

PARTICIPATORY WATERSHED MECHANISM OF GRAMIN VIKAS TRUST IN BHURIPARA VILLAGE - A CASE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

Gramin Vikas Trust is implementing development activities with stakeholders and village community to improve the livelihood of the tribal people. Bhuripara village (Kushalgarh C.D. block) was selected from sixty villages where soil & water conservation programme implemented. Data were collected from members and SWC/WRD Jankars through personal interviewing, informal group discussion, and night meetings. The study revealed that wages increased provided family security. Soil conservation practices and extension support services increased from the second or third year. Ground water level has increased and water level raised in wells as a result farmers benefited. Kitchen gardening techniques have been adopted on 90% household in the village. The barren hills are now covered with trees, shrubs and grasses. Fodder availability is improved. Many farmers are adopting crop rotation system for increased retention of soil nutrients and resistance of many diseases. Social life in the village has also become healthier and unified women have their savings and credit groups, which provide small loans for day-to-day needs. Local institutions are getting consolidated and people are playing an active role in the development of their own villages.

Key Words: Gramin Vikas Trust, Stakeholders, SWC/WRD

INTRODUCTION

Gramin Vikas Trust is implementing development activities with stake holders, including village community to improve the livelihood of the tribal in remote area, Soil & Water Conservation programme is one among other development initiatives of G.V.T. in the project area. It controls the degradation of natural resources at one hand to more over increases the over all productivity with time. Community involves the poor & the women also in decision-making and gives respect to their views. S.W.C. activities generally take at least one year's to start time the activities since the village entry. Gramin Vikas Trust Banswara has been taken 60 core villages to implement tested technology Bhuripara village is one of the core village.

Bhuripara village is 6 km. interior from main road. The village is 80 kms. Away from Banswara district and 22 kms away from Kushalgarh Block. Bhuripara in the semi arid draught effected village of Banswara district. Bhuripara has a land area of 589 ha. The total cultivated area of the village is 130 ha. An average annual rainfall is 400 mm. Average mean summer temperature is 40C total population of the village is 456 Consisting 67 families the village is divided into four hamlets. Literacy among the adults (up to 25 years) is 8% and among children is 95% (in the New Generations).

Since only one crop was possible for most farmers many migrated in search of work. Every year during

summer drinking water had to be brought in by lorry tanker. Bhuripara could truly be described a desolate village. The village has a primary school and all other amenities like Middle School, High School, College, Police Station; Hospitals are available only at Kushalgarh Town.

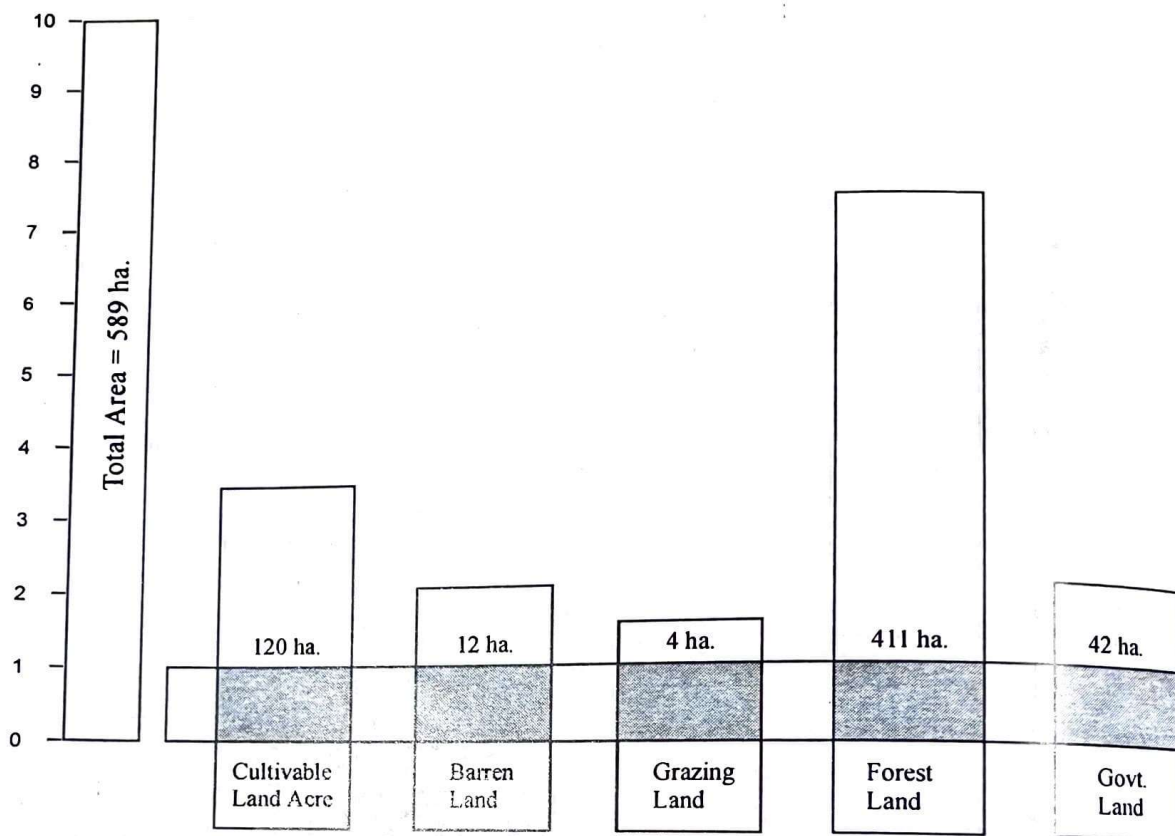
The land is mostly rain fed with undulated topography and stony with boulders, Cattle are of local breed and the animals are left out for open grazing in forest. The main crops grown are Maize. Paddy, Chick Pea, Black Gram, Soya been, Cotton, Tuar. Women are generally involved in agricultural operations, animals rearing fuel wood collection, fodder collection and home management. Men mostly go out for daily waged employment, which is generally in scare.

METHODOLOGY

Data are collected from members and S.W.C./ W.R.D. Jankars. Village institution was created under the project during August 2000. The techniques of data collection were applied viz, personal interaction informal group discussion, night meetings and focus group discussion relevant information was also derived from the secondary sources of data the information was also taken to have in-depth view from well known of the subject (the project functionaries) with whom the present case is prepared and processed through content analysis for clear under standing of public community participation.

1. State Coordinator Gramin Vikas Trust (Raj), 2. C.O. Gramin Vikas Trust Banswara, 3. I/C SWC/WRD. GVT.

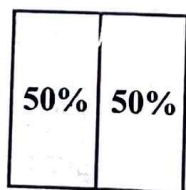
GRAPH NO. 1 Geographical Information : - December, 2000



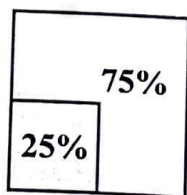
Soon after the commencement of Western India Rain fed Farming Project. The project staff had collected relevant data through the P.R.A. Techniques held on 11 - 13 December 2000. They later on prepared a village Development Plan for Bhuripara. In the plan the activities were identified to be carried out in the village to develop good rapport with the villagers.

GRAPH NO. 2

Contribution graph of S.W.C./W.R.D. activities.



Land Treatment Programme



Water Harvesting Structure

- Community Contribution
- Project Contribution

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

After the P.R.A. activity and micro planning of the Bhuripara village was done the help with S.W.C. Jankar on the basis of watershed approach. Watershed is a term for an area basis of land, which sheds water from rain (snowfall inclusive) into a single outlet of stream. Watershed is a natural unit, its boundaries are defined by topography and not by any man made parameters. A watershed is a living system governed by natural laws.

Government Basic Schedule of Rates (B.S.R.) are used as base to define the rates in different districts States. Payment are paid on the basis of "Task Based" the rate are negotiated and agreed upon with the community before starting S.W.C. work in the village. Community contribution worked out as 50% of physical work cost as per the schedule of rate in the relevant states. Community gets 50% of the physical work cost which includes personal saving 3% and 2% group fund, project give 5% Jankars incentive of concern active group. The project is not paying anything to Jankar directly in any form. So people feel ownership in this development programme.

Table 1. Impact of Programme on the Rural Livelihood

S. No.	Particulars	Before Project Measures Before 2000	Today (April 2004)	Change (Percentage)
1	Cultivated Area			
	a - Kharif	120 ha.	130 ha.	+ Significant
	b - Rabi	4 ha.	15 ha.	+275% Significant
2	Production			
	1 - Maiz - Quintal / ha.	12 Qu. / ha.	16-20 Qu. / ha.	+40% Significant
	2 - Paddy - Quintal / ha.	11-13 Qu. / ha.	15-18 Qu. / ha.	+30% Significant
	3 - Wheat - Quintal / ha.	10 Quintal / ha.	15-18 Qu. / ha.	+35% Significant
	4 - Chik Pea - Quintal / ha.	10-12 Qu. / ha.	14-17 Qu. / ha.	+30% Significant
	5 - Soyabean - Quintal / ha.	12-13.5 Qu./ha.	16-18 Qu. / ha.	+25% Significant
3	Milk output	40 Liters / day	102 Liters / day	+155%
4	Improved Agril. Equipment			
	a - Threshing Machines	0	1	Significant
	b - Sprayers	1	6	+500%
	c - Improved seed drill	0	5	Significant
	d - Oil Engines	1	7	+600%
	e - Micro Irrigation System	0	3	Significant
5	Horticulture	2.5 ha.	10 ha.	+300%
6	Fodder (Dry Grass)			
	a - From Forest Land	1400 cartloads	2100 cartloads	+50% Significant
	b - From Private Land	600 bandal/bigha	1000 bandal/bigha	+66% Significant
7	Wells			
	a - Seasonal	5	2	- Significant
	b - 8 Month	4	5	+25%
	c - 10-12 month	3	10	+233%
	d - Non use	4	1	- Significant
8	Drinking Water	Through Tenkar	Tenkar free	Significant
9	Thrift Groups			
	a - Women Group	Nil	3	+ Significant
	b - Mens Group	Nil	4	+ Significant
	c - Children Group	Nil	2	+ Significant
10	Education (Literacy) New Generation	55%	95%	+72% Significant
11	House Type			
	a - Pukka House	0	8	- Significant
	b - Good Kachcha House	12	53	+ Significant
	c - Kachcha House	35	5	- Significant
	d - Huts	20	3	- Significant
12	Others			
	1 - Chakdam / Pond	0	3	+ Significant
	2 - Flour Mill	0	1	+ Significant
	3 - Grain Bank	0	2	+ Significant
	4 - Seed Bank	0	1	+ Significant
	5 - Smokless Chulha	0	80	+ Significant
	6 - Use Water Filter	5	67	+ Significant
	7 - Drinking Water Tank	0	11	+ Significant

(i) Increased wages enhance family security with soil conservation measures and extension support, land productivity increases from the second or third year. The nutritional status of the family and village is progressively improved.

(ii) From the second year of W.S.D. activities in the area, which has experienced a reasonable monsoon, there is an appreciable increased water level in the village wells clean drinking water and water from protective irrigation is now available. This has considerable impact not

only on agriculture but also on the quality of life and health of women and the family women anxiety and workload is reduced to a considerable extent.

(iii) In several watersheds it have been observed that reduced migration results in the increase of school going children and an increase in the schooling period in addition the regular cash income enhance their moral and status in the family and society. It gives them a sense of security. This has also very significant impact on gender relationships. It has been

observed that women gradually gain self-confidence and self-respect.

(iv) With watershed development, agricultural productivity increases improve soil fertility and soil moisture result in increase the agriculture production. Now they can cultivate at least two crops (Kharif & Rabi). Increase the cultivation area of Soya been crops are also measured. Kitchen gardening techniques has been adopt on 90% household in the village. Today farmers prefer certified improved seed from the standard agencies.

(v) The barren hills are now covered with trees, shrubs and grasses. It improved the availability of fodder in many forms.

(vi) Social life in the village has also become more healthy and unified. A cadre of village women and men specialists (Jankar) in soil and water conservation is trained in basic field techniques and it is the biggest asset of the area.

(vii) Many farmers are adopting crop rotation system for increased retention of soil nutrients and resistance of many diseases.

(viii) Social life in the village has also become healthier and unified women have their savings and credit groups, which provide small loans for day-to-day needs. Local institutions are getting consolidated and people are playing an active role in the development of their own villages.

Constraints in Development-

(i) Low literacy rate (8%) in this village. Project

has started 2 adult literacy programme in this village to increase the literacy rate.

(ii) Many people are habitual of local wine (Mahudi) it is easily available from Mahua trees.

(iii) Established traditional social custom hence 40% of total annual income is expended in these customs like - Notra, Bhangjadia etc.

(iv) Earlier they use to take loan from money lender at the interest rate of 10% monthly and it had been exploited the villagers. Slowly-Slowly but new maximum members are taking loans from concern self help groups at the interest of 1.5 - 2% monthly.

Note-Presently children literacy rate is 95% in this village. Children understand the development concept. So children are doing monthly savings from last three years from their pocket money and divided of two self-help groups. So future of Bhuripara village is very bright.

CONCLUSION

The participatory watershed development programme is increasing decision making power in the rural community resulted better linkages with government departments and much awareness about different developmental schemes. Participatory W.S.D. plans to aim women's empowerment, even though in the initial years women may be saddled with additional burdens and responsibilities W.S.D. not only addresses the core concerns of women but also offers them the possibility of becoming integrated into socio-economic activities, political life, decision making processes and institutions of the village like Panchayat.

REFERENCES

G.V.T. (2000) "Participatory Rural Appraisal Report Of Village Bhuripara" Held On December 11 - 13.

