

FORRAD

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL
RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT



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Organisation Overview

The Foundation for Rural Recovery and Development (FORRAD), established in 1980, is a public charitable trust working in the field of natural resource management, sustainable agriculture and community health. FORRAD facilitates and supports grassroot initiatives that address issues of natural resource management, human resources development and sustainability. FORRAD's work intersects with issues of social justice, empowerment, public health and employment generation.

Over the last 37 years, the organisation has undertaken a wide range of projects relating to irrigation, drinking water, agriculture, road construction, housing, forestry, land development, alternative energy, health care and livelihood in partnership with more than 450 grassroots organizations in rural Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

FORRAD's work focus in the recent years is increasingly on the social dynamics governing water security including harvesting, conservation and de-contamination, and sustainable agriculture. This is accompanied by a strong commitment to participatory, transparent and sustainable processes. FORRAD has, in the past five years, begun engaging with industry, exploring ways in which various stakeholders can collaborate towards more equitable and ethical forms of industrialisation.

The organisation believes and recognizes that rural women, more than men, feel the burden of depleting natural resources and environmental degradation. The prevailing norms and values however, deny women and other vulnerable sections voice and visibility. FORRAD strives for inclusiveness and ensures that women's opinions are prioritised; and that woman and other vulnerable sections are a part of and fulfil decision-making roles in the planning and implementation of all projects.

FORRAD is primarily a facilitator and supports its partners in the implementation of projects. In Tamil Nadu however, FORRAD has its own field office and a team of program staff and volunteers. As a facilitating agency, FORRAD supports its partners through regular field visits, project reviews, feedback and support to implementation. FORRAD is responsible for the overall implementation and accountability to its donors. It receives reports from its partner organisations, reports to donors and manages the relationship.

CURRENT WORK

FORRAD currently works in four states in India – Bihar, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Its projects are summarised as follows:

Table 1: Geographical Distribution of Projects

PROJECT	GEOGRAPHICAL AREA
Watershed development around the Sambhar salt lake	Rajasthan, Ajmer, Nagaur and Jaipur districts
Collaborating with Michelin India Private Limited's CSR–water management, agriculture intensification, community facilitation	Tamil Nadu, Tiruvallur district
Assistance to weavers from the Rabha community	West Bengal, Alipurduar district
Feasibility study for the project proposal for the restoration of <i>pyne</i> , <i>ahars</i> and <i>pokhars</i> to improve water security for sharecroppers and smallholder farmers	Bihar, Nalanda district
Kaliyachak girls' school	Bihar, Nalanda District
Direct Aid – to disadvantaged families including distribution of warm clothes, construction of water storage tanks, shelters and toilets	Rajasthan and Delhi

PROJECT PROFILES

RAJASTHAN



RAINWATER HARVESTING

FORRAD has been engaged in the creation of rainwater harvesting structures around the Sambhar Salt Lake since 2012. The lake falls within the semi-arid zone of Rajasthan, and with a yearly average of only 460 mm of rain, the region consistently experiences drought. Exacerbating the negative impact of drought in the project area is the salt production technology used in the salt pans that dot the surface of the lake. Modest estimates suggest that the 10,000 tube-wells located on the Sambhar Salt Lake pump out approximately 96 billion litres of water per year. Salt is then produced by flooding the now almost dry surface of the lake with this pumped out water. However, only a negligible volume of the extracted water goes back into the ground, as most of it is lost in evaporation. Thus, it is no surprise that the water table level is dropping at an alarming rate as a consequence of this unregulated extraction of groundwater, with once-fertile agricultural land turning barren.

The project aimed to develop a long-term watershed development program that would eventually cover the entire catchment area around the Sambhar Salt Lake, creating pockets of freshwater around the lake. Most of the ground water around the lake is saline and unfit for consumption, and surface water sources are few and far between. To enable this objective, FORRAD worked along with its implementation partners: Manthan Sanstha in Ajmer district and Prayatna Sansthan in Jaipur district.

Table 2: Location and total storage capacity of the structures

S.No.	Type	Location within village	Village	Geographical Coordinates	Date of completion	Total Storage Capacity (L)
1	Banda	Charagah	Nosal	Lat: 26.9176 Long: 74.9061	30-06-2012	252,792,674
2	Nadi	Kumhariya nadi	Bawali	Lat: 26.909 Long: 74.917	30-07-2013	19,748,632
3	Banda	Balaji ka banda	Kotri	Lat: 26.8991 Long: 74.8803	30-06-2012	60,547,862
4	Nadi	Charagah	Kotri	Lat: 26.8946 Long: 74.8913	31-03-2012	58,173,500
5	Banda	Khedi ka banda	Jhag	Lat: 26.955 Long: 74.9001	31-05-2012	232,910,899
6	Nadi	Charagah	Ringi	Lat: 26.880 Long: 75.0558	30-09-2012	91,560,574
7	Nadi	Charagah	Habaspura	Lat: 26.8594 Long: 75.1355	12-01-2012	39,537,268
8	Nadi	Moosani nadi	Kishanpura	Lat: 26.8961 Long: 74.8795	10-03-2015	22,512,600
9	Nadi	Khorika banda	Bhilawat	Lat: 26.9207 Long: 74.8469	31-08-2015	5,565,654
10	Nadi	Abas kinadi	Sinodiya	Lat: 26.9043 Long: 74.9466	03-30-2013	39,688,948
11	Nadi	Bausi tiba	Sinodiya	Lat: 26.9209 Long: 74.952	03-31-2013	42,080,000
12	Channel	Dheera talaab (feeder channel)	Jhag	Lat: 26.9587 Long: 74.9012	04-20-2013	90,006,000
13	Nadi	Charagah	Srirampura	Lat: 26.8132 Long: 75.1663	03-15-2013	28,000,000
14	Nadi	Charagah	Bawali	Lat: 26.9929 Long: 74.8771	07-30-2013	5,081,526

15	<i>Banda</i>	<i>Moriya naka</i>	Ujoli	Lat: 26.8712 Long: 74.8908	07-31-2014	60,605,700
16	<i>Kund</i>	<i>Jeevan pujari kighati</i>	Bawali	Lat: 26.9897 Long: 74.8652	02-28-2015	50,100,000
17	<i>Nadi</i>	Solawata	Solawata	Lat: 26.8099 Long: 75.1309	09-15-2015	18,600,000
18	<i>Anicut</i>	<i>Dungri naka</i>	Kotri	Lat: 26.8930 Long: 74.8896	02-15-2014	4,020,000
19	<i>Nadi</i>	<i>Tal ki nadi</i>	Jhakholai	Lat: 26.8923 Long: 74.8898	06-30-2014	106,532,200
20	<i>Nadi</i>	<i>Charagah nadi</i>	Jajota	Lat: 26.8435 Long: 74.8584	04-30-2014	86,532,000
21	<i>Banda</i>	<i>Ghasi baba ka banda</i>	Gudda	Lat: 26.5828 Long: 74.514	11-02-2013	10,112,840
22	<i>Kund</i>	<i>Balaji ki dhani</i>	<i>Balaji ki dhani</i>	Lat: 26.9938 Long: 74.9044	10-30-2014	2,400,000
23	<i>Anicut</i>	<i>Sewako ki dhani</i>	<i>Sewako ki dhani</i>	Lat: 26.5849 Long: 74.5150	06-30-2014	7,050,000
24	<i>Nadi</i>	<i>Bhagatji ka gulla</i>	Gudda	Lat: 26.9721 Long: 74.8581	02-20-2015	4,464,900
25	<i>Nadi</i>	<i>Jogi baba</i>	Mohanpura	Lat: 27.0023 Long: 74.9333	02-28-2015	9,207,000
26	<i>Nadi</i>	<i>Mordikala</i>	<i>Mordikala</i>	Lat: 26.7878 Long: 75.1648	03-14-2014	34,776,000
27	<i>Nadi</i>	<i>Gochar</i>	Pingoon	Lat: 26.7647 Long: 75.0375	12-28-2014	31,050,000
28	<i>Nadi</i>	<i>Bansi</i>	Kankaria	Lat: 26.7874 Long: 75.1647	08-30-2015	82,500,000
29	<i>Banda</i>	<i>Naal ka banda</i>	Gudda	Lat: 26.9552 Long: 74.8587	10-30-2014	51,537,640
30	<i>Nadi</i>	<i>Devnarayan Mandir Charaga</i>	Kardala	Lat: 26.8858 Long: 74.8361	06-30-2015	8,162,000
31	<i>Kund</i>	<i>Plantation</i>	Bagariyon	Lat: 26.9093 Long: 74.900331	08-31-2015	756,250
					Total	1,556,612,667

The project was completed, with the creation and restoration of 31 rainwater harvesting structures in 20 villages in Ajmer, Jaipur and Nagaur districts of Rajasthan. A total storage capacity of 1.5 billion litres has been created and a cumulative volume of over 4 billion litres has been collected over the past five monsoons. Its impact has been felt by an estimated 93,000 people and will extend well beyond these figures in the coming years, and to villages beyond the immediate catchment area of the project, owing to replenishment of groundwater.

Fig 1: Children playing at Taal ki nadi, Rajasthan



PROJECT PROFILES

TAMIL NADU

Michelin India Private Limited (MIPL) has an allotment of 290 acres in the State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT) industrial park. This land, which formerly belonged to the Panchayat of Thervoy Kandigai, is now being developed into an industrial site.

FORRAD is a part of a multistakeholder CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) programme initiated by MIPL that involves the community, government bodies, several NGOs and institutions. The CSR extends to 31 villages and hamlets surrounding the site and covers a population of approximately 30,000 people.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES:

I. Cleaning and repair of 10 overhead tanks

6 public overhead tanks and 4 school tanks were cleaned and repaired. The cleaning process involved:

- Emptying the tank
- Clearing the inside of tank
- Cleaning the insides
- Whitewashing the inside of the tank
- Chlorinating the tank
- Repairing or replacing inlet and outlet pipes where required

Table 3: Tanks Repaired and Cleaned

S.No.	Public Tanks	No. of Users	Date
1	Kannankottai	214	4-5 Nov 2016
2	Kakkavakkam	425	5-6 Nov 2016
3	Perambur	190	3-4 Nov 2016
4	Thandalam	469	4-5 Nov 2016
5	Chinnavanagkuppam	378	6-7 Nov 2016
6	Anjamedu	189	4-5 Nov 2016
	School Tanks	Student Strength	
1	*Chandrapuram Primary School	30 (G16-B14)	18-26 Dec 2016
2	*Annaram Middle School	110 (G60-B50)	26-31 Dec 2016
3	Thambunaidu Palayam Primary School	33(G18-B15)	30 Dec 2016-05 Jan 2017
4	Thandalam Primary School	140(G80-B60)	31 Dec 2016

*Water from these tanks is also used by households near these schools

With the exception of Thandalam (60,000 litres) all the Public tanks have a capacity of 30,000 litres.

Fig 2: Children at a Cleaned School Tank at Thandalam



2. Cleaning and repairing of open wells

2.1. Kannankottai Open Well:

This is the only drinking water well in the Irular colony of Kannankottai. It is of 2.00m diameter and 12m deep. The parapet wall was in poor condition and the bottom of the well had silted up. Further, the platform around the well was completely damaged due to tree roots growing within the structure. Even though the colony was being provided piped water by the panchayat, communities preferred to use the well water. The repair and cleaning work for this well began on 01-12-2016 and was completed on 16-12-2016.

The following steps were involved:

- Earth work excavation for the foundation (for narrow cutting only)
- Plain cement concrete work (1:4:8 using 40mm stone jelly)
- Plastering with cement mortar (1:5, 12 mm thick)
- Brick work in cement mortar (1:5 using country bricks)
- Floor finish with cement mortar (1:3, 20mm thick)
- Thorough scraping of algae from walls
- White washing 2 coats as per standard specification
- Supplying and fixing 25mm G.I pipes including cutting threading and including specials like bend, reducer elbow etc.
- Repairs to scour pipe, to fix new 12mm steel taps, to provide a manhole cover, for super chlorination and petty supervision etc.

The well is now clean and covered. It is being used by the village which comprises of 30 houses belonging to the Irular community and 12 houses belonging to the BC community. It has been an important source of water, especially after the cyclone that hit the district in December 2016 and all other water sources were affected.

2.2. Kollanoor Open well:

This well is located in a slightly wealthier part of Kollanoor, though the area houses those belonging to the socially and economically disadvantaged communities of the village of Kollanoor. It was in poor condition as children had been using it as a litterbin. The well had also silted up, with minimal water available even during the summer. The parapet wall was in disrepair and one of the pillars supporting the pipes had been damaged. There was no proper drainage around the well. Despite this, the community had still been using this well as a source of drinking water.

Fig 3: Kollanoor Well Renovation



The following steps have been taken to repair the well:

- Re-plastering of the parapet and raising it by 0.20m
- One damaged pillar has been reconstructed
- The silt at the bottom was cleared after de-watering
- Covered with a steel weld mesh cover with a necessary opening in the cover for fetching water

The well is now in use by households in the area.



Fig 4: Palaiyathan Eri Work in Progress

3. Strengthening of the body wall and concrete capping of the weir and clearing in Palaiyathaneri, Karadiputhur

Palaiyathaneri is located about 1km south of the village of Karadiputhur. The bund of the *eri* is about 700m and is in a north-south direction. It has only one irrigation sluice and irrigates about 80 acres of land belonging to 35 families. The surplus weir is situated on the right flank of the *eri*, where a supply channel from the catchment joins the *eri*. The weir is 7m long with a core-wall on both sides. During heavy rains in December 2015 the weir was damaged, due to excess inflows into the *eri*, (which was already full). This overflowing of the lake damaged the crest of the weir and apron weir.

In response to the request of farmers, the body wall of the weir was strengthened, with a concrete capping on top. A skin wall abutting the body wall was also proposed. A new retaining wall has been constructed for retaining the proposed apron.

The work was undertaken in the last week of September 2016 and completed by the first week of October 2016. The following steps were involved:

- Earth work excavation for foundation in gravelly soil for skin wall, rear retaining wall, apron portion
- Plain cement concrete 1:4:8 using 40mm HBS jelly for skin wall foundation, apron bottom, foundation of retaining wall
- PCC 1:3:6 using 20 mm HBS Jelly including from work on one side for retaining wall
- Random rubble masonry in CM 1:5 for solid apron
- Refilling with excavated earth for foundation
- Cleared earthwork in old channels for free flow of water

4. Farmer Producer company

Farmer Interest Groups (FIG) are small groups of 20 farmers each, which would then be federated into a Farmer Producer Company (FPC) when membership reaches 1000. The Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), a society promoted by the Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India, promotes the FPC.

The mandate of the SFAC is to promote the formation of Farmer Producer Companies (FPC) with a view to:

- Providing linkages to markets
- Improving the bargaining power of the small farmers
- Improving access to credit, technology and information
- Introducing sustainable and precision agricultural practices

FORRAD's efforts have been to organise the farmers into these groups and encourage them to register their groups. Two meetings were organized in 2016 to convey the benefits of the FPC to the farmers. In July 2016, the head of an FPC from Sathyamangalam addressed the farmers and made a presentation about the benefits of being a part of the FPC and highlighted some of the success stories in other districts of Tamil Nadu where the FPC had been formed. A few farmers who have shown interest in the idea of an FPC have been identified to carry on the message to other farmers and persuade them to consider the idea as well.

However, the initiative has been a challenge, mainly due to the farmers' reluctance to pay the registration and/or membership fees. Even though about 255 farmers expressed an interest in being part of the FPC, they were hesitant to pay the fees upfront. Five FIGs were formed and members of two FIGs had expressed readiness to open bank accounts towards the second half of 2016 but were forced to put their plans on hold due to the demonetization of Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000 notes.

The awareness among farmers that they must unite and work together for better bargaining power at the marketplace is growing, albeit slowly. The willingness to actually make the FPC a reality will become clearer only in the coming year.

5. Mobile Medical Unit

The Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) supported by Michelin Corporate Foundation is ready and awaiting registration to begin operations. The body construction of the unit was completed in July 2016 and the artwork for the exterior of the bus was finalized in September 2016. The unit is equipped with an Electro cardiogram (ECG), laboratory, other basic diagnostic equipment and medicines in the WHO essential drug list. It will also have a computer to register all patients and enable telemedicine. The personnel will include a doctor, nurse, driver and technician. The driver for the unit was appointed in October 2016, to help with maintenance of the unit and follow up on registration formalities.

FORRAD has been registered as a rural bond centre with St John's National Academy of Medical Sciences since April 2016. This allows for a new graduate from St John's to spend 2 years of their rural bond (which requires them to work as doctor in a rural area within the same state they completed their degree) as the medical officer of the MMU.

FORRAD had identified 6 persons to be trained as Community Health Workers (CHW) and the first training in CVD management for these persons was conducted by St John's Medical College, Bangalore on the 22nd and 23rd of February, 2017 at a Kalyana Mandapam (wedding hall) at Thandalam. The training was conducted by Dr Ishani Hanspal, a first year post-graduate student in community health, under the guidance and supervision of Dr Farah Naaz Fathima, an assistant professor of community health at St John's. A total of 19 persons participated. These included 7 facilitation cell members, 6 freshly appointed persons to be trained as community health workers, the MMU driver, two potential nurses and three project staff of FORRAD.

The objective of the training was to enable the community health workers to:

1. Identify and refer patients with diabetes and/or hypertension from the villages to the mobile clinic
2. Counsel patients on lifestyle modification and medication adherence
3. Recognise the role of the Community Health Worker (CHW) in the management of CVDs.

It has been decided that the MMU will primarily address non-communicable diseases that are predominant in the area, namely cardio-vascular disease, hypertension, diabetes and obesity. The unit will operate 6 days a week with a total of 12 designated stops. Each stop will cater to a cluster of villages thereby reaching communities in all 31 villages under FORRAD's CSR project area, at least once a week.

6. Community Community Facilitation Cell

The community facilitation cell, created in 2011, was set up as an effort to create a group of local community members to observe and monitor the industry, government and community behaviour in the area. The community facilitation cell engages with the community, MIPL and local governments, taking forward the needs of the community to various stakeholders.

The facilitation cell also assists the local community with various tasks, such as, filing and processing of applications, setting up bank accounts, applying for licences etc. These include applications for – old age pensions, maternity support, education allowances, ration cards, community certificates, bank accounts, age and birth certificates and Aadhar cards, among others.

As in all FORRAD projects, community members are a part of the planning, implementation and monitoring of activities undertaken by the project. Community members benefit directly from the employment generated from projects and indirectly from greater water availability and cleaner water sources.

6.1. Gender training:

In a reiteration of its commitment to creating a safe and secure environment for its women employees, FORRAD conducted a gender sensitisation workshop for its staff and volunteers. The training was in compliance with the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act passed by the Indian Parliament in 2013.

10 personnel from FORRAD and Michelin attended the two-day gender sensitisation workshop on 1-2 April 2016 in Manapakkam, Chennai. It was the first time that 3 community organisers from Michelin joined the training. The workshop was facilitated by a three-person team from the Ekta Resource Centre for Women, an organization based in Madurai.

Role play, films and games were used to discuss a variety of issues such as:

- Gender stereotyping
- Women's roles and potential as active and responsible members of the community
- Women's participation in the upcoming elections
- Addressing and responding to domestic violence and conflict

“They spoke to us about the concept of authority and Shakthi (power) and asked us to identify what will help women achieve power. We named education, financial independence and unity,” said a FORRAD volunteer. Participants were also shown pictures promoting gender stereotypes, such as a man resting while a woman is sweeping the floor and alternatively pictures depicting a change, such as a man doing household chores, and then were asked to identify which was right and which was wrong.

“As a teacher, I feel that I should apply whatever they have taught me. In school I ask both the boys and girls to perform the same set of tasks. For example, I don’t ask the girls alone to sweep the classroom. I insist that the boys do it too,” said another volunteer.

It is expected that the subsequent gender sensitisation workshops will find an increasingly wider audience and will assist in the larger goal of gender equality.

6.2. Water testing:

Since 2012, FORRAD has been conducting water testing twice a year, once in the dry season and another in the monsoon season. The main purpose of water testing is to identify sources of water that are safe to use. This information is shared with the Panchayat leaders who then inform the public. It is also used to decide which of the water sources/ tanks need to be cleaned and/or repaired.

In 2016, the pre-monsoon testing was conducted between 5th and 9th July 2016. Due to unseasonal rains not all tanks could be tested and only 65 public overhead tanks in 26 villages of the 135 sources (34 villages) were tested. Of the 65 tanks (44 overhead tanks and 21 school tanks), 24 (15 overhead tanks and 9 school tanks) were found to have bacterial contamination. The details are as follows:

Table 4: Pre-Monsoon Water Testing Results (5th to 9th July 2016):

Characteristic	BIS Acceptable Limit	BIS Permissible Limit	Range of results	Samples above Acceptable Limit	Samples above Permissible Limit
pH	6.5 – 8.5	6.5 – 8.5	6.5-8.5	0	0
Hardness	200	600	30-500	31	0
Chloride	250	1000	10-550	6	0
Fluoride	1	1.5	0.5-2	2	1
TDS	500	2000	72-1848	33	0
Iron	0.3	1	--	---	---
Alkalinity	200	600	10-590	25	0
Nitrate	45	100	0-20	0	0
Nitrite	–	–			
Phosphate	–	–			
Ammonia	–	–			
Residual Chlorine	0.2	1	0-0.2	0	0
Odour	–	–	None		
Appearance	–	–	Clear		
Turbidity	–	–	Clear		
Bacteria	Not Present	Not Present	Present-Not Present	N.A.	24

Water testing during the monsoons was conducted from 21st to 28th December 2016. The Monsoon testing was comprehensive, covering all 135 overhead tanks and school tanks in 34 villages. No bacterial contamination was found. The following are the details of the results of the test:

Table 5: Monsoon Water Testing Results (21st to 28th December 2016):

Characteristic	BIS Acceptable Limit	BIS Permissible Limit	Range of results	Samples above Acceptable Limit	Samples above Permissible Limit
pH	6.5 – 8.5	6.5 – 8.5	6.5-8.5	0	0
Hardness	200	600	50-800	63	02
Chloride	250	1000	10-630	11	0
Fluoride	1	1.5	0.5-3	30	9
TDS	500	2000	96 -2196	63	1
Iron	0.3	1	0-5	00	1
Alkalinity	200	600	10-590	25	0
Nitrate	45	100	0-20	0	0
Nitrite	–	–			
Phosphate	–	–			
Ammonia	–	–			
Residual Chlorine	0.2	1	0-0.2	0	0
Odour	–	–	None		
Appearance	–	–	Clear, light green and light brown		
Turbidity	–	–	Clear		
Bacteria	Not Present	Not Present	Present- Not Present	N.A.	

It is worth noting that the water testing results of December 2016 showed no bacterial contamination in any of the sources tested. While this result is likely to change during the pre-monsoon tests of 2017 and refers only to the control sample, it is encouraging when compared to the pre-monsoon results of 2012 when 58% of the samples tested showed high levels of bacterial contamination.

This may be considered a positive outcome of the systematic testing of water sources, communication of results and follow-up action. Communities and panchayats are increasingly aware of the need to protect and maintain water sources.

6.3. Government schemes application and sanction:

Between April 2016 and March 2017, 415 applications for schemes were applied for out of which 302 were sanctioned. These applications form includes:

Table 6: Applied V/S Issued Welfare Schemes

Welfare schemes	Schemes Applied	Sanctioned/Issued
Old Age pensions	104	47
Pension for Deserted Women	3	3
Marriage Allowance	6	2
Ration Cards	14	8
Ration Card Modifications	48	51
Community Certificate	57	49
Opening of Bank Accounts	6	6
Age Certificate	3	3
Income Certificate	50	37
Aadhar Card	13	9
Death Certificates	16	6
Birth Certificates	4	5
Two Girl Children Incentive Benefit	2	2
Agriculture (Subsidy for SRI)	12	12
Legal Heir Certificate	4	2
Voter Identity Card	17	10
Domicile Certificate	32	30
Bus Pass	7	7
Gas Connections	1	1
Hearing Aids	6	2
Disaster Relief Fund (Compensation for Damaged Harvest)	10	10
	405	302

PROJECT PROFILES

WEST BENGAL

A weaving project was started in December 2015 in Garobasti and North Mendhabari villages of the Alipurduar District in West Bengal. This project aimed to enable women forest dwellers to use their traditional skill of weaving to earn a livelihood by introducing market linkages, contemporary designs and by providing basic entrepreneurship training over 9 months. FORRAD collaborated with Hast Karigar Society (HKS) to implement this project.

The principal stakeholders of the project were 16 women weavers of the Rabha community and their families. Over the course of the project, a number of workshops were held with the weavers including capacity building. In consultation with the women weavers, a plan with a target for production, timelines for delivery of the products and elements of local coordination were prepared. The first of these activities was organised in the last week of January 2016 in Mendabari, where the work plan for the year was prepared. A local coordinator was appointed who was given a clear set of responsibilities. A project team responsible for working with and guiding the local coordinator was also formed; this consisted of two village level representatives of the Forest Forum, one representative from Northeastern Society for Preservation of Nature and Wildlife (NESPON), an NGO, and three women weavers from Mendabari.

In addition to this, three more workshops were organised locally. The first one in April was in preparation for design development and the second one in September was a follow up to this and included monitoring the production target and stock management. A design development program was organised in early June 2016, with two separate workshops in Rajabhatkhawa and Mendabari. The design input was provided by Ms. Sunita Kanvinde, a graphic designer with prior experience with FabIndia and Dastakari Haat Samiti. A set of 12 designs for dupattas, *lufungs* and stoles were prepared, and the weavers initiated the design input in situ under the supervision of the designer. The final workshop was held in November to discuss the outcomes of the project, challenges and what could be learned from them. The total production was as follows:

Table 7: Total Production

Product	Total No.
Stoles	161
Dupattas	233
Lufungs	57
Sarees	19
Meters	165
Total	470

Fig 5: The Rabha weavers' work



PROJECT PROFILES

BIHAR

Feasibility study for the Project Proposal for the Restoration of Pyne, Ahars and Pokhars to Improve Water Security for Sharecroppers and Smallholder Farmers in 32 Villages in 4 Blocks of Nalanda District

Though Bihar is a flood-prone region, many districts regularly face a shortage of water during the summer. Nalanda is one such district facing water scarcity. The ground water in this region lies between 120 – 300 feet and surface water sources and irrigation canals have been neglected for years, leading to a water crisis. Most of the agrarian population in Nalanda does not own land but work as sharecroppers. These sharecroppers do not have access to irrigation and have to pay to use tube-wells. Irrigation costs are upwards of INR 3000/- per acre per year, making it an expensive proposition. Farmers thus tend to depend on rain as a source of irrigation.

Given these challenges, a project was formed, that seeks to ensure water, food and livelihood security for sharecroppers in 32 villages of the Nalanda district by restoring traditional water bodies and irrigation systems, introducing sustainable agriculture practices and developing linkages between the sharecroppers and retail and wholesale markets. The communities who will be engaged in and benefit from the impact of this project primarily belong to the backward classes, *dalit* and *mahadalit* communities.

A feasibility study for the project was done for 32 villages in 4 blocks of the Nalanda district. The recommendations of this study were:

- Proposal to expand the command area by approximately 6666 acres by creating a water storage capacity of 468,309,730 liters
- This would be done through the restoration of secondary and tertiary branches and through the restoration of *pokhars* and *ahars* that are in proximity to the most neglected areas, enabling all the cultivators to thereby gain direct benefits
- More specifically, this project will seek to restore 2 *ahars*, 9 *pynes* and 2 *pokhars* impacting 32 villages
- This would increase the cultivators access to water as well as attempt to simultaneously reduce their dependence on groundwater, benefitting around 50,000 people and some 6,000 livestock



Fig 6: Girls at the school in Kaliyachak, Bihar

Appeal for Bihar girls' school

The Girls school in Kaliyachak is situated 54 km from Patna. Though it was the only one in a 10 km radius and was a well-equipped and functional school (with classrooms, library and a playground); it was shut down due to a lack of funds. This has impacted the continuity of education of the girls studying in the school, with many being forced to drop out.

FORRAD's objective in December 2016 was to raise INR 10,00,000 to reopen this school. This amount would be sufficient to provide a full year of education for 350 girls who have no other option. It would also cover the teachers' salaries for a year as well as the cost of computers, furniture and books. FORRAD have so far collected INR 5,00,000 which will help start the primary section of this school later this year.



Fig 7: Class in session

BACK TO BASICS – direct assistance to vulnerable families

Back to Basics was an initiative started by FORRAD in 2010 to assist vulnerable communities with basic necessities. The initiative is largely crowd funded, and dependent on donations from individuals and institutions. For the year 2016 – 17, the appeal was for the following:

In Ajmer and Nagaur districts of Rajasthan

Distribution of warm clothes and blankets

- Quilts: 311
- Blankets: 400
- Shawls: 290
- Adults sweaters: 100
- Woollens for children: 403 (for children in the 1-4 age group)

Education of 78 girls in Rajasthan

Manthan started a school for girls on its campus in July 2009. The girls enrolled in the school are also engaged in household occupations and chores: grazing animals, labour on farms, helping their parents with household chores and collecting water. Given the students' background, the teaching methodology followed at the school is non-formal in nature. The Manthan staff works closely with the parents and the girls, and encourages the parents to be part of the education process.

The school has a strength of 78 students enrolled in classes from 1-8. It operates from 8 am – 2 pm, though its hours are adjusted to the timing of the water supply in the village.

Due to the lack of funds and the unwillingness of the parents to send their daughters to the government schools instead, FORRAD stepped in to help keep the school running.

In Jai Hind Camp, Delhi

Distribution of warm clothes and blankets

- ☐ Quilts: 52
- ☐ Blankets: 171
- ☐ Shawls: 59
- ☐ Assorted clothes: 106

Table 8: Donors

Donor	Project	Grants received April 2016 – March 2017
Friends of Tilonia, USA	Kaliyachak Girls' School, Bihar	4,03,388
Sisi & Savita Charitable Trust	Manthan Girls' School	40,634
Michelin India Private Limited	Initiatives in agriculture and water and community facilitation and education	20,64,495
Michelin Corporate Foundation	Mobile Medical Unit	30,04,592
Coca Cola India Foundation	Feasibility Study – Bihar	3,00,000
Coca Cola Foundation, USA	Rainwater Harvesting – Rajasthan	30,10,476
Donations from Individuals and Institutions under the Back to Basics initiative ¹	Direct aid to vulnerable families in Rajasthan and Jai Hind Camp for clothing, shelter, water storage and toilets.	16,21,100
Donations from Individuals and Institutions under the Kaliyachak Girls' School, Bihar ²	Kaliyachak Girls' School, Bihar	1,03,551
Total		1,05,48,236

Individual and Institutional Monetary Donations to Back to Basics:

John L. Bissell Foundation, Navroj Harnosji Seervai, Durga Devi Memorial Charitable Trust, Vimla Manmohan Singh, Nilanjana Roy, Kanika Satyanand, Sanjoy Roy, Satish Mohindra and Promila Mohindra, Urvashi Khosla, Neeraj Nityanand, Amarjeet Kaur Ahuja, Nandita Prasad, Annie Thomas, Aarti Anand, Susan Abraham, Brinda Tejeshwar Singh, Kush Kumar Sarin, Chandrika Pathak, Rahul Kapoor, Anita Saran, Mahi Mehra, Vikram Kumar Bajaj, Pamela Anand, Aruna Mehta, Nitya Nand, The H.M Seervai Memorial Trust

Individual and Institutional Monetary Donations to Kaliyachak Girls' School, Bihar:

Kush Kamra, Arti Dwarkadas, Amba Mukherjee, Neeta Ratwani, Manoj Kumar, Sarita Kumari & Peter Mathew Abraham

EXPENDITURE AND INCOME STATEMENT

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL RECOVERY & DEVELOPMENT

BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2017

As at March 31, 2016 Rs.	Rs.	Schedule	Rs.	As at March 31, 2017 Rs.
SOURCES OF FUNDS				
1,09,031		Capital Fund		26,13,089
	6,67,827	PF Fund		6,98,822
11,24,799	4,56,972	Gratuity Fund		5,80,328
26,71,640		Income & Expenditure A/C	A	23,32,731
3,51,710		Unutilised Earmarked fund	B	(10,02,944)
<u>Current Liabilities</u>				
4,70,596		Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	C	1,78,325
47,27,776				54,00,350
APPLICATION OF FUNDS				
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>				
	1,25,725.00	Gross Block	D	30,71,211
	16,694.00	Less: Depreciation		4,58,122
1,09,031.00		Net Block		26,13,089
22,05,559				
<u>CURRENT ASSETS LOANS AND ADVANCES</u>				
21,42,883		Cash & Bank Balances	E	25,84,220
2,70,303		Loans & Advances	F	2,03,041
47,27,776				54,00,350

(0)

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements-I

As Per our report attached.

For MWS & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm Registration Number 018687N
Shri Arun Sadhu
Partner
Membership No. 84188

Place: New Delhi
Date:

For FOUNDATION FOR RURAL RECOVERY & DEVELOPMENT

Executive Director

Managing Trustee

Governing Body Member



FOUNDATION FOR RURAL RECOVERY & DEVELOPMENT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

Year ended March 31, 2016 Rs.		<u>Schedule</u>	Year ended March 31, 2017 Rs.
	<u>INCOME</u>		
	<u>Restricted Grants</u>		
87,84,840	87,84,840 Earmarked Contribution (to the extent of application)	1,04,05,656	
87,84,840	- Less : Unspent grant returned	-	1,04,05,656
13,99,148	Unrestricted Grants	H	16,21,100
2,66,521	Interest	G	93,470
<u>1,04,50,509</u>			<u>1,21,20,226</u>
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
87,84,840	Project Expenses (out of restricted grants)	B	1,04,05,656
10,78,569	Expenditure out of Unrestricted Grant on objects of the Trust		19,29,614
16,694	Depreciation	D	4,58,122
<u>98,80,103</u>			<u>1,27,93,392</u>
5,70,406	Surplus for the year		(6,73,166)
-	Unutilised balance of restricted grant transferred to general fund		-
<u>5,70,406</u>	Balance carried to Balance Sheet		<u>(6,73,166)</u>

Notes Forming part of the Financial Statements-I

As Per our report attached to the balance sheet

For SMS & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm Registration Number:018687N

Shukdev Sadhoo
Partner
Membership No. 84188
Place: New Delhi
Date

For FOUNDATION FOR RURAL RECOVERY & DEVELOPMENT

S. Anil Executive Director *Neelam Singh* Managing Trustee *Sandeep Singh* Governing Body Member





Cover - Cyclone Vardah caused a massive shortage in the supply of electricity, resulting in the community's realization of the the value of maintaining open wells

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT (FORRAD)

124-A/6, 2nd Floor, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi 110 016
+91-11-26852476 • mail@forrad.org • www.forrad.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NAME	POSITION
Mr. D.K. Manavalan	Chairperson
Dr. Ms. Jyotsna Chatterji	Vice-Chairperson
Mr. Sanjit (Bunker) Roy	Trustee
Dr.T.C.A. Srinivasaramanujan	Trustee
Prof. S.K. Joshi	Trustee
Ms. Mythily Jagannathan	Trustee
Ms. Kanika Satyanand	Trustee
Ms. Neelam Singh	Managing Trustee
Ms. Susan Abraham	Director, (Invitee)

AUDITORS: SMS & Associates

OUR COMMUNITY BASED PARTNERS

Organisation	Brief Description	Address
Prayatna Sansthan	Established in 1985, Prayatna works with over 100 villages in the Sambhar Salt Lake area and focuses on natural resource management, public health, employment generation and education.	Dudu Block, Village Solawata, Jaipur, Rajasthan 303348 +9129573957 prayatnasansthan@gmail.com Director: Dhanraj Sharma
Manthan Sanstha	Manthan Sanstha began its life in 1987 a field centre of the Barefoot College in Tilonia. Registered as an autonomous organization in 1998, Manthan works on education for girls and young adults, preventive health care, water conservation and watershed development, and public accountability.	Village and P.O. Kotri, Via as Rupangarh, District - Ajmer, Rajasthan 305814 +91-1497-226011 barefootkotri@gmail.com Coordinator: Teja Ram
Gramonnati Sansthan	Established in 1983, and inspired by the Gandhian ideals of village self-sufficiency Gramonnati works on livelihood, land rights, women's empowerment, water conservation, sanitation, and hygiene.	Langhanpura, Near Subhash Chowki, At/P.O. Mahoba, Uttar Pradesh 210427 +91-5281-254097 gramonnatiup@yahoo.co.in Director: Arvind Khare

DONORS

Donor	Project	Grants Received April 2015- March 2016
Michelin India Private Limited, Tamil Nadu	Initiatives in agriculture and water and community facilitation and education	21,29,360
Michelin Corporate Foundation, Paris	Mobile Medical Unit	28,71,848
Friends of Tilonia, Inc.	Rabha Women Weavers	6,60,331
Donations from Individuals and Institutions under the “Back to Basics” initiative*	Direct aid to vulnerable families in Rajasthan and Jai Hind Camp for clothing, shelter, water stor- age and toilets.	13,99,148
Total		70,60,687

Individual and Institutional Monetary Donations to Back to Basics

Aarti Anand, Anita Saran, AA - a well-wisher, Anne Mc Intyre, Aruna Mehta, Asha Chopra, Bal Krishna Kochar, Brinda Singh/Tejeshwar Singh Memorial Trust, Chandrika Pathak, Essay Kalyan Nidhi, Geeta & Dieter Reeb, Gitanjali Kamra, John L. Bissell Foundation, Kamla Sood/Durga Devi Memorial Trust, Kanika Satyanand, Mahi Mehra, Monica Poplai, Nalini Khullar, Nandita Parshad, Neeraj Nityanand, Nitya Nand, PP - a well-wisher, Pia Sharma, Rahul Kapur, Shanoor Seervai, Shashi Agarwal, Tanuj Kapur, T.R. Ramakrishnan, The H.M. Seervai Memorial Trust, Urvashi Khosla, Vikram Bajaj, Vimla Manmohan Singh.

