One centre is established at Sagar - PUPA's Office, Phulbari) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low cost Smokeless Chulla (Only one smokeless chulla prepared for demonstration purpose but could not be promoted due to non-acceptability by the community members) • Solar Light intervention (One charging station exists at Sagar Island which was remodeled and maintained) e) Capacity Building initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOT in NRM, sustainable agriculture & biodiversity conservation (One 3 days training at Sagar Island and three 1 day training at Patharpratima) • Training on different activities (15 training programs conducted, covering thematic areas as • Organic farming (>150 farmers); Integrated Farming System (>100 farmers); Low cost Paddy Cultivation (>200 farmers); Nursery management (>50 SHG members); SHG Management (>150 Women); Poultry cultivation (> 50); Miscellaneous vocational Training (> 40)) • Training on marketing of traditional nature products (1 training program at Sagar Island with support from SAFE.
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	<p>Another training program on Food processing for 2 months with support from J. C. Ghosh Polytechnic)</p> <p>f) Open marketing channels / outlets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening sales outlets for value-added bio-products (1 local outlet at Sagar Island and 1 common city outlet at Garia, Kolkata) • Development of nature-based tourism (It is initiated at Sagar Island, places of visits identified, accommodation and total package for 2 to 3 days worked out. Tourist visited and stayed at PUPA Guest House)
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	Expenditure of 75% of the assigned budget has been expended (approx. Rs. 15.1 lakhs)
How long has the project being going on (# months)	19 Months
What percent of the project time period remains	5 Months
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	The project is running on time but discussion revealed that PUPA is looking for no-cost extension to test the salt tolerant paddy in the coming paddy season.
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	No Project on “Improving the quality of life and livelihood of rural community through sustainable use of local resources at Sagar Island, 24 Parganas” was completed in 2007-09 with budget Rs. 12,00,000
How did they find out about the SGP?	Through CEE/SGP website

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the use of salt resistant varieties of paddy the farmers are now benefited with lesser mortality and thus enhanced yield • The women who had been provided with chicks or had taken loans for poultry purpose had shown increase in alternate source income • The benefits of use of bio-fertilizers are well understood and used by many farmers • Increase in income by practicing fishery in more scientific manner (the training helped them to understand the better adaptation of the fisheries techniques) • Learned the technique of making low cost home-made fish feed has saved them from higher priced purchasing market fish feed
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity of paddy cultivation through use of different varieties of paddy seeds • Reduction in use of inorganic fertilizers and use of bio-fertilizers has led to better soil fertility • Reclamation of waste land through paddy cultivation
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the use of identified salt-resistance varieties of paddy higher yield was obtained that fetched them better income and enhanced food security • The cost of adopting fish/poultry practices was considerably reduced by the use of home-made feed • Integrated farming in pre-existing paddy fields through land-shaping has optimized the benefits of small-scale fishery practices

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of sustainable revolving fund system
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More training and awareness on benefits and use of organic fertilizers • The cost of adopting fish/poultry practices, as stated earlier, was considerably reduced by the use of home-made feed. The farmers wanted machines for making these feed • Better monitoring at village level to ensure easy access to the benefits given by the projects
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The farmers were definitely benefitted by the use of salt-resistant paddy varieties. However, the most flood - affected farmers preferred fishery to labor-intensive paddy practices. They seemed to be least interested and highly de-motivated in learning and practicing any type of paddy cultivation in fear of flood-damage • The knowledge about low-cost, better fish/poultry-management techniques outreach to all the beneficiaries is lacking and needs to gain momentum. • Although there have been sensitization of the use of organic fertilization, yet it was observed that the farmers still prefer inorganic fertilizer to organic ones because they found former to be hassle free and easily accessible.

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	1650
# men directly involved in the project	650
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	95
# women in project decision-making positions	330
# men in project decision-making positions	107
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	The women beneficiaries in this project were happy about the fact that they were involved in all the project activities. The project has ensured the women involvement at all the levels that seems to give them a sense of equality. However, greater participation of women should be ensured for the trainings for capacity building, especially in farming techniques.
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women beneficiaries wanted the training on certain practices like poultry and fisheries should be imparted at least twice a year • Trainings at Village level should be held so that women in large number can attend the training sessions and get benefitted.

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	Twice from Regional Office Bhubaneswar
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	<p>a) Government interface</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local BDO office provided materials (lime & bleaching powder for cleaning ponds) and visited twice to inspect • Local ADO visited 2 to inspect the ponds • Block welfare office – twice

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Block fishery office – thrice <p>b) NGOs partners – supported in training program and other activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rakshalkhali Ma Seva Samity, Rakshalkhali • SDSAT, Durbachati • Mohamaya Farmers Club • Pushpasti Sangeet Mahavidyala, Hendelketki • Ramkrishna Ma Seva Samity, Silpare • Mritunjoynagar Bishelakshim Milan Parisad • KREEPA • INSS, Pathatpratima <p>c) International Agency: 2 representatives from Praxis Laboratory, Hong Kong visited to see the work PUPA is carrying out</p>
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	<p>a) The proposed 3 villages in Diamond Harbour – II was not dropped from the project due to non-availability of saline soil.</p> <p>b) The project activities were increased from 5 to 14 villages in Sagar Island and from 5 to 13 villages in Patharpratima. On request of the villagers the project activity was extended to new villages and where soil salinity was found.</p>

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	The release of second installment was delayed by 3 months.
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	The delay was due to late submission of the audited statement of accounts by PUPA.
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No purchases

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PUPA study centre (Sagar Island)-- Bio diversity conservation awareness programme for school children • Farm School-- imparting training on farming technologies to local farmers. • SC Community Development Programme— Human resource sharing. • ICZMP-World Bank Support—Training and man power support • State Bio Diversity Board, WB— expert consultation in organic farming. • Dept. of Agriculture (Calcutta University - free soil testing) • ENDEV and WWF (Sunderban chapter) - help in providing seeds and shared knowledge and information on salt - tolerant varieties of paddy • Agriculture training centre (Fulia, Nadia) - provided free training and distributed variety of seeds
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	The NGO has involved local NGOs/CBOs to connect to the local community in a better way. The linkage has helped to secure better technical knowledge to enhance better implementation of the objectives of the NGO i.e. PUPA.
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness generated for different varieties of paddy seeds • Skill developed for better farming techniques • Better poultry management • Awareness towards bio-fertilizers

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	None
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	None
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	<p>Total of Rs. 4,66,685 is in-kind contributions and the breakup is as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manpower honorarium of PUPA expert – Rs. 2,67,000 • Hall rent – Rs. 15,000 • Honorarium for external trainer – Rs. 67,000 (from CPDO, Bhubaneswar; Univ. of Finland; CDTP, Training supported by JCG Polytechnic) • d) Project activities Rs. 117,685 (Paddy seed – Rs. 10,000; Poultry farming - Rs. 102,410; Kitchen garden – Rs. 5,275)

39: Zougam Institute for Community Resources & Development (ZICORD)

Name of Evaluators: Shankar Haldar

Date of Field Visit: October 12-15, 2015

Project Title: Strengthening Rural Women Society for Fuel Efficient Energy Production through Pyrolysis and Briquetting

GEF Thematic Area/s: Climate Change Mitigation

SGP Funding: Rs. 22,52,400

Co-Financing: Rs. 17,11,000 (NGO – Rs. 157,500; Community – Rs. 476,000; Beneficiaries – Rs. 1,077,900). Co-financing segregation in cash and in-kind is not available.

Project Objective: Better management of energy producing bio-resources for improving the environment and local economy for strengthening community participation in the efforts of Climate Change.

Brief Project Description: The project enhances the capacity of traditional village institutions and women societies and their working together in group/team work to address the problems of energy sources in rural area through production of briquetted charcoal beehive cakes. The project facilitates activities for capacity building of communities, setup workshed and tools, collect biomass, process productions, gender mainstreaming, saving and credits, monitoring evaluation and knowledge learning, mediation and replication to stake holder institutions.

Overall Assessment: The project is overall satisfactorily implemented.

Strengths:

- Development of newer technology: Newer briquetting dies and tools were developed increasing the efficiency, easy to operation and less fatigue for the operator. The newer technologies developed were, hand press briquetting dies, biomass carbonization drum etc.
- Accessing stable market: Women SHGs formed established strong linkage with a hospital to supply the smokeless charcoal beehive cakes for room heating and cooking purpose.
- Acquiring asset, tools and skills for producing heating and cooking fuel from local resources like waste biomass which reduces the hardship of firewood collection from the jungle by womenfolks. It is estimated that annually around 10 to 30% mandays is saved by the womenfolks for searching and collection of firewood from jungle.
- Development of trainers: The SHGs members have mastered the skills to make the charcoal beehive cakes. Some of the SHG members were used as technical trainer to train newer SHG members. This enhanced the confidence of the womenfolks.
- Additional income generation: The sales of the charcoal beehive cakes to different buyers have provided additional income generation to the SGHs.

- Promoting the project for entrepreneurship business of the beneficiary groups

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Introducing the project to other Developmental agencies for incorporation or replication of the technology/project in their project schemes, are the most challenging task and hardship faced.
- Changing the habit of the communities at large for increased use of charcoal cakes in place of timber split fire-woods
- Slow and improper burning of the charcoal cakes is the major bottleneck expressed by the users. It takes longer time to initial burn the charcoal cake.
- Monthly production and sales records of charcoal cakes produced by SHGs are not maintained and recorded by any SHGs

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Preparation of a short documentary video to showcase the project benefits and outcomes would help seek attention of other developmental agencies to replication / upscale the technology/project. The documentary will help to change the habits of communities to use charcoal cakes in place of timber split fire-woods.
- The slow burning of charcoal cakes may be due to the fact that the percentage of soil used as binder is higher around 10~15% (normally the soil ratio should be around 5~7%). Due to higher soil ratio it is observed that there is improper mixing between charcoal and soil also results in slow burning. Use of starch as binder will improve the charcoal to soil ratio (soil quantity will reduce) to enhance rate of burning. Uniform mixing of charcoal and soil while during mixing process will enhance the burning rate.
- The monthly production and the sales record of each SHGs should be properly maintained and reported in the quarterly progress report.



Motor Operated Grinding machines



New briquetting dies



Preparation of Charcoal cakes



Burning of Charcoal cake

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #: “Strengthening Rural Women Society for Fuel Efficient Energy Production through Pyrolysis and Briquetting” (# 39) {Project PIA: Zougam Institute for Community Resources & Development (ZIRCOD), Manipur}

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): CC

Location of Project (State): Imphal, Manipur

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Empowering Women through Energy Technology Interventions

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- Visited ZIRCOD office,
- Visited 8 Common Facility Center and had discussion with 8 SHG group members,
- Interacted with local NGO “InSIDE-North East (Integrated Social & Institutional Development for Empowerment)”
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Official

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project^	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Albert Z.M	M	Secretary, ZIRCOD (Project Staff)	+91-9856288456, zircod.orgmanipur@gmail.com
Hauptu Gangte	M	Technical Facilitator, ZIRCOD (Project Staff)	+91-9856434408, zircod.orgmanipur@gmail.com
Mimi	F	Accountant, ZIRCOD (Project Staff)	+91-8413830718, zircod.orgmanipur@gmail.com
Hulen Misao	M	Member of InSIDE-North East (Local support to mobilize SHG’s & conduct of training programs)	inside.ne7@gmail.com
Pukhrambam Boicha Meitei	M	Asst. Manager, NABARD (Provided supported to conduct training programs)	+91-9089346343, pukhrambam.boicha@nabard.org
Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “A.A Ningshen Ara Aza SHG, Langol, District Imphal West”		Project Beneficiaries	
Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “D.L. Nupi Lom, Motbung Village, District Senapati”		Project Beneficiaries	
Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “Phaiyang Sanga SHG, Phaiyang village, Block Saikul, District Senapati”		Project Beneficiaries	
Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “Diamond Sower SHG, Thangkanphai village, Block Saikul,		Project Beneficiaries	

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
District Senapati”			
Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “P.L. Nupi Lom, Songthu avenue, Block Saikul, District Senapati”		Project Beneficiaries	
Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “Songthu Avenue VDC SHG, Songthu Avenue, Block Saikul, District Senapati”		Project Beneficiaries	
Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “Gamdei Veng Lhunkholam SHG, Gandeiphai Village, Block Saikul, District Senapati”		Project Beneficiaries	
Common Facility Centre & SHG Members of “T.J. Lom SHG, Chulouphai village”		Project Beneficiaries	

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity Building: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Formation of 11 nos. of SHG Train around 150 SHG members through various training programs mentioned below; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness training program for SHG operation and development (1 day), Orientation training program on Project implementation guideline (1 day), Exposure training and hands on tool training for operations of tools for fuel productions at the common facility centre / workshed (1 day), Formulation of 5 nos. of Village Resource Planning Committee (VRPC) Equipment's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct 11 common facility centre / workshed (size of each workshed 30 x 20 sq. ft.) Construct 11 nos. of pyrolyser pit (size of each pit 6 x 4 sq ft.) Provide 110 sets of briquetting dies (moulding press) tools with desk / bench For each common facility center one set of Biomass grinder, Wooden tray (biomass powder mixer) and Water container would be provided 150 set of stove / chulla
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity Building: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11 nos. of SHGs formed but 10 nos. of SHGs are in operation [MoU have been signed with 10 SHGs (as signing of MoU with Mahika Women SHG will commence only after their bank account opened)] A total of 115 SHG members (85 women and 30 men) were training in the three types of training program to effectively make the beehive fuel cakes. There were 12 children who had participated in the training programs. Instead of formulation of 5 nos. of Village Resource Planning Committee (VRPC), 10 nos. of SHG leaders each for one SHG has

	<p>been formulated.¹</p> <p>2. Equipment's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructed 10 common facility centre / workshed • Constructed 5 nos. of tradition pyrolyser pit and supplied 5 nos. of mechanized pyrolyser made of iron². • Provided 67 nos. of briquetting dies (moulding press) tools with desk / bench³ • 5 grinding table and 5 motor operated grinding machines⁴ were provided. • 5 water pots, 5 grinding table, 3 forma desk / bench were provided. • 150 sets of Stove/Chula.
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	69% expended of the total assigned project budget (Rs. 15,47,560 expended)
How long has the project being going on (# months)	18 months
What percent of the project time period remains	25% (6 months remaining)
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Yes
How did they find out about the SGP?	From other NGOs

Note:

¹ During project inception it was envisaged that 5 nos. of Village Resource Planning Committee (VRPC) would be set up. The VRPCs would be effectively managing, promoting, and demonstrating sound organization management of SHGs as well as monitor and evaluate the volume of sales, savings and credit of SHGs. But during project implementation phase, the SHGs members suggested that many such committee's outside the SHGs would confuse and disturb the effective operation of SHGs. Henceforth, in each SHGs, one SHG member was nominated as "SHG Leader" (a total 10 SHG leaders had been formulated) to look after the VRPC activities.

² The traditional pyrolyser pit or oven was earlier constructed using red brick and cement with an iron charging door. In the burning chamber the twigs, leaf, wood, etc were burned and after the burning of volatile matter the door was closed to form charcoal. The bigger size of the traditional pyrolyser pit or oven requires larger quantity of twigs, leaf and wood often difficult to operate. A smaller size mechanized pyrolyser, made of iron box fitted on ball bearing to rotate, was designed and fabricated. The new mechanized pyrolyser was much easy and convenient to use and was accepted well among the SHGs members.

³ The earlier briquetting dies provided were of UNDP design. In the UNDP design, the pressing of the dies / moulds is carried out by hand enabling exert higher pressure to get proper compactness of the beehive cakes. The briquetting dies / moulds design was modified and a lever mechanism was introduced to exert more and uniform pressure on the beehive cakes to have better compactness. The size of the beehive briquette from UNDP design is round shape of 6 inches x 3 inches having 19 beehive holes of 10 mm each for air circulation during burning. The SHG members suggested to increase the cake diameter to 6.5 inches, reduced the height of the cake to 2.5 inches and increased the beehive holes to 21 of 10 mm, this change in cake size increased the area and faster rate of burning.

⁴ The former grinding operation of charcoal was most laborious and painstaking operation as it was done manually hammering heavy wood logs on charcoal pieces. Again, a new electrically operated grinding machine was developed using 2 HP electrical motor. The new grinding machine was well accepted and used by the SHGs members.

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community understands the collection of firewood issues with women • 10 to 30% of mandays of women for searching nad collection of firewood from forest was saved due use of charcoal cake • Understanding for need to conservation of trees. • Man are taking part in household activities • Income generation has increased (sales @ Rs. 7 to 10 per
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	cake)
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in forest cutting for wood fuel collections. • Greenery in the forest areas have increased. Immigration or passage of birds and fowls are seen increased. <p>These environmental changes are observed but actual assessment was not feasible.</p>
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional income generation • Men participation in the household activities
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the burning rate of the cakes • More acceptance and demand of cakes in the community • Further technology development to increase the efficiency
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	No difference in perception

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	85
# men directly involved in the project	30
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	12 (school children)
# women in project decision-making positions	26 (as SHG Chairman, Trustee, Secretary or Record Keeper)
# men in project decision-making positions	4 (as Secretary or Record Keeper)
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In SHGs, only women can hold the decision making positions (like Chairman, Trustee, and Secretary) and men are not allowed to hold any of the positions, men can only be as SHG working members. If in any SHGs, women are illiterate, they are substituted by men for maintaining the record books. • All household activities are carried out by women and men do not participate in any household activities. This project has attracted men to the job in making charcoal beehive cakes along with the women counterpart. Men do not consider this job as household activity since they make the cakes using machines. But women expressed that the help extended by men in household activity has enhanced gender equality.
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A more energy efficient technology for easy and fast burning of the charcoal cakes • More training funds

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	PMU visited once in February 2015 during MTR preparation
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	Partnering with local NGO "InSIDE-North East" for community mobilization, formulation of SHGs and conduct of awareness training programs. These services were taken twice.
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	Initially, the project was sanctioned to for formulation of 11 SHGs and to conduct the allied activities in Senapati district. Finally, 10 SHGs were formed in Senapati district and 1 SHG in Loktak, Churachandpur district. The modification in terms of opening a new SHG in another district was important to evaluate how the project activities would operate in another district.

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes, the disbursement was on time.
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	The proposed budget heads in the proposal and in the Contract document are different. New budget head like “Equipments and furniture’s” has been added in the Contract and funds allocation has been made. ZICORD is unable to link the new budget heads and appropriately book the expenditures.
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	The purchase of steel made pharma (or dies) was from M/s Chingangbam Inaocha Singh and purchase of iron frames for pyrolyser with iron cover sheets were made from M/s Imo Iron and Steel Industry. Both the items are made to order items and contract agreement was signed with them. There were no issues observed.

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ZICORD is implementing another project sponsored by NABARD on “Farmers Producers Organization”. The same SHGs formed under SGP also benefited from the program. Since, the SHGs were already in place, NABARD program could quickly start. • In Tamenglong district, the SHG members imparted 3 days training for NABARD program. • The support from a local NGO “InSIDE-North East”, active in capacity building of youths to finds jobs in cadet profile and banking sector. The local NGO was used to mobilize the community for the project.
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	Partnership with NABARD and National Bank exists.
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	SHGs are having talk with the National Bank (the banks where the SHGs have their bank account) to avail loan facilities to purchase livestock.

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	Rs. 1,58,850 in cash The cash received was from ZICORD, community and SHGs
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	The cash was used to pay for plant & machinery, raw materials, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation, documentation and reporting (staff honorarium / salary).
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	Rs. 7,80,090 in-kind contributions received from ZICORD, community and SHGs

#46: Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group

Name of Evaluators: Shankar Haldar

Date of Field Visit: November 23, 2015

Project Title: “Preventing Accidental POPs Releases through POPs Prevention Partnerships (PPP) for e-Waste”

GEF Thematic Area/s: Climate Change Mitigation

SGP Funding: Rs. 19,13,000

Co-Financing: Rs. 11,40,000 (segregation by cash and in-kind is not available)

Project Objective: To combat the unintentional production (because of burning disposal system) of POPs chemicals, especially dioxins and furans, as well as, greenhouse gases from e-waste. By setting up an alternative handling and recycling channels for e-waste through POPs Prevention Partnership (PPP).

Brief Project Description: To set up a collection system for e-waste in 40 collection points in Delhi, Gurgaon and NOIDA. Collect 250 kgs of e-waste monthly from schools, residents, offices etc. through a scale up approach. To undertake an innovative, multi-media awareness program to enable e-waste generators to understand the POPs problem and participate in the solution. Train at least 200 waste pickers and itinerant buyers to transform into authorized e-waste handling without POPs production by implementing a viable business model. To build local, city-wise and national capacity to handle e-waste better and reduce POPs emissions.

Overall Assessment:

The documentation of the activities performed is poor (like the dissemination and training programs are conducted but could not show the completion reports; unable to show the signed contract of M&E specialist; it was said that the reports submitted by M&E specialist are directly submitted to UNDP). During MTR visit it was found that many of the activities like distributing of training completion certificates, purchase of e-waste bins for waste collection, printing of posters, radio interviews, etc are yet to be started. The training of the waste pickers is conducted but the completion certificates are not issued, lacks in recognizing them.

It is suggested to formulate a joint project monitoring committee with senior members from CHINTAN, Advisory members, M&E specialist and CEE to overlook the progress of the project. It is also suggested to develop a good work plan and strictly follow the work plan to complete all the remaining activities in timely manner.

Strengths:

- Motivated various society segments to safely recycle e-waste.
- Drive to supply e-waste free of cost from various donors like schools, institutes, RWA, organization / corporates and individuals.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- All the proposed activities are not taken up (like certificate issuance, preparation of manual updated on quarterly basis, conduct of dipstick survey understanding in income and livelihood perception, create one story or radio interview or blog every two months and many more).
- External M&E specialist reports expressed concern about delays in implementing the project and suggested to submit a details work plan. The suggestions were not implemented wholeheartedly.
- External M&E specialist reports showed the project outlined has only 3 activities (instead of 9 activities in proposal). Hence, monitoring of only 3 activities is performed, as he is unaware of all the 9 activities to be carried out under the project.
- Inadequate documentation to support some of the target achieved (like awareness generation of 130,000 people is not supported by any concrete documentary evidence, record of nos. of calls landed in help line, etc.)
- Poor e-waste collection linkage, as CHINTAN staff is collecting e-waste from various sources themselves, withdrawal of CHINTAN staff will break the collection linkage mechanism. This poor linkage was also revealed during meeting with RWA and waste pickers.
- Assess the project self-sustainable based on the incoming and outgoing revenue stream, and take remedial steps to make it self-sustainable.
- The visibility and branding of grant sponsored agency is lacking in promotional materials used

Recommendations:

- Develop a meticulous work plan considering the all the activities proposed in the proposal, so no proposed activity is left out (as many of the activities are yet to be started). Formulate implementation monitoring team consisting of Senior Officials from CHINTAN, Advisory members, CEE and M&E specialists. Initially, conduct monthly implementation review meetings to review the status once the project is implemented is on track the meetings can be organized on Quarterly basis.
- Sharing of the proposal alongwith the detailed work plan to the external M&E will also help in implementation monitoring of the project.
- All activities taken up should be documented appropriately and should be part of various reports submitted to CEE.
- Use of trained waste pickers leaders for e-waste collection from various formal source should be explored. This collection mechanism model will be more sustainability provided the waste pickers are able to earn substantial additional income.
- Presently, the project is financial unstable and the model is not self-sustainable. There is annual deficit of Rs. 222,000 (Rs. 366,000 – Rs. 144,000). Financial viability would be achieved only when the monthly e-waste collection touches 1000 kgs (or 2.5 times the present collection level) as shown below;
 - Present average monthly e-waste collection = 400 kgs (5052 kgs / 13 months collection = 389 (say 400 kgs))
 - Annual revenue inflow through sales of e-waste = Rs. 144,000 (400 kgs per month x 12 months x Rs. 30 per kg)

- Annual revenue outflow for collection and storing of e-waste = Rs. 366,000 (manpower @ Rs. 15,000 pm; storage cost @ Rs. 15,000 pm and transportation cost @ Rs 500 pm)
- The logos of all sponsoring agencies and project logo should be displayed appropriately in all promotion material. To address this issue at a global level, the MoA should be amended with a clause of “branding”.

Missed Opportunities (if any):



e-waste bin and standee put up in Jorbagh RWA (picture taken from RWA President tablet)



Storage of e-waste in collection center



Certificate issued by e-waste recycler for e-waste collection

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference (#43): “Preventing Accidental POPs Releases through POPs Prevention Partnerships (PPP) for e-Waste”

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): CC

Location of Project (State): Delhi, Gurgaon and NOIDA

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Establish e-waste formal and informal collection channels and recycle off through e-waste recyclers to reduce POPs in a partnership model

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- a) Visited CHINTAN office to have discussion with SGP project staff
- b) Visited Jorbagh community centre to see the collection point
- c) Met with President of Jorbagh RWA
- d) Visited CHINTANs e-waste collection centre
- e) Met e-waste pickers

Table 1: Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Bharati Chaturvedi	F	Secretary, CHINTAN	+91-11-46574171; bharati@chintan-india.org
Rajat Mohan	M	SGP Coordinator	+91-11-46574171; rajat@chintan-india.org
Malcome Mukherjee	M	SGP Project staff	+91-11-46574171; malcome@chintan-india.org
Mohd. Ibrahim	M	SGP Project staff	
Tina	F	President, Jorbagh RWA	
Saira Banu	F	Waste picker (Cluster Leader), SGP trained	
Lutpar	M	Waste picker, SGP trained	
Met with 4 other e-waste pickers		SGP trained waste pickers	

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

<p>What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide</p>	<p>a) Pre-activity set up (Identify advisory group; Kick off meeting; Set up help line)</p> <p>b) Collect 250 kgs of e-waste per month (Identify key collection source; Sign partnership; Awareness for students, residents, office goers; start collection drive; share results with e-waste generators; develop collection schedule; train waste pickers; e-waste segregation; send for recycling)</p> <p>c) At least 100,000 persons reached for collection of their e-waste (develop awareness material – posters, standees, stickers, etc.; create one story or radio interview or blog every two months; train waste pickers;</p> <p>d) At least 200 waste pickers and itinerant buyers trained for last mile (map waste pickers and itinerant buyers with Safai Sena; conduct 10 training workshop covering 200 waste pickers; conduct refresher training program; issue certifications; conduct dipstick survey with 20 trainees to understand changes of income and livelihood perception; Train 50 to impart training to other Safai Sena)</p> <p>e) One manual for facilitating replication, available online, mailing list and social media to at least 7000 relevant persons and organization as well as dissemination as hard copy to 500 persons or organization (each relevant section to be updated every quarter; produce manual)</p> <p>f) One closing workshop to share experience and how to prevent POPs from e-waste to be released via a PPP model</p> <p>g) A project that will become self-sustainable, not requiring further financial inputs (set up a financial protocol for funds received by selling e-waste; undertake evaluation by a pro-bono business advisor to ensure that adequate amounts for e-waste are collected for paying costs; evaluate for possible financial gap at mid-point of project to understand if the amounts of e-waste collected has to be increased and enhance outcomes; close financial gap by expanding clients)</p> <p>h) Monitoring and evaluation (identify an external monitoring and evaluation consultant; consultant will undertake quarterly assessment and provide results to CHINTAN; understand the project progress and challenges on a quarterly basis; hold fortnightly internal meetings with CHINTAN and Safai Sena; on-site financial audit)</p> <p>i) Reporting (quarterly report; share all M&E reports with GEF-SGP team; final report; financial report)</p> <p>Note: the activities / sub-activities suggested in the proposal are quite exhaustive and clearly indicate the approach and methodology framework. Each activity / sub-activity is supported with verifiable indicators and source of verification which should be used to monitor the progress of the project.</p>
<p>What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date</p>	<p>It is observed that only 4 activities are reported in quarterly progress report and mid-term reports and they are;</p> <p>a) Collect 4000 kgs of e-waste by the end of the project and diverting e-waste out of the POPs pathway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total collection of e-waste is 5052.06 kgs and collection from various source are; Individual - 523.5 kgs (10%); Organization / Corporate - 3557.56 kgs (70%); {highest

	<p>collection} School – 555 kgs (6%); RWA – 296 kgs (6%) and Waste pickers – 120 kgs (2%) {lowest collection}</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 3180 kgs of e-waste has been sent to authorized e-waste recycler (M/s Attero Recycling). Twice the consignment was sent on June 2015 (1075 kgs) and February 2015 (2005 kgs) • MoU signed with Institutes for e-waste collection <p>b) Reached out to 100,000 persons for collection of their e-waste in NCR of which at least 50% will be women or girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 130,000 people (73,000 females and 57,000 males) received trainings on e-waste and its harmful effects, E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 2011, e-waste collection, segregation and management. • 7 school eco-clubs have partnered <p>c) At least 200 waste pickers and itinerant buyers trained for last mile formalized collection of e-waste, for POPs free recycling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 177 waste pickers (101 females and 76 males) received trainings on e-waste and its harmful effects, E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 2011, e-waste collection, segregation and management and e-waste trading techniques. <p>d) To set up a collection system for e-waste in 35 collection points {the total collection points should be 40 instead of 35 as per the proposal}</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 collection points (8 at schools / institution, 5 at RWA, and 9 at organization / company) <p>e) Monitoring and evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External M&E specialist Mr. Pradeep Dadlani of M/s Syscom Service has been identified and appointed (the Contract and TOR copy may be submitted in QPR)
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	55% (Rs. 10,57,291)
How long has the project being going on (# months)	23 months
What percent of the project time period remains	4% (1 month remaining)
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	<p>Yes. Due to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lack in proper monitoring and progress of the activities No workable work plan in place Frequent change in implementation team member
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Yes
How did they find out about the SGP?	Through internet

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness generation among RWA, institutes and schools about e-waste • Training of waste pickers on e-waste issues and motivating them to segregate and hand over the e-waste to NGO • e-waste collection point and collection system mechanism
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	<p>established for formal and informal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up e-waste centralized collection center • Supply of e-waste to authorized e-waste recycler
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5052.06 kgs of e-waste collected and 3180 kgs of e-waste is recycled • 31800 ng of POPs prevented (POPs prevented @ 10,000 ng per tons)
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26% more than the target of 4,000 kgs target set for e-waste collection • Awareness generation among 130,000 people
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of other wastes like CFL, tube light, etc. • E-waste is collected mechanism to be strengthened (presently, CHINTAN staff members collect from formal sector (school, institutions, organization, RWA, etc), in absence of CHINTAN staff member they are unaware what to do with the e-waste)
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor documentation to support some of the target achieved (like awareness generation of 130,000 people is not supported by any concrete documentary evidence, record of nos. of calls landed in help line, etc.) • All the suggested activities are not taken up (like certificate issuance, preparation of manual updated on quarterly basis, conduct of dipstick survey understanding in income and livelihood perception, create one story or radio interview or blog every two months and many more) • Assess the project self-sustainable based on the incoming and outgoing revenue stream, and take remedial steps to overcome • Poor e-waste collection linkage, as CHINTAN staff is collecting from various sources, withdrawal of CHINTAN staff will break the collection mechanism and the system. This was revealed during meeting with RWA and waste pickers • Two reports of external M&E specialist was shared (February 2015 and June 2015), it was observed that the project outlined has only 3 activities (instead of 9 activities in proposal)

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	101 waste pickers
# men directly involved in the project	76 waste pickers
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	Nil
# women in project decision-making positions	11 waste picker leaders
# men in project decision-making positions	
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The women waste pickers have enhanced their income generation by selling of e-waste (segregated from other wastes) to NGO • The women have flexible time to do the job and look after their household activity. • Women in households determine when the items will be declared as e-waste.
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linkages with various institutes to collect e-waste directly from them to enhance the quantum of e-waste and enhance income generation.

Table 5: M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)

How many times has the PMU visited this project	Meeting held thrice
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Safai Sene” linkages for waste pickers • “Attero recycling” for authorized e-waste recycler
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	None

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes, but in FCRA bank account.
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	The funds were transferred to NGOs FCRA bank account. As SGP program is not covered under FCRA hence the fund deposited was transferred back and fresh fund transfer was done. It took nearly 2 months to resolve this issue.
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safai Sena to tap the waste pickers • Schools, Institutes, RWA, organizations and corporates to get e-waste • Attero recycling for recycling
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income generation of waste pickers • Safe disposal of e-waste supplied by Schools, Institutes, RWA, organizations and corporates

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	Nil
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	None
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	Rs. 1,38,411 (towards manpower and travel cost)

#51: Action in Community and Training (ACT)

Name of Evaluators: Shankar Haldar

Date of Field Visit: November 30, 2015

Project Title: “Waste to Livelihoods (Eco-friendly Unit for Paper and Plastic Waste Management)”

GEF Thematic Area/s: Climate Change Mitigation

SGP Funding: Rs. 10,00,000

Co-Financing: Rs. 19,73,000 (segregation cash and in kind is not available)

Project Objective: Environment cleanliness and conservation of our natural resources brought about through a raised awareness and perceptions on waste segregation and recycling. Provide livelihood opportunity to women of the under privileged section at Lakkarpur village Faridabad by establishing the eco-friendly recycling unit.

Brief Project Description: Provide training and create awareness on Solid Waste Management (SWM) to CBOs, NGOs, RWAs, Institutions / Schools and Women Associations. Engage youth groups and eco-clubs of schools in the program. Seek private organization participation for financial contributions, technologies and machines to scientifically recycle inorganic waste. Upgrade the paper recycling unit that will promote environment cleanliness and support low-income group in making their life more sustainable. Different types of product will be developed using the recycled paper. The products made will be marketed and sold through various marketing channels including social networking mode.

Overall Assessment: The project is overall performing satisfactorily. Overcoming various problems and issues related to production of handmade paper. Now the production technology has stabilized improving paper quality acceptable in market. Still needs to bring out valuable products and open marketing / sales.

Strengths:

- Continuous R&D to enhance the quality of handmade paper for market use
- Involvement and improvement in the lives of under privileged weaker section women

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Lower capacity of the Beater (Pulper) installed is production bottleneck. Presently, 6 kgs beater is installed which is mostly used for demonstration units and not in viable production units.
- Presently, cotton rags are shredded manually using manual scissors consuming high man-hours and lower productivity.
- Acceptable product to be developed and market access is yet to be explored for maintaining project self-sustainability
- Broad level monitoring indicators are identified but quantification or how much will be achieved through the project intervention is not mentioned. Due to non-availability of measures monitoring indicators makes it difficult to evaluate the project

Recommendations:

- Enhance the capacity of Beater (Pulper) to around 150 kgs to attend commercially viable operation should be installed
- Identify and purchase low cost cotton shredding machine to increase the production and enhance the productivity
- Carry out a quick market survey to find out what products can be developed and make product sample / catalog which should be used as marketing tool. Apart from own effort to enter the market, professional marketing assistance should also be taken or explored.
- NGO should be requested to work out measurable indicators for all the deliverables and the project should be monitored based on those indicators

Missed Opportunities (if any):



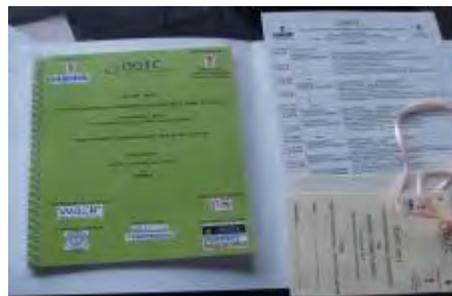
Beater (Pulper) machine (capacity 6



Making recycled paper



Making recycled paper



Product developed (Conference kit)

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference (#51): “Waste to Livelihoods (Eco-friendly Unit for Paper and Plastic Waste Management”

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): CC

Location of Project (State): Faridabad, Haryana

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Establish SWM supply chain to produce recycle paper products for supporting and sustaining life of low-income groups.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- a) ACT office
- b) Recycling paper production unit
- c) Meeting with RWA

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Gurpreet Kaur	F	Secretary, ACT	+91-9717116868; gkpreet@gmail.com
Tapas Chartterjee	M	CEO, ACT; SGP coordinator	
Kavita Sharma	F	ACT; worker at recycling unit	
Babita	F	ACT; worker at recycling unit	
President of Woodberry RWA			
Sita Ram	M	Security guard of Woodberry RWA	

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

<p>What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of area / institutes for collection of waste • Agreements with institutes for regular supply of waste paper and buy back agreements • Distribution of plastic bags to participating agencies, institutes for collection of waste • Conduct awareness workshops for the institutions and selected areas waste collectors • identify women for the community to work at the recycling center • Training the women workers for making recycled paper and products • Upgrading machines and equipment's at recycling unit • Recycling of Tetra Paks, Cardboards and Plastic bags • Develop marketing linkages and support for marketing of recycled products • Constituting and empowering women co-operative for sustainability for the project
<p>What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of area / institutes for collection of waste (identified Charmwood village, CR Park, institutes – MRIU, NDIM, JIMS) • Agreements with institutes for regular supply of waste paper and buy back agreements (MoU with MRIU; Waste collection from RWA – 96 HHs of Woodberry RWA; institutes - NIUA, JAMIA, Child Fund India; H&M supply of cotton waste) • Distribution of plastic bags to participating agencies, institutes for collection of waste (distributed big plastic gunny bag to Woodberry RWA, JAMIA colleges) • Conduct awareness workshops for the institutions and selected areas waste collectors (at MRIU; RWA – Southend Appt., Woodberry Appt.; Waste collectors at Lakkarpur village; developed 3 design posters / stickers – distributed 100 in NDIM, 12 in Woodberry and 50 in MRIU) • Identify women for the community to work at the recycling center (identified 4 women for recycling production unit and 4 women for product making) • Upgrading machines and equipment's at recycling unit (prior to the project machines available - Beater (Pulper) 6 kgs, 3HP; Screw Press; Calendaring Machine, 2 HP; Univat - 2 Nos; Coaching Table - 2 Nos.; Accessories & Toolkit; Packing, Handling. Additional machine added - Digital Weighing Machine; Paper Cutting Machine; Wire Stitching Machine; Combing Machine; Deckle - 2 Nos.; Strainer - 4 Nos.; SS sheets for Calendaring - 6 Nos.; Woolen and Cotton Felts) • Training the women workers for making recycled paper and products (Tara Machine Pvt. Ltd. imparted training on recycle making paper) • Recycling of Tetra Paks, Cardboards, cotton rags and Plastic bags (Stabilized in quality recycle paper making technology after lots of R&D) • Develop marketing linkages and support for marketing of recycled products (Supplied 450 conference kit for "International Conference on Appeals and Home Textiles" was the first major product supplied with revenue of Rs. 46,400) • Constituting and empowering women co-operative for sustainability for the project (SHGs formed)

Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	Rs. 4,06,289
How long has the project being going on (# months)	23 months
What percent of the project time period remains	4% (1 month left)
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	Yes, unable to produce quality paper acceptable to the market. The NGO has expressed they are looking for a no-cost extension
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Yes
How did they find out about the SGP?	For other NGOs

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generate awareness among RWA, and institutions. Motivate RWAs to provided waste for recycling • Recycle of waste paper, Tetra Paks, cardboards, cotton rags, etc • Set up recycling unit with required machines and equipment's • Skill set upgradation of women how to make handmade paper and products from it • Income generation of women has increased
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing of dry waste paper, Tetra Paks, cardboards, cotton rags, etc going to landfills • Manufacture of recycled paper leads to saving trees cutting for paper making • Reduction of transport fuel burning to send dry waste to land-fills
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handmade paper quality has improved (earlier white spots was observed on the paper) with inputs from other units and in-house R&D • The recycling unit supplied by TARA was of smaller production capacity to be used for demonstration purpose. (like the size of paper produced was of smaller size and non-standard size now they have made to standard size of 22' x 32'). Still the capacity of Beater (Pulper) is only 6 kgs, very small capacity for commercial operations. • Use of cotton rags in handmade paper
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are looking for total solutions for waste – "Total Waste Management" • Change human behavior and creating a system for segregated collection of waste • Enhance the capacity of Beater (Pulper) to 150 kgs to attend commercially viable operations. Identify and purchase low cost cotton shredding machine to save high time consuming manual activity • Marketing of products
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	The units supplied by "TARA" had technological challenges which the NGO was unaware initially as they had limited exposure and knowledge in handmade paper.

Table 4: **Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)**

# women directly involved in the project	11 (working in recycling unit and product making)
# men directly involved in the project	1
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	Nil
# women in project decision-making positions	1
# men in project decision-making positions	1
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	Yes, the additional income has provided them to send their children for good and higher education. Due to the additional income the women bring to home enhanced the gender equality.
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	To produce more from the unit so that their earnings may go up.

Table 5: **M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)**

How many times has the PMU visited this project	Twice the PMU has visited the project
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tetra Pak co-finance of machines • TARA for technical assistance • RWA, Schools, Institutions, and H&M
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	None

Table 6: **Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	Yes. Most of the machines are purchased from TARA the technology supplier. Being a small NGO there is no purchase policy in place.

Table 7: **Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)**

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	Presently, they are looking for gap funding from other institute like SAR group and CARE.
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	MoU has been signed with Institutes and RWA to supply waste free of cost.
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	Created awareness among the people. Supply of waste materials free of cost.

Table 8: **Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	Nil
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	None
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	Rs. 16,86,864 (towards co-financing of machines, manpower, training / awareness and raw material)

#62: Society for Economic and Social Studies (SESS/CTD)

Name of Evaluators: Shankar Haldar

Date of Field Visit: November 3-4, 2015

Project Title: Technology Demonstration and Capacity Building in Energy Saving Rural Jaggery making Systems in Elected Clusters in North Indian States using 3-pan Systems

GEF Thematic Area/s: Climate Change Mitigation

SGP Funding: Rs. 23,58,000

Co-Financing: Rs. 25,95,8000 (in kind)

Project Objective: To enhance the thermal efficiency of the Jaggery furnace leading to less specific fuel consumption by scientifically designed furnace to reduce the thermal loss, appropriate dimensions and complete combustion.

Brief Project Description: To install 50 energy efficient furnace in Jaggery clusters in 8 to 10 districts in UP and Uttarakhand, and few furnaces to be constructed in Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan as samples, to demonstrate the new technology. The project supports around 50% of the cost of the new furnace, the remaining 50% being met by the beneficiary. Jaggery makers from surrounding villages would be brought to these demonstration installations to see the benefits themselves and discuss them with the project beneficiaries, CTD experts and amongst themselves. Local masons, entrepreneurial youth and local NGOs would be trained to construct the new furnace and avail the additional income opportunity from the envisaged demand for furnace construction.

Overall Assessment: The main project activity (construction of furnace) has recently started. The results and outcomes of the project are yet to be captured and analyzed. Overall the project is moderately satisfactory implemented.

Strengths:

- Multiple jaggery energy efficient furnace design is available, right now 4 designs. The new energy efficient furnace technology is more acceptability among the jaggery making units.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- The sustainability of the project will depend on the trained masons and the local NGOs taking up the project activity further. Only 4 masons have been trained through the project activity to construct the new efficient furnace. The replication of the furnace by the trained masons is found not to be happening.
- Jaggery making is informal sector activity, as there is no Cluster Association in the present context. This makes the technology penetration much more difficult and time consuming.
- The benefits seen by installing the new furnace technology is not spread appropriately,

rather the dis-advantage of the technology is often communicated. The dis-advantages are spread to avoid the benefits or profit taken by their next door competitors.

- The proposed benefits of the new furnace are yet to be assessed.

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Identification of masons and local NGOs is most important link to maintain suitability. Imparting training, linking them with this project and motivating them to take the project activity of their own should be encouraged. It may be thought of to give the trained masons and local NGOs a target to construct new furnace say 5 to 10 in coming season.
- The construction of new furnace may be linked with by asking the beneficiary (Jaggery makers) to motivate two / three Jaggery makers to install the new furnace at their premise at own cost. This would directly benefit the replication of the technology to attend the critical threshold level as well as it would avoid spreading wrong words about the energy efficient furnace.
- The benefits assessment study should be carried out comprising of detailed energy audit (mass and energy balance), pollution audit and social audit to assess the overall benefits and finally translate into money value which is well understood by the Jaggery makers.

Missed Opportunities (if any):



Bagasse spread on field for natural



Energy efficient 3 pan Jaggery furnace



Feeding bagasse in furnace



Final product "Jaggery"

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference #: “Technology Demonstration and Capacity Building in Energy Saving Rural Jaggery making Systems in Elected Clusters in North Indian States using 3-pan Systems” (#62) {Society for Economic & Social Studies / Centre for Technology & Development (SESS/CTD)}

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): CC

Location of Project (State): Western UP, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Construction and knowledge dissemination of energy efficient Jaggery furnace to enhance the thermal efficiency to save bagasse.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

Visited 4 energy efficient furnaces constructed under the SGP. Two each from Meerut and Muzaffarnagar district respectively and among them 3 furnace were 3 pan system and 1 furnace with 4 pan system.

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
D. Raghunandan	M	Director, SESS/CTD	+91-9810098621; ctd.delhi@gmail.com
K.P. Singh	M	Project Field Manager, SESS/CTD, SGP Project Coordinator	
Vinuj Kumar	M	SGP Project Beneficiary (Jaggery unit owner)	
Devendra Kumar	M	SGP Project Beneficiary (Jaggery unit owner)	
Amit Kumar	M	SGP Local coordinator	
Bijendra Singh	M	SGP Project Beneficiary (Jaggery unit owner)	
Devendra Kumar	M	SGP Project Beneficiary (Jaggery unit owner)	

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of 50 new design furnaces • Exposure visits, demonstration and popularization • Training in Construction • Institutional linkages for further dissemination – linkages with PCRA, NABARD, State Councils of Science & Technology, State level Departments of Rural Development, Social Welfare, Environment, etc. • Documentation – Brochure in Hindi • Final Workshop
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New design of 4 pan and multi-fuel firing furnace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Preliminary design of new 4 pan Jaggery furnace – Identification of Jaggery making unit with 4 pan to participate in the program – Baseline performance of existing “Jugaad” 4 pan furnace – Construction of new 4 pan furnace prototype – Field tests of prototype of new design 4 pan furnace – Analysis of specific fuel consumption with the baseline • Constructed 10 energy efficient furnaces (4 nos and 6 nos of 4 pan and 3 pan system respectively) in Western UP. • Exposure visits, demonstration and popularization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Survey and focused group discussion to identify Jaggery clusters – Identified 40 potential beneficiaries in 6 district of Western UP and 2 districts of Uttarakhand – 6 Jaggery makers from Western UP was taken to the earlier DST project site at Sahaspur, Dehradun, Uttarakhand to see and discuss with Jaggery maker where the furnace is operating for last 3 seasons. Among them 2 Jaggery makers have constructed the energy efficient furnace. • Training in Construction – 4 local masons / local youth have been trained in construction of new furnace • d) Institutional linkages for further dissemination – Assistance from Punjab State Council of Science & Technology was taken while designing the 4 pan furnace.
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	The expenditure of 24% of the assigned project has been spent (Rs. 5,55,437)
How long has the project being going on (# months)	9 Months
What percent of the project time period remains	63% project time remains. The project was initially awarded for 12 months (from 1 st Jan 2015 to 31 st Dec 2015) but was extended for 12 months (till 31 st Dec 2016).
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	Yes there is 12 months delay. The jaggery season starts from October till April, since the project activity started in January the jaggery operators / unit owners and farmers were not prepared to stop operation of the their present jaggery furnace to install the energy efficient furnace. So the construction of improved jaggery furnace started at beginning of this season i.e August / September period.
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Yes
How did they find out about the SGP?	From other NGOs

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

<p>In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced fuel consumption • Reduced Jaggery making batch process time by nearly 18% • Temperature of first pan is same (as old furnace) but the temperature of the subsequent pan has come down leading to fuel saving • Flue gas temperature has come down • Chimney skin temperature has come down <p>All these were observed during field visits comparing old and new furnaces features. The actual assessment study on the new furnace should be conducted using appropriate measuring instruments which are awaited under the project.</p>
<p>In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saving in bagasse (discussing with the Jaggery makers revealed that less amount of bagasse is used but the bagasse savings quantification is not feasible without proper measurements/study) • Black smoke stopped coming out of the chimney • Reduce carbon dioxide emissions • Improved working conditions was observed for the Jaggery making operator, as less heat dissipation on the pan bed
<p>According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use less amount of bagasse, the remaining bagasse is sold to the nearby cardboard making unit • Jaggery making process time has reduced to 10 min (from 55 min. to 45 min.) increasing the production and productivity • A set of 4 new designs is available to cater to the needs of the beneficiaries
<p>According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design optimization has been achieved or not needs to be ascertained • Modification in chimney construction from straight structure to top tapered structure for getting enhanced nature air draft • Optimize distance between last pan and the chimney • More involvement of program champions “Masons” who would take forward the program
<p>Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The claimed fuel savings and environmental benefits from the new furnace needs to be assessed in most scientific method

Table 4: **Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)**

# women directly involved in the project	None (Traditionally, Jaggery making in the project region is male dominated activity) Few women workers were observed during field visit in the operations; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeding bagasse into the furnace • Spreading of bagasse on fields for solar drying
# men directly involved in the project	110 (each Jaggery manufacturing unit employees 11 workers – 3 nos Jaggery making, 3 nos sugarcane crushing and 4 nos for biomass management)
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	None
# women in project decision-making positions	None
# men in project decision-making positions	10 (Jaggery unit owner)
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	None
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	None

Table 5: **M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)**

How many times has the PMU visited this project	Till date no visit is made by PMU
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	Linkages with other organizations are; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baba Mohan Ram Academy, Loni, Ghaziabad - identifying Jaggery units, mason, local NGOs, and young entrepreneurs • Gurukul Vidyalaya, Shahjahanpur - identifying Jaggery units, mason, local NGOs, and young entrepreneurs • Haryana Vidyan Manch, Haryana – Technical discussion on new furnace • Punjab State Council for Science and Technology, Chandigarh - Technical discussion on new furnace
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	Designed 3 more new energy efficient furnaces with 4 pan system and multi-fuel firing system (specially biomass and sugarcane trash as fuel). These modifications in furnace design were necessary to win the confidence of the Jaggery unit owners, replace the existing 4 pan system with an energy efficient 4 pan system. Some Jaggery units are using low cost fuel (biomass and sugarcane trash) and earn profit by selling bagasse generated to nearby paper making units. So the furnace was modified to use high ash content biomass / sugarcane trash for better acceptability

Table 6: Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes this was disbursed on time.
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No issues.
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	<p>Purchase of consumables for construction of furnaces;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insulating bricks from M/s Diamond Refectories, Ghaziabad • Red bricks from local supplier <p>Purchase of thermocouples for temperature measurements from M/s Essar Cast & Engg, Khurja</p> <p>There were no issues in purchase.</p>

Table 7: Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	No partnership exists.
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	<p>Benefits from these institutions were taken;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baba Mohan Ram Academy - Institutions • Gurukul Vidyalaya – Institutions • Haryana Vidyan Manch – Technical Institute • Punjab State Council for Science and Technology - Technical Institute
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In identifying Jaggery units in UP region, mason, local NGOs, and young entrepreneurs • Technical discussion / input while designing new furnace (4 pan and multi-fuel firing system)

Table 8: Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	No cash co-financing is secured
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	None
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	Rs. 2,60,000 in-kind (Rs. 1,00,000 from beneficiaries towards labour and materials for construction of furnace and Rs. 1,60,000 by SESS/CTD for Manpower, Travel costs, Contingency, furnace construction)

#63: Co-operation for Rural Excellence (CORE)

Name of Evaluators: Shankar Haldar

Date of Field Visit: November 24-26, 2015

Project Title: Creating Responsible Actions for Promoting Resilient, Low Carbon Construction (Fly Ash) for Better Environment and Livelihoods in Rural Odisha

GEF Thematic Area/s: Climate Change Mitigation

SGP Funding: Rs. 18,12,000

Co-Financing: Rs. 32,22,000 (segregation by in cash and in kind is not available)

Project Objective: To promote low carbon technologies for better sanitation and environment protection with emphasis on livelihoods in rural Odisha.

Brief Project Description: Establish resource center for fly ash brick making (including moulds for precast rings for soak pits) and using fly ash brick and rings to make toilets, residential house and water tanks in villages. Make arrangement with fly ash generating industries to constantly supply fly ash. Linking various stakeholders to take up fly ash compressed brick households. Formation of SHGs and link them to livelihood and banking activities. Mobilize community by Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) scheme. Provide training and skills developed for construction artisans like masons, plumbers, carpenters etc. for additional income generation.

Overall Assessment: The project is overall highly satisfactorily implemented. Nicely linking up with Government scheme as well as attracted other donors for replication.

Strengths:

- Officials order from local Government on program “Water Sanitation Mission” for making toilets at each household and being paid @ Rs 12,000 per toilet directly at COREs bank account (without this Government order the money comes to beneficiaries bank account and then its transferred to CORE)
- MoA with federation - Maa Tareni Savings Credit House Building Primary Co-operation Ltd. (MTHC) good foot hold at village level.
- Issue of Government order to CORE for construction of toilets at Tangi – CDR block at individual households.
- Replicate of the model in two more districts of Odisha sponsored by DFID

Opportunities for Improvement:

- With the existing setup increase the production of brick making to make more toilets.
- Have more skilled artisans, masons, carpenters, plumbers, etc to construct the toilets / houses

Recommendations:

These recommendations correspond to the opportunities for improvement described above.

- Install another hydraulic compact machine in the present set up and supply fly ash mixture from the same mixer machine. It was observed that the capacity of mixer is much higher and can easily cater the needs of 2 hydraulic compact machines simultaneously. By installing another hydraulic machine the production will be doubled.
- Have an exclusive team for training with demo tools kit, so the team throughout the year imparts training. This will develop artisans masons, carpenters, etc who will be able to construct more toilets and house in time.

Missed Opportunities (if any):



Making fly ash bricks



Fly ash bricks are naturally dried



Meeting with women SHGs members



Construction of toilet in progress

Formats & Guidance for MTR Project Visit Stakeholder Consultations

Project Title and reference: “Creating Responsible Actions for Promoting Resilient, Low Carbon Construction (Fly Ash) for Better Environment and Livelihoods in Rural Odisha”

GEF Focal Area (BD, CC, LD, SLM): CC

Location of Project (State): Cuttack District, Odisha (Tangi-Choudwar and Athagarh Block)

Project Objective (one sentence in your own words): Use of Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) scheme to change the villagers behavior to use toilets and provide them toilets for use constructed with fly ash.

Where did you go/what did you see during your visit (e.g., visited 3 medicinal plant farms):

- Visited CORE office and had meeting with office staff
- Visited resource centre
- Visited Gurjung village, interacted with beneficiaries and trained masons
- Met fly ash transporter
- Met Maa Tareni Savings Credit House Building Primary Co-operation Ltd. (MTHC) representatives
- Met representative of DFID

Table 1: **Overview of Persons Visited and Brief Description of how they are Involved in the Project (fill this form in for each project visited)**

Name of Person Visited	Gender (F/M)	How is this person involved in the project [^]	Contact info where available (Mobile & email address)
Anjan Jena	M	Secretary, CORE	+91-8763481370; ashrayaorissa@gmail.com
Snigdha Mohanty	F	President, Maa Tareni Savings Credit House Building Primary Co-operation Ltd. (MTHC); Implementing SGP	
Manjulata Khillar	F	Zone leader, MTHC; Implementing SGP	
Sunil Kumar Mohanty	M	Talcher FLG Transport Company Pvt. Ltd.; Supplier of fly ash	
Gouri Shankar Mishra	M	Representative of DFID; co-financing for SGP model replication	
D. Pradhan	M	SGP trained mason	
M. Soyee	M	SGP trained mason	
Women members	SHG	Around 30 members	

[^](Project Staff, Beneficiary, Technical Advisor, Government employee, monitoring of project, etc..)

Table 2: **Basic Facts (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What inputs is/was this project supposed to provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of villages, and other stakeholders for take fly ash compressed brick blocks • Making agreements with fly ash factories for provision of fly ash at zero cost (@ 60 tons per month) • Making agreement with 7 village for fly ash low carbon housing • Establish 2 resource centres • Construct 10 water tank in each village • Identify and train rural youth as construction artisans • Model toilet and water tank to be constructed at the training centre • Capacity building of staff and communities
What inputs has the GEF project actually provided to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of villages, and other stakeholders for take fly ash compressed brick blocks (identified 4 panchayats; formation of 18 user groups; linked them with bank) • Making agreements with fly ash factories for provision of fly ash at zero cost @ 60 tons per month (fly ash taken from NTPC, Navbhart; NALCO and ICCL Thermal Plant through fly ash supplier; MoA with Thalcher FLG Transport Company Pvt. Ltd to supply fly ash) • Making agreement with 7 village for fly ash low carbon housing (MoA signed with Maa Tareni Savings Credit House Building Primary Co-operation Ltd. (MTHC); training of artisans, masons, carpenter etc in 18 villages) • Establish 2 resource centres & construct 300 toilets (operational of 2 resource centres; constructed 465 toilets) • Construct 10 water tank in each village (1 water tank construct at resource centre) • Identify and train rural youth as construction artisans (trained a total of 342 artisans / masons (133 female and 209 male)) • Model toilet and water tank to be constructed at the training centre (1 water tank construct at resource centre) • Capacity building of staff and communities (5 days training program conducted as resource centre)
Total percentage expended to date of assigned project budget	41% (Rs. 7,41,300)
How long has the project being going on (# months)	11 months
What percent of the project time period remains	54%
Have there been any delays? If so, what are the reasons for the delays?	No
Is this the first SGP project this group has had? (Y/N) If no, how many other SGP projects have they had	Yes
How did they find out about the SGP?	Through conference meeting

Table 3: Results (Ask the Intended Beneficiaries and the Project Coordinator)

In regards to their own situation, what changes are observed by them (the intended beneficiaries) comparing pre-project situation to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of toilets (465 toilets are already constructed and used) • Safety at night has enhanced as they don't have to go out • Enhanced income generation • Skill developed of artisans, masons, plumbers, carpenter, etc. • Job generation for making bricks, rings etc • SHG formation and livelihood activity taken up • Opening of bank account for those who don't have one
In regards to the environmental situation, what changes are observed by the beneficiaries comparing pre-project to now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 125 MT of fly ash used in construction of 465 toilets (or the amount of soil/earth is not being used to make and use red brick) • 2325 MT CO₂ emissions avoided
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 most important accomplishments of this project to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link up with Government program "Water Sanitation Mission" for making toilets and being paid @ Rs 12,000 per toilet • Replicate of the model in two more districts by DIFD program • Sustainable and profitable business model
According to the beneficiaries, what are the 3 areas that could be further strengthened to make the project even more successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement of construction material like bricks, pit rings, doors etc will be higher in the coming years so the production capacity of the resource should be enhanced • More trained artisans and masons is required
Describe any differences in perception between your analysis and that provided by the beneficiaries	There is no difference in the perception

Table 4: Gender & Youth (Ask focus groups of women and youth and the Project Coordinator)

# women directly involved in the project	598 (133 trained as masons, plumber and artisans; 465 women through SHGs)
# men directly involved in the project	674 (209 trained as masons, plumber and artisans; 465 men using toilets)
# youth (under 20) directly involved in the project	1100+ using of toilets
# women in project decision-making positions	133
# men in project decision-making positions	209
According to women, has project enhanced gender equality in any way? If so, how specifically?	Yes, the project has enhanced gender equality as the women are trained as artisans and masons who are constructing the toilets and getting paid. They had additional income generation, enhanced the purchasing power and now taking part in decision making in there family
What do women suggest should change in the project to ensure they benefit even more	They want to further enhance the income by constructing more fly ash toilets and houses not only in their village but also in other villages to enhance income

Table 5: **M&E (Ask the Project Coordinator)**

How many times has the PMU visited this project	Four times
If an NGO or other organization is involved, how many times have they visited	Federation (Maa Tareni Savings Credit House Building Primary Co-operation Ltd. (MTHC)) is constantly in touch with villagers and CORE
What modifications, if any, have been made to the project and why were these modifications deemed important	a) Requested construction of 700 more toilets instead of water tanks b) Instead of 5 resource centres, 2 will be formed (this was a mistake in proposal)

Table 6: **Project Management (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

Have funds been disbursed to them on time	Yes
Have there been any issues? If so, describe.	No
Have they purchased any equipment? If so, have there been any issues?	No

Table 7: **Strategic Partnerships (Ask the Project Coordinator and the intended beneficiaries)**

What partnerships exist between the project and other projects & what synergies have been created	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maa Tareni Savings Credit House Building Primary Co-operation Ltd. (MTHC) • DFID • Government of India
What partnerships exist between them and local government, universities, NGOs, other CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MTHC grass root NGO: Identification of villages; Community mobilization, and Training of artisans / masons • DFID: Replication of this SGP project • Govt. of India: Assisting in construction of toilets
Describe any benefit from these partnerships as perceived by the intended beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidized toilets / house / water tank for individual households • Additional income generation

Table 8: **Co-Financing (Ask the Project Coordinator and Project Accountant)**

What amount of cash co-financing has the project secured and from whom	Rs. 1,16,01,100
What has the cash co-financing been used to pay for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of 465 toilets, @ Rs 12,000 per toilets received from Water Sanitation Mission through SHGs • Setting up of 2 WASH Academy in two districts sponsored by DIFD • SHG savings • Access to loans from SBI bank and Grameen Bank for use of agricultural livelihood
What in-kind contributions have been made by others that complement this project	Rs. 6,62,900 (CORE and community participation towards manpower, communication, travel, etc.)

ANNEX 11. MTR Report Clearance Form

Midterm Review Report Reviewed and Cleared	
By: Commissioning Unit	
Name: _____	
Signature: _____	Date: _____
UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor	
Name: _____	
Signature: _____	Date: _____