

# Regional Centre for Development Cooperation



ANNUAL REPORT  
2013-14



**Nurturing  
Resources, Empowering People**





# ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14



Regional Centre for Development Cooperation



## Message from Executive Director

In this financial year RCDC has delivered on its promises to protect natural resources by empowering people to exercise community control over them and build on them having sustainability and the ecosystem concept as the basis for both use and harvesting produce. It has helped the underprivileged by helping them build on traditional livelihoods and also providing new opportunities by linking them to non exploitative funding sources and also government schemes and programmes to reduce vulnerabilities and ensure social and economic upliftment.

On the climate justice front RCDC has earned accolades for establishing a climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction model in two coastal districts of Odisha.

In future RCDC will seek to build on its achievements on the ground by engaging with stakeholders for broader implementation of its initiatives by the state machinery and other agencies. This will require more emphasis on documentation, databases and research studies to judge the impacts of the strategies adopted on people, the society, the local economy, and on the people. RCDC will take the help of thematic experts and researchers to conduct such studies in its field areas in addition to its own expertise.

A challenge that RCDC has faced is the migration of youth and their turning away from traditional livelihood options like agriculture. RCDC will focus on the youth and will evolve productive and profitable systems to engage the youth who put the lives of themselves and their families at risk by travelling to faraway places in search of low paying contractual work.

Empowering women and adolescent girls has been a major focus area of RCDC which will be pursued with zeal to make them leaders of change. RCDC has worked very successfully with this group, despite facing traditional hurdles, and has succeeded in involving them in programmes which has led communities to view them as contributors rather than dependents. Social evils that plague this section can be fought by creating women leaders who can create awareness and fight for the cause.

In the climate justice sector RCDC will seek to help farmers with weather based monitoring through SMS and similar means of communication. It will promote the use of indigenous seeds that can tolerate drought and floods and also have medicinal benefits. Farmers will be encouraged to go in for a diversified crop basket, based on organic inputs, to improve whole farm productivity and income besides being climate and disaster resilient. The concept of seed and grain banks will be promoted.

Overall I am excited about the new emerging possibilities. The staffs of RCDC have always been flexible and change oriented and capable of tackling challenges with élan. Together we can successfully work with our target communities to deal with the future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kailash Chandra Dash'.

Kailash Chandra Dash  
Executive Director



## Overview

In the year 2013-14, RCDC continued with its initiative to find and propagate the most effective and sustainable means and ways of socio-economic as well as socio-ecological development. RCDC played its dual role of (a) piloting grassroots actions, and (b) doing pro-poor and pro-environment policy advocacy with aplomb.

The year was challenging. Odisha faced a massive cyclone. It was a great relief that an alert community, government and a well coordinated civil society action contributed to significantly minimize human and livestock casualties. RCDC played a leading role in post-disaster rehabilitation work in the coastal areas of Odisha.

In the year 2013-14, RCDC consolidated its activities on promotion and propagation of community forest management, effective implementation of Forest Rights Act, water & sanitation rights, disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation, local resource intensive and climate resilient agriculture and forest based livelihoods, piloting of integrated water management-based adaptation and socio-economic development, strengthening of Panchayatiraj institutions, and micro-enterprising for value addition of agriculture and forest products etc.

RCDC started some new projects in the year 2013-14. A community-led drinking water quality mitigation project in a severely fluoride-hit district, i.e. Nuapada, diversion-based irrigation in drought-hit KBK districts, and integrated water management-based disaster mitigation and livelihoods security projects were launched in this year. Besides, RCDC dedicated itself to evacuation, relief and rehabilitation activities in the pre, during and post Severe Cyclone Phailin period in the coastal areas of Odisha. RCDC also conducted action research on potential of REDD+ with eye on forest conservation, in the reported year.

In the reported year, RCDC continued to play its niche role of leading civil society advocacy movements on issues of implementation of Forest Rights Act, community forest management, water and sanitation access & rights, sustainable agriculture and livelihoods, decentralized governance, mainstreaming of climate concerns in development agenda, and national & international government commitments on Millennium Development Goal and human rights etc. RCDC is very happy that it pursued advocacy to influence policies, and achieved reasonable success in matters of handing over collection and marketing of minor forest produce to the communities; giving community rights over forest land and resources; decentralization of water and sanitation; state climate change action plans; and state agriculture policy.

Year 2013-14 was a challenging year for Non Government Organisations, especially with regard to right-based activism and advocacy; but RCDC pursued its right- based activities without stop on the strength of strong community support, civil society networking and root-based advocacy.

Buoyed by the initial success of People-led Approach (PLA) in Balangir district, RCDC expanded application of the PLA to other activities in the year. It has decided to follow the PLA with full commitment.

In the year 2013-14, RCDC networked with other civil society actions and groups to influence national and/or international policies. The organization invigorated the flagship sanitation programme 'Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan' in the same year. RCDC also played active role to influence government policies and stands on climate change negotiations at the CoP and the UNFCCC at international level.

In the same year RCDC brought out a number of publications on forest, water, agriculture and climate change subjects. Apart from the regular newsletters and publications like Ama Jangal Aamar and Community Forestry; RCDC brought out books on Right to Information, sustainable management of NTFP, medicinal plants revisited, PESA, and post-FRA linkages etc. RCDC also released a number of documentaries on drinking water supply and systems, FRA access and linkages, and climate adaptation strategies, alongwith the publication of effective IEC materials on FRA, water & sanitation, MGNREGA, RTI, sustainable agriculture, climate adaptive agriculture and alternate livelihoods options.

It was a privilege for RCDC when one of its targeted actions in the bio-diversity-rich Gandhamardan hills in western parts of Odisha got recognition as a finalist for the National Bio-Diversity award. Two years earlier, another programme of RCDC had received National Water Award for water conservation and ground water recharge. Such kinds of awards energize RCDC to commit itself to the cause of human development and environment sustainability with more vigour and dedication.

With its continued core focus on natural resource-based livelihood development and environmental security, RCDC made new strides in the year 2013-14. All of its activities come with a package of (a) grassroots model interventions; (b) capacity development of various factors including target community, Panchayats, civil society, government and media; (c) mainstreaming of gender, human rights and climate concerns, and (d) advocacy and lobbying sustained and supplemented by research and publications.

This Annual Report gives an overview of the above activities with brief narrations under the following broad segments:

- A. Natural Resource Management
- B. Livelihood Promotion
- C. Model Institution Development and Networking
- D. Climate Adaptation & Mitigation



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# ACRONYMS

CBO	Community Based Organisation	NRHM	National Rural Health Mission
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation	NRM	Natural Resource Management
CFM	Community Forest Management	NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Produce
CFR	Community Forest Rights	OFSDP	Odisha Forest Sector Development Project
CoP	Conference of the Parties	OJM	Odisha Jungle Mancha
CRP	Community Resource Person	OMFED	Odisha State Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
CSO	Civil Society Organisation	OTELP	Odisha Tribal Empowerment & Livelihoods Programme
DBI	Diversion Based Irrigation	PACS	Poorest Areas Civil Society
DFF	District Forest Federation	PCCF	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
DFO	Divisional Forest Officer	PDC	Panchayat Development Committee
DLC	District Level Committee	PDS	Public Distribution System
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	PESA	Provisions of Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act
EC	Executive Committee	PLA	People Led Approach
ED	Executive Director	PRI	Panchayati Raj Institution
FPC	Forest Protection Committee	PVTG	Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group
FRA	Forest Rights Act	RCDC	Regional Centre for Development Cooperation
FRC	Forest Rights Committee	REDD +	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
FSC	Food Security Committee	RTI	Right to Information
FSD	Forestry Sector Development	RWSS	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation
GP	Gram Panchayat	SC	Scheduled Caste
JFM	Joint Forest Management	SDLC	Sub-Divisional Level Committee
IAY	Indira Awaas Yojana	SEGOE	Save Eastern Ghats Odisha Eco-systems
IEC	Information Education Communication	SEM	Self-Employed Mechanic
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Schemes	SGSY	Swarnajayanta Gram Swarozgar Yojana
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management	SHG	Self Help Group
IUFRO	International Union of Forest Research Organisations	SMT	Senior Management Team
KBK	Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi	SMPU	Samuhik Marudi Pratikar Udayam
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation	SRI	System of Rice Intensification
MDG	Millennium Development Goal	ST	Scheduled Tribe
MDM	Mid-Day Meal	TF	Task Force
MFP	Minor Forest Produce	TSC	Total Sanitation Campaign
MLA	Member of Legislative Assembly	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
MLP	Micro Level Plan	VDC	Village Development Committee
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes	VWSC	Village Water Sanitation Committee
MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act	WASH	Water Sanitation Hygiene
MJMD	Mo Jami Mo Diha	WHS	Water Harvesting Structure
NFBS	National Family Benefit Scheme	WORLP	Western Odisha Rural Livelihoods Project
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation		
NIRD	National Institute of Rural Development		

## PROFILE OF REGIONAL CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (RCDC)

Regional Centre for Development Cooperation (RCDC) is a not-for-profit organisation registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 and Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act of 1976 of India. RCDC started its journey in 1993 with the mandate to carve a definite niche in the development sector with the agenda of empowering people for sustainable management of natural resources. RCDC works towards enabling the communities to manage their own natural resources efficiently and effectively for poverty alleviation and improving the quality of life.

RCDC has worked with the belief that proper management of natural resources can take care of most of the current development problems and the local communities are the best managers of these resources as they have the highest stake and time tested knowledge.

Since its formation RCDC has grown steadily and is now recognized as one of the premier non-governmental organizations in Odisha in the field of Natural Resource Management and Climate Change. Its core strength lies in its substantial peoples led work on the ground, its studies and research based on the ground experience, the passion and competence of its board and staff, its place in and contribution to important policy discourses, and its ability to remain transparent and accountable as an organization.

### VISION

Rights Secured  
Resources Managed and Sustained  
Poverty is Past

### MISSION

To support and facilitate the struggle for rights of the poor and marginalized community over resources, opportunities, institutions and processes to improve their quality of life, economic status and ensure social uplift and environment sustainability.



It may be worthwhile to mention that RCDC has been accredited under the highest standards of "Desirable Norms" after a thorough audit of all its aspects by the Credibility Alliance.



## CORE VALUES

The core values of RCDC are transparency, inclusive decision making, financial integrity and accountability, people centeredness and gender equity that are interwoven in all its programmes and interventions.

## PROGRAMME AREAS OF RCDC

- Natural Resource Management & Governance
- Sustainable Livelihoods Promotion
- Climate Justice – Resilience to climate change and disasters

## TARGET POPULATION

- Forest protecting communities.
- Poor and socially and geographically excluded.
- Forest dwellers and forest dependent communities.
- Marginal and small farmers.
- Women and children especially at risk.
- District and sub-district level networks of forest protecting communities.
- Coastal communities vulnerable to climate change associated natural hazards along the coast of Bay of Bengal in Odisha.
- Networks of CBOs and NGOs.
- Local self-government
- Different government agencies associated with natural resource governance.





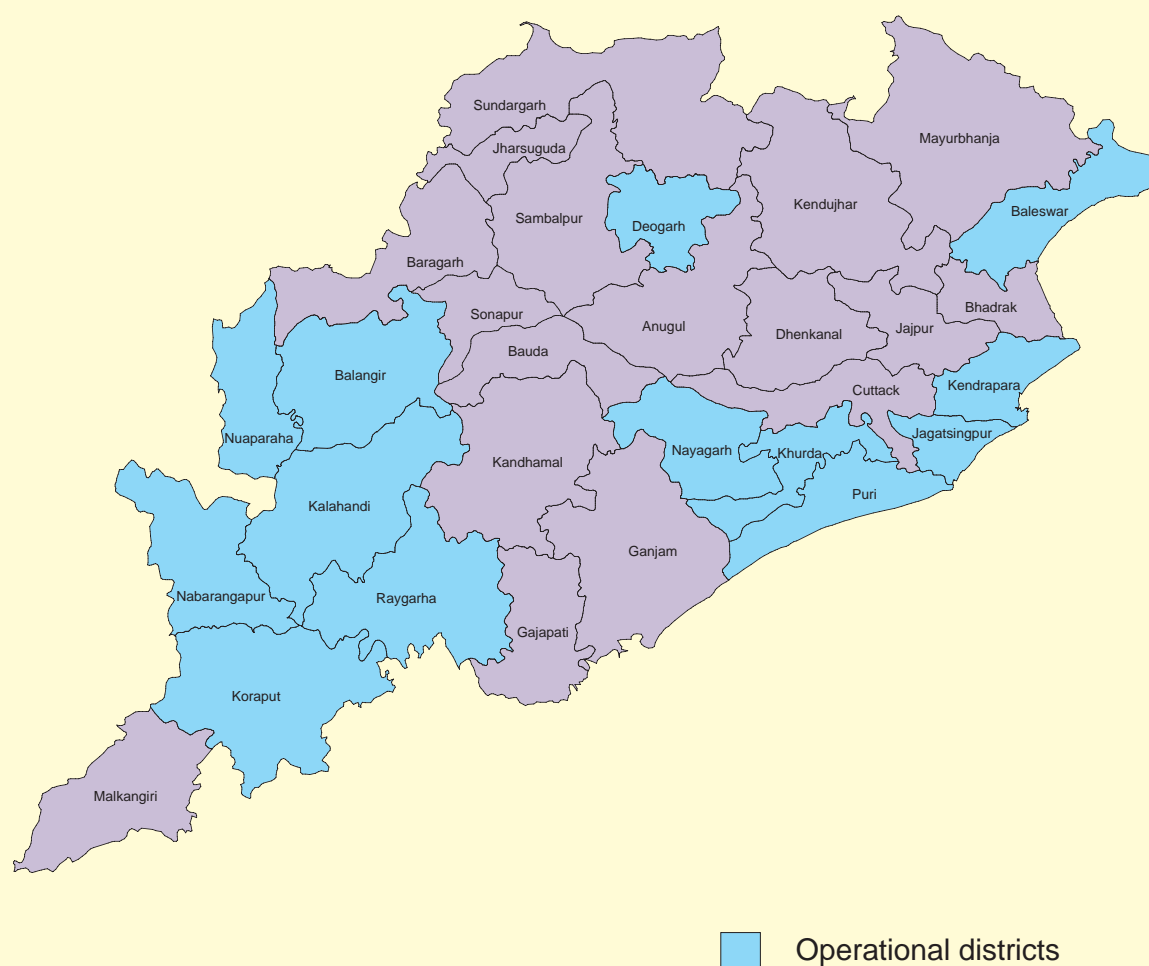
## STRATEGIES

These strategies of RCDC are aligned to its vision and core values and are applied in all operational areas with necessary adaptations to suit local circumstances.

- Most of RCDC's interventions are located in poorest districts of Odisha with focus on geographically and socio-economically excluded communities. While this approach will be further strengthened in the southern and western Odisha, RCDC is doing pioneering work with communities in the coastal belt that are at the receiving end of the vagaries of climate change which will be taken up in right earnest as the threat from climate change is real and happening.
- Our 'rights based approach' seeks to promote the rights of people and build their capacities for asserting the same. This approach stems from concerns regarding the (re)distributive aspects of conventional (economic) development impacts. We recognize that politically neutral strategies contribute to the de-politicisation of poverty, and continuing with the basic needs and welfare approach results in the perpetuation of impoverishment. We believe that the needs of the poor cannot be addressed without addressing their rights, where rights are not only legal rights but also entitlements and claims that stem from moral and ethical aspects.
- Our focus is on building and strengthening people's institutions/ community-based organizations with a focus on the marginalized and/or vulnerable sections to enable them to fight their own battles, with RCDC providing facilitative support. Capacity building is particularly focused on helping the poor become aware of the relevant policies and practices, analyze the causes of their deprivation, identify and prioritize issues, and acquiring necessary skills for planning, implementation, monitoring, review and evaluation of planned activities, among others.
- Working in partnership with CSOs, Networks, PRI institutions, Government Institutions, Academic and Research Institutions, and when needed with institutions in the market for our market access interventions.
- RCDC is committed to research and evidence based position and advocacy. Our position on issues concerning resource management and policies pertaining to people's development is based on research and evidence. We are aware that solutions to resource management issues are location specific and what has worked elsewhere may not be appropriate in the context of Odisha. RCDC is committed to finding location specific solutions and with that in mind it has been working to improve some of the government programmes and make those more community centric.
- Communication for information and education is one of the most critical and effective approaches that we follow and over the years we have developed a body of literature on issues pertaining to rights and resources. Our newsletters on community forestry and water, on account of their quality and content, have created a niche as well as demand among development practitioners, policy makers and bureaucrats alike. Many of our other publications have also been rated highly by the readers. We are dedicated to principle centered knowledge leadership.

## GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF RCDC

Most of the interventions of RCDC are limited to the state of Odisha – a state in the eastern part of Indian Federation. For research, documentation, advocacy and networking RCDC is also operating in the Central Indian states. The field demonstration projects are located in 13 districts of the state of Odisha.



## SECTION-A: NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

### Forest protection & management

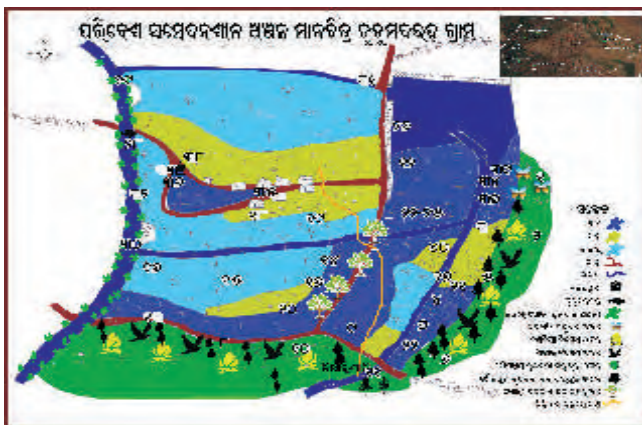
RCDC supported, promoted, and helped develop further community forestry initiatives in many of its operational areas alongwith special initiatives to address the local issues such as underdevelopment, water scarcity, forest rights, and livelihood. For instance, in Balangir district the village communities were assisted in filing their fresh claim of community forest resource rights in Form-C, under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (with its Amendment Rules of 2012 that introduced Form-C exclusively for community forestry) as their previous claim in Form-B was yet to yield. Moreover, micro-level plans were prepared in 74 villages incorporating community needs and ownership over forest as most prioritized need.

### Going beyond forests: the ecosystem approach

With support from Ecosystem Alliance, RCDC has been implementing the Save Eastern Ghats Odisha Ecosystem(SEGOE) project in five districts of the state on a pilot basis. The objective of the project is to promote the ecosystem approach among the local communities so that they can identify and/or recognize the vitals links between the biotic and abiotic elements, and then take initiatives to protect such links. In conventional approach, forest has been the focus area of environmental protection initiatives. RCDC called for an approach that goes beyond 'forest' and even 'biodiversity' and considers a more holistic as well as broader approach of ecosystem. Under the SEGOE project, villages like Dudumdarh identified the socio-ecological zones around them and launched protection initiatives for them under the leadership of GSAC. Demarcation of customary boundary, and demarcation & conservation of 158 eco-sensitive areas(socio-ecological zones) were done by the community in 13 villages.

#### Community initiative in Goramba

Goramba village in the Ekamba GP of Nabarangpur district has been protecting 'its' forest since long. RCDC observed that the villagers confined their activities only to protection, whereas the forest needed some development too. As such the village was supplied with saplings of valuable RET species which the community people planted in the open spaces, and then themselves took up the fencing work of the plantation area at their own cost, which was remarkable.



Local partner Gram Swaraj facilitated the process in the Sorishapal GP of Mayurbhanj district as a result of which in villages like Amdapani, Basilakocha, Jamtalia, Kusumtota, Khadighati, Purunapani and Fuljhara the villagers took steps to conserve the aquatic biodiversity in Budhabalanga river by stopping poison fishing. The strict restriction on sal leaf collection in Sorishapal village created conflicts with the neighbouring Betjharan village and later both the villagers amicably settled their dispute and joined hands to follow the Sorishapal initiative. In a significant move, the transport of fire wood from forest by bullock cart is completely prohibited which contributed to less extraction of material. The villages where there is no forest took interest in plantation, and planted 8000 saplings of useful species. The NTFP management system was also improved as the villagers banned char seed collection in Baunsapahadi village for 2013 to allow better regeneration of the plants.

## Forest development

Enrichment plantation activity was taken up by RCDC under a special initiative 'Green Aid' in four districts of the state under which about 5000 saplings/seedlings of as many as 18 different indigenous varieties of RET species were planted in the Nandupalla GP(Gandhamardan hills) of Balangir district, Ekamba GP of Nabarangpur district, Koinpur GP(Mahendragiri hills) of Gajapati district, and Munikhol & Kurli GPs(Niyamgiri) of Rayagada district. The species included *Rauvolfia serpentina*, *Uraria picta*, *Litsea glutinosa*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Sterculia urens*, and *Saraca asoca*, etc.

The Green Aid programme also facilitated the first-ever community phasi(*Anogeissus accuminata*) plantations in the state, one at Goramba(Nabarangpur) and the other at Dudumdarah(Balangir). Though of small scale, these are but pilot initiatives of RCDC to link the community potential in forest protection with the cultural and religious cause only for greater motivation and better results as the phasi timber is a much-needed one for making the chariots of Lord Jagannath at Puri each year and while the wild population of this species has been dwindling, government initiatives for phasi plantation have suffered heavy setback.

On the other hand, in the Golamunda Block of Kalahandi district, the communities have undertaken forestry activities on seasonal basis for proper management of CFR areas and applied their traditional knowledge and skill for income generation. The major activities here include: stone fencing and patching, transplantation of MFP species and other trees, clearance of unwanted creepers and climbers, ban in collection of bamboo shoots, etc.





## Facilitation of FRA

About 80 CFR claims were submitted in the reported year under RCDC's facilitation, either directly (in Balangir and some other districts) or through local partners (in Gajapati and Mayurbhanj districts). The number of individual forest right claims facilitated were, of course much greater than this for obvious reasons. While many individual claimants received their entitlements, 6 villages in the Balangir district received the first ever community forest right titles because of RCDC initiative. This was a major achievement in that district because not a single CFR claim had been granted before that, and the pending titles had been a debated issue. A similar achievement was made in Deogarh district with 5 CFR titles.

RCDC also facilitated convergence programmes for the FRA beneficiaries. Land development with a linkage to NREGS was the most common convergence activity.

Besides, RCDC shared the CFR management system implemented in its operational villages of Golamunda Block in Kalahandi district, in the Regional Consultation organized by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs at Bhubaneswar.

Conversion of Forest Villages into Revenue Villages, and PVTG rights over the habitat and habitations have been given due emphasis in RCDC's advocacy agenda. Conditional right over Kendu leaf and Bamboo to the Gramsabha is the other area of advocacy. While RCDC supported initiatives for the rights of PVTG Juangs in Keonjhar district and the Paudi Bhuyans in Deogarh district, it also advocated for a separate budget provision for implementation of FRA [10% each from article 275 (1) and TSP, SCSP budget].

## Green advocacy

While RCDC itself advocated at local level and supported local organizations/communities for protection, conservation, and development of environmental assets in general and forest resources in particular, a major and extraordinary initiative was taken by the organization on behalf of the Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme-India network (of which RCDC is a member, and is in charge of its policy desk) before the onset of the general elections in 2014. A model green manifesto was prepared for the political parties, and was shared with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Indian National Congress, the Aam Admi Party (AAP), the Community Party of India (CPI), and the CPI (Marxist) for necessary incorporation in their election manifesto to be released. Of these only the BJP adopted the concept of land use planning and promised to set up a National Land Use Authority in its manifesto.





On the backdrop of temporary devolution of kendu leaf collection and disposal rights to the Gram sabhas in the Nabarangpur KL division by the state government as per the provision of PESA and FRA, a Kendu Leaf Study sharing interface workshop was organised by RCDC where the Additional PCCF (Kendu Leaf) was present. Kendu leaf pluckers were sensitised about the rights devolution process and about kendu leaf management activities. The APCCF(KL) responded to the queries raised in the House, and clarified on the governmental stand though he took note of the fact that due to inadequate implementation the devolution of power in KL management could not be successful.



## Publications

While RCDC continued publishing its periodicals Ama Jungala Amara(Odia) and Community Forestry, a first-of-its kind community-friendly manual, Planning Sustainable NTFP Management, was published in April 2013 with support from UNDP and in collaboration with Keystone Foundation. This manual was printed in three languages(English, Hindi, and Odia) for greater coverage of its message, and was also made available on RCDC website.



## Drinking water & sanitation

While RCDC has diversified the portfolio around water theme that covers livelihoods, ecology, and policy advocacy; it has exclusive programmes on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene. In the year 2013-14, RCDC expanded its water programme and started an exclusive project for drinking water security in the fluoride affected Nuapada district of Odisha. The new project has adopted five fluoride-hit Panchayats in two blocks of Nuapada district. The project will also look for solutions to the complex problems associated with multi-village and multi-Panchayat mega water supply projects. In the said year, RCDC continued with its grassroots interventions for improvement in drinking water access and sanitation; and better hygiene practices at different levels in 30 Gram Panchayats of three districts. The programme aimed to build capacity of the Panchayats and the community institutions to help them realise their rights and shoulder their responsibilities. It was a pleasure that at least five VWSCs have taken full control of drinking water facilities and their operation & management. In all the villages, community members have started creating their own fund improvement and maintenance of WASH facilities. On the advocacy front RCDC played lead role at the state- and national level in suggesting changes to the Total Sanitation Campaign. It may be noted here that the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) was rechristened to Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) in the reported year.

A very severe cyclone, Phailin, hit Odisha in October 2013. It caused wide-spread catastrophe and serious Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) issues. RCDC responded to the desperate situation with aid and rehabilitation programmes.

RCDC took up direct and intensive WASH rehabilitation activities in 15 Panchayats of four blocks in Puri and Balasore districts. That initiative provided immediate WASH specific relief and rehabilitation for the immediate requirement; as well as helped build capacity of the community to improve their overall access to water, sanitation and hygiene.





## Diversion-based irrigation

The DBI project, that was completed in March 2013 in three villages(Nuapali, Mahulpali, and Dudumdarh) of Nandupalla GP in the Balangir district successfully started supplying water in June 2013. The villagers got drinking water supply for 24 hours, apart from irrigation facility. This was a revolutionary experience for them.



## Advocacy under WaterAid Project on Water & Sanitation

Apart from field intervention with specific focus, RCDC has a mandate to network with and lead civil society advocacy and action to influence government for pro-poor, pro-environment and sustainable programmes, policies and implementation. RCDC had a fruitful year in 2013-14 on this front. It aligned with national and state level networks like Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA) , Odisha Water Forum (OWF) and Odisha Coalition on Panchayatiraj (OCPR) etc. to influence (a) inclusion of toilet and waste disposal activities under the Gram Sabha Sasaktikaran Karyakram , (b) to conduct and accept baseline survey for true assessment of toilet status; and (c) for involving of Panchayats and community members during preparation of Detail Project Reports (DPR) for Pipe Water Supply (PWS) Projects.

RCDC also played key role in influencing the government during formulation of National Water Policy and delivery of national and international promises on WASH.



RCDC continued its engagement this year in activities that helped ensure tenurial rights of the poor over land (forest and non-forest), and also facilitated convergence with relevant government programmes (such as NREGS) for development of such land for optimal use. Local partner SWWS helped accelerate NREGS implementation in the Koinpur GP of Gajapati district under the SEGOE programme. Moreover, finding that 42 tribal families in the Lumudasing village of Koinpur GP eligible for getting house under Indira Awas Yojana but deprived due to want of land patta document, SWWS facilitated the process for submission of their claim for certified land patta copy. Similarly, in the Ekamba GP of Nabarangpur district, where the government officials were purposefully delaying the distribution of individual entitlements to the FRA beneficiaries of Rangamatiguda, Gitiguda, Radioguda and Jamjhola villages for their vested interest; RCDC's intervention (advocacy) helped resolve this issue and all the 81 persons received their individual entitlements. This succeeded in two phases. In the first phase patta of 41 beneficiaries of Rangamatiguda village were returned to them. To release the rest RCDC staff requested the local MLA for intervention and thus on 10th February 2014 40 pattas of Jamjhola, Gitiguda and Radioguda villages were distributed.

## LAND





## SECTION-B: LIVELIHOOD PROMOTION

The MKSP project:

Under the Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojna (MKSP) supported by the Government of India, RCDC has initiated work in 6 GPs of 2 Blocks in Rayagada district of Odisha. The programme will deliver the following key outputs;

- Enhancing household income Rs.15,000-20,000;
- Profiling of 13200 rural women farmers (small and marginal farmers/tribal/scheduled caste households);
- 1100 producer sub groups will be promoted and strengthened;
- 12 producer cooperatives will be registered;
- 6000 Mahila Kisans will be the share holders of the producer cooperative;
- 1200 Mahila Kisans will undertake paddy cultivation through SRI;
- 6000 Mahila Kisans will be promoted vegetable cultivation with organic ways;
- 6000 HH level crop planning will be made;
- 1200 landless Mahila Kisans will undertaken backyard goat rearing twice in a year;
- A cadre of 264 Community Resource Persons (CRPs) are trained on agricultural practices at community level.

Within the reporting period the project has targeted 2200 households of 40 villages and is working with 1650 women farmers training them on various aspects of sustainable organic agriculture. These include trainings on SRI, organic practices for vegetable cultivation and crop planning, soil health management, seed selection, treatment and preservation, and preservation of produce using an indigenous and farmer friendly storing practice.





### The SEGOE project:

Under the SEGOE project, ragi cultivation as a livelihood option has been promoted in Mayurbhanj and Nabarangpur districts. While line sowing and SRI methods in paddy farming have been promoted in the Ghatiduba, Betjharan & Sorisapal villages (SRI-10 acres and line sowing 120 acres) of Mayurbhanj district, the case of ragi promotion in the Ekamba GP(Jharigaon Block) of Nabarangpur district marks some interesting developments because in this area where indigenous communities stopped cultivating their traditional staple food ragi and other millets just because of the cash crop maize, RCDC's persuasion helped increase the total area under ragi in the GP by about 20 acres, that too in a differential manner because some farmers started it only on the edges of their maize land while some other spared small parts of their land for it.

For nutritional security of the target population, the exotic multivitamin plant(*Sauropus androgynus*) was supplied to about 2400 households in 4 tribal districts of the state, for growing in the homestead land only. Its edible leaves are rich in several vitamins and other nutrients. However, RCDC did some secondary research before supplying this plant and finding that it has some limitations or drawbacks also, RCDC published a leaflet in Odia mentioning the pros & cons of this plant, alongwith the use and propagation methods. RCDC also introduced the first Odia name for this plant, pustiraj. RCDC's dissemination of relevant information on the multivitamin plant seems to be the only one of its kind, because even the Forest Department nursery at Bhubaneswar, which supplies this plant, has no information on its pros & cons. RCDC also issued clear instructions not to plant this exotic species anywhere in wild because of its concerns for biodiversity conservation



### The Food & Nutrition Security (FNS) project:

Under the project 'Promoting household level food & nutritional security among small & marginal farmers of South India', that has been supported by ICCO and Kerk for implementation by the SODI(South Odisha Development Initiative) partners RCDC, as one of the SODI partners, achieved the following in 14 villages of Polama GP in the Kalyan Singpur Block of Rayagada district:

- Each household planted two lemon, two papaya and two drumstick plants in the backyard of their house, while kitchen gardens having brinjal, chilli, lady's finger, pumpkin, beans, tomato etc. were promoted.
- 0.25 acre of maize(line sowing, organic),and 0.25 acre of line transplanting of paddy(organic) was also practised.
- 2000 families(0.25 acre each) cultivated paddy in SRI method using organic materials.
- 1000 families grew ragi in line transplanting method using organic materials.
- 200 families having cow are practicing and following the procedure of artificial insemination.



### The DBI project:

Due to the water connection under DBI 134 families in 3 villages of Balangir district have been able to cultivate vegetables like brinjal, lady's finger, coriander leaf, lima, long-beans, arum and sweet potato in the summer in their kitchen gardens.

Because of this project and other interventions in the Balangir district by RCDC 24 farmers have adopted liquid manure and organic pest management technique in their farming practice. 10 farmers have set up vermi compost units and preparing vermi compost. 24 farmers have undertaken SRI cultivation in 24 acres of land, 35 farmers have adopted line sowing in 35 acres and 25 farmers have undertaken mixed cropping in 37 acres of land.

125 vulnerable families including a family headed by a disabled person and 03 families headed by persons with critical diseases have been supported with vegetable kit and agricultural implements under this project for vegetable cultivation and agriculture.

## Story of Change

### *A ray of hope...*

Jayaram Sa of Dudumdarha village of Khaparkhol block (Balangir district) is a physically challenged person. He has taken a new challenge to prove "I can do, everyone can do". He possesses 04 acres of land (medium land - 2 acres, upland - 1.5 acres and home stead land - 0.5 acre). He was barely managing his family with the little income from farming and his ancestral occupation - oil processing. By processing tola (*Madhuca indica* seed) and bahada (*Terminalia bellerica* seed) he was earning a small amount despite hard labour. The income from agriculture got stopped since a dam (Bagjharan MIP, 1978) on the upper part of his village caused water scarcity in the lower part (where he was cultivating). Not only Jayaram, many villagers became victim of this problem. 30 years long struggle gave them no fruit. Administrators and policy makers all gave a deaf hearing to their needs and requests. When they were amidst the disappointment, DBI (Diversion Based Irrigation through gravity flow system) initiative with the support of JTT (Jamsetji Tata Trust) came as a boon for them due to the request of GSAC to Zilla Jangal Surakshya O Parichalana Forum ( District Forest Federation) which coordinated with JTT(through RCDC). The villagers got a new ray of hope. Water was brought to the village from Nialghati spring through 1700 meter PVC pipe at 3.5 feet depth. A long felt thirst of the villagers to get water for irrigation and drinking purpose was quenched through this DBI.

Jayaram also got irrigation facility for agriculture. He could bring 02 acres of his land under cultivation with this water. He adopted indigenous variety of seeds with SRI method. As a result his production of paddy has now gone from 08 quintals to 22 quintals. Further he has planted papaya, drumstick, and multivitamin plants in his land and also growing vegetables for household consumption and selling. His income has gone up and he is now happy with getting such a facility which he had never hoped.

This is not a single case, many farmers who had lost hope that their land will be coming under cultivation have got a new hope. DBI is a very feasible initiative without out electricity and pollution. Such initiative should be undertaken massively where the spring water is available.

What is remarkable to note here that although the support for this initiative came from JTT, the actual facilitation was made under the EA project intervention. In fact when the Save Eastern Ghat Odisha Ecosystem project started in the Nandupalla Gram Panchayat(under which the Dudumdarha village comes), the preliminary assessment of issues of the area identified water scarcity as one of the major issues. This eventually led to the DBI. EA also encourages for activities under co-funding, so the credit of this DBI initiative indirectly goes to EA too.





### The Prayas project:

The innovative model of raising 28 floating gardens in the Bambarada village of Sukal GP and 2 in Surujipur village of Madhuban GP in the month of March, 2014 created a history in itself, because the villagers for the first time made a beneficial use of the otherwise problematic aquatic weed Water Hyacinth to prepare floating beds for vegetable cultivation in the weed-choked Ratnachira river of their area. This has yielded encouraging results as the villagers are now able to ensure extra production of vegetables for their livelihood security. This in fact is an adaptation measure introduced for them as they have been facing serious water logging problem that reduces the scope of conventional agriculture.

These apart, initiatives were taken in districts like Balangir, Gajapati, and Mayurbhanj for mapping and promotion of indigenous seeds.





## NON-AGRICULTURE-BASED LIVELIHOOD

Under the OTELP project, the target communities have been supported with 8 mother chick units in four villages. The SHGs are getting good benefit and their income has stabilized.

- 59 households in 7 villages have been supported with backyard poultry
- 59 vulnerable families have been identified and supported for different income generating activities.
- Under MKSP project target families have been trained for backyard goatery.



## FOREST-BASED LIVELIHOOD

RCDC's Regional Office at Balangir has, in the reporting period, implemented five projects supported by Dan Church Aid, Misereor and Keystone Foundation that concentrate on forest based livelihoods for tribal and other disadvantaged populations living in forest areas. These initiatives focus on forest production and regeneration, and sustainable harvesting through community-based initiatives for long-term food and livelihood security without putting pressure on forests.

Though Gandhamardan hills provide adequate NTFP-based livelihood to the forest dependent communities, NTFP was being sold at very low price because of the isolated nature of the location of the villages and lack of market points. The traders from the adjacent towns were arbitrarily buying the products from the primary collectors at a very low rate. To address this issue GSAC has set up an outlet with support from RCDC where initially honey and siali leaf plates are planned to be sold for better gains.

The community members have conducted participatory mapping in 04 villages ( Chhanchan bahali, Dudumdarha, Mahulapali, and Nuapali) to identify uncultivable/wild food sources like roots and tubers. Through this mapping they have identified 60 types of roots and tubers. These have been documented and shared by the villagers.



Under the Unheard Stories Microgrant, 30 tribal beneficiaries of Sundargarh(10 households) and Nuapada(20 households) districts were supported for lac cultivation as a sustainable livelihood option. The encouraging results led to further support to 25 more beneficiaries in the Nuapada district under the project 'Tropical Forest and Indigenous People-The Road Ahead' supported by the NTFP-Exchange Programme India network. The initiative has yielded remarkable results particularly for the Maoist-infested and otherwise neglected Sunabeda sanctuary area in the Nuapada district where vulnerable communities could not get a sustainable source of their livelihood.

### Convergence for better synergy

In Balangir district MGNREGA plans have been prepared in 74 villages with the participation of the community members and CBO leaders with incorporation of their needs and priorities based on the new guidelines of MGNREGS where watershed activities have been integrated for development of the needy families. MLPs have been integrated with MGNREGS plans in all these villages.

Linkage of 628 vulnerable families with various food and social security schemes was facilitated by RCDC in this district.

In Deogarh district two rounds of farmers' training were organised on behalf of NABARD, in the village Siarimalia to sensitise the farmers on Rabi crops and the facilities available to them on behalf of the Government. Farmers were provided with small seeds kit by NABARD for winter cropping. Similarly, small and marginal farmers, share croppers, and FRA title holders were trained on agricultural practices for more productivity, in the Balangir district.



## SECTION-C: MODEL INSTITUTION DEVELOPMENT AND NETWORKING/ADVOCACY

In 2013-14 RCDC continued to be an active member of international networks such as IUCN, IUFRO, and Carbon Market Watch Global Network. At local level the following activities took place for institutional development and networking:

### Forest Rights Forums

- Forest Right Committees (FRC) have been involved in the project villages(that deal with forest rights, forest based food security and livelihood generation) of RCDC to look after forest protection and regeneration. This is in absence of CFR entitlement because the entitlement would replace the role of FRC by that of the forest management committee. .
- Forest right cells operated at Block level in the Saintala Block of Balangir district and at district level in Deogarh district to provide special assistance to the people eligible for claims under FRA.
- In Balangir district, the CBOs submitted memorandum to the Government for implementation of FRA in the right spirit and influenced the GSSK(Gram Sabha Sashaktikaran Karyakram, a government initiative) to include the left out vulnerable families for linkage with various schemes. The community members and the CBO leaders by their regular interaction and sharing have constructively engaged the PRIs in the process of development.
- Campaigns for Community Forest Rights are going on in Balangir and Deogarh districts where Community Pressure Groups have been formed. The Group members met the respective Collector in the Grievance Days regarding the pending CFR cases.
- In Balangir, the Pressure Group met the DLC Members and other officials to make them aware about the district's non-performance in case of CR and CFR. They put forth the demand that two DFF members shall remain present in every DLC and SDLC meeting.
- In Kalahandi, Deogarh and Balangir districts of Odisha, three SDLC/DLC interfaces were organised where the DLC/SDLC members, community leaders, FRC presidents and Secretaries were present. The objective was to accelerate the forest rights recognising process in all the three districts.
- Meeting with State Level Monitoring Committee members was also organized to issue directions to the District Collectors for speedy disposal of claims which is pending for the last four / five years.





## Food Rights Forums

In Balangir district lobby & advocacy was done at various levels to consistently engage with different stakeholders on issues and policies of food security, agriculture security, community ownership over forest and natural resources, MGNREGS and better Panchayatiraj governance. Analysis and assessment of schemes like MGNREGA, PDS, ICDS, insurance schemes, plantation schemes, agricultural schemes, and the Right to Food Act by the community members for larger advocacy for incorporation peoples' idea and perception was also undertaken.

The findings of the assessment and analysis have been disseminated in different platforms like Odisha Khadya Adhikar Abhiyan, Right to Food Campaign, Budget Watch Group, Adivasi Sangh and Regional Food Security Forum.





## SECTION-D: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION & MITIGATION

### Coastal Odisha: Project 'Paribartan' continues for the third year

RCDC has been implementing a distinguished, multi-country CCA-DRR initiative called 'Paribartan' in 84 villages of 8 GPs in the Rajnagar Block of Kendrapada district and Balikuda Block of Jagatsinghpur district in the coastal belt of Odisha. This initiative, being carried out since February 2011 in the two countries of India and Bangladesh, is facilitated by Concern Worldwide and funded by the European Union. It is a five year project and is to end in January 2016.

### The backdrop

The districts of Kendrapara and Jagatsinghpur were chosen because of their vulnerability to climate change impacts. The Super Cyclone of 1999 that had a devastating impact on Coastal Odisha taking more than 10,000 lives and destroying all structures that came in its way was particularly harsh on these two districts. The district of Jagatsinghpur alone contributed 6000 of the 10,000 deaths recorded. Huge tidal surges had inundated vast stretches of land contributing to the mass casualties.

The year 1999 was a turning point for these districts. Subsequently, climate change impacts such as erratic rainfall, rising temperatures and increased salinity of the land affected paddy cultivation the main crop of the area dealing a blow to the livelihood of farmers who throng the region. The fishermen faced a crisis as fish catches diminished in the rivers, probably due to a change in the composition of its waters due to increased salinity. The Bhitarkanika National Park at Rajnagar and the Gahiramatha Marine Sanctuary surrounding it are an issue for the fishermen community as fishing within their boundaries is restricted. The presence of crocodiles in the waters of the National Park and beyond also discourages people from fishing.

The two main livelihood options being threatened, the people of the area have been reduced to poverty. The vast stretches of paddy land lie barren and both fishing & boat building which employed people of the region have been adversely affected. These factors led to migration of the population who spread to metro cities and even to Gulf countries primarily working as masons and plumbers. The women and elderly left behind found it very difficult to make both ends meet. There are also migrants from West Bengal and Bangladesh who have settled in the area having to live in the harshest of situations in lands shunned by the locals for their hostile conditions.



## About the project

The Paribartan project was faced with two challenges: to restore the livelihoods of the people through climate resilient livelihood models, and to alleviate the acute poverty- that is the curse of the vulnerable population- through such model initiatives. The name of the project has been framed as, "Increasing Resilience and Reducing Risk of Coastal Communities to Climate Change and Natural Hazards in the Bay of Bengal" to make the communities resilient to climate change and natural disasters that frequent the region.

The project attempts to build resilience of coastal communities along the Bay of Bengal by increasing their ability, along with that of the authorities and organisations, to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of hazards and climate change so that poverty can be alleviated in the long run.

The project targets poor coastal communities vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Local government functionaries and civil society organisations who are actively involved in the development. Planning and implementation of disaster risk reduction activities are also targeted to build capacities such that they can be effective in ameliorating the plight of affected people in the region.

The project has 54,148 direct beneficiaries (male - 27,581, and female 26,567) spread across the 84 villages of the 8 GPs in the two blocks of Rajnagar and Balikuda. The population that will indirectly benefit from the project activities, learning and sharing is estimated to be 589,602 (male - 296,224 and female - 293,378).



## Activities and achievements of the project during the year 2013-14

Increased capacity of state and non-state actors leading to the integration of appropriate Disaster Risk Reduction and climate change adaptation activities into relevant multi-sectoral development plans.

- The Paribartan Team made all efforts to mainstream CCA-DRR into development programmes initiated by the local administration. Discussions on the issue were held with the BDO, Forest Ranger and Sarpanchs of the target area GPs after obtaining information about future development activities in the region. The local administration and the PRI members were oriented on the aims, objectives and activities of the Paribartan project and their commitment to align Government schemes and programmes to address CCA-DRR issues in the region was obtained.
- PRI members were trained on MGNREGS, its role in rural development and its potential to create community assets such that the scheme could be utilized to reduce the vulnerability of the target community to climate change impacts and natural disasters by helping them adopt climate resilient livelihood options.
- Team members established relationships and negotiated with local NGOs like APOWA and Chale Chalo so that CCA activities of the Paribartan project could be merged with Government schemes and programmes. Consequently, ponds for Integrated Rice Fish Culture (IRFC) were merged with the Mo Pokhari scheme and APOWA promised help to set up a mangrove nursery. Another local NGO Gram Utthan arranged for training on agriculture to select farmers from the target area.
- Trainings were imparted to the members of the community-based institutions formed at hamlet-, village- and Panchayat level regularly in all project villages to raise their awareness on CCA-DRR issues and build their capacity to map their vulnerability through Community Risk Vulnerability Assessment refreshers and plan to become climate resilient by preparing village level Community Contingency Plans. Accordingly, 370 Sahi Paribartan Committees, 84 Gram Paribartan Committees, and 8 Panchayat Paribartan Committees have been set up with equal representation of men and women. Emphasis is always on women members such that they can become the voice of the most vulnerable.
- The sustained dialogue and constructive engagement among multi stakeholders including the Governments at state and central level for addressing the issues of disaster risk reduction and climate change of the communities based on the Bay of Bengal in Odisha helped the local line departments and elected representatives to support in effective delivery of programs and mobilizing resources for meeting emergency needs of the people like water, sanitation and restoration of livelihoods and environment during Cyclone Phailin that struck the project area on October 12.
- The initiatives of the Paribartan team ensured that vulnerabilities and the plans of the community reflected in the village level Community Contingency Plans were taken up at Gramsabha and Pallisabha. This elicited promises from PRI members that the key activities in the CCPs would be incorporated into Panchayat level plans and implemented through Panchayat funds.
- Vulnerable families from both Rajnagar and Balikuda blocks were made aware of Micro-Insurance schemes of a leading nationalized insurance company through a sensitization programme facilitated by a senior management staff of the company. As a consequence 156 extremely vulnerable families were insured for loss to house, household assets and also provided accident insurance with the premium being supported by the project.



- The vulnerable families that were insured under micro insurance product on pilot basis shared their learning and importance of insurance in the context of frequent disasters with other families in the villages which has convinced 66 families to get insured under the product on their own. Other families in the project area have also demanded for information support. The project staff facilitated the process of linkage between local health workers and GPC members for accessing the health insurance product implemented by State Government which enabled the vulnerable households to get insured.

Increased capacity of target communities to withstand, respond to and recover from the impact of hazards through a number of preparedness measures.

- While planning for adaptation strategies it was observed that many of those most vulnerable lived on forest land. Thus it was not possible to help them with support for climate smart agriculture livelihood options as they could not produce proof of ownership of land. To tide over this crisis it was decided to invoke the Forest Rights Act, 2006 and take advantage of the provisions for Individual Forest Rights and Community Forest Rights. Accordingly both staff and community members from the area were trained on FRA and its provisions.
- Community Risk Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) refresher exercises have been conducted in all 84 target villages and Community Contingency Plan (CCP)/Lok Yojana formulated by above CBOs and linkages have been made with PRIs for inclusion in Panchayat plans for effective implementation of CCA and DRR activities.
- Exposure visits were arranged for staff from Rajnagar and Balikuda who visited each other programme area. An exposure visit to a CCA-DRR project called 'Prayas'(a UNDP-RCDC initiative) in Puri was arranged where staff were exposed to a pond based rain water harvesting structure with a filtration system that provided piped drinking water to two villages. They were also exposed to floating gardens supported by the project to help landless households in waterlogged areas.
- A reference manual in Odia, 'Mukabila pain ame prastut' (We are prepared for disasters) detailing various disaster preparedness measures and techniques to help the community during and after disasters was prepared and copies thereof were distributed to the Gram Paribartan Committees. It covered Early Warning, Search & Rescue, First Aid, Water & Sanitation, and Shelter Management.
- 850 Task Force members (M-425, F-425) of all 84 villages and one hamlet were provided refresher training at different locations within the target area to refresh their skills on Early Warning, Search & Rescue, First Aid, Water & Sanitation, and Shelter Management. Refresher trainings help in honing skills as well as help keep the TF members ready for emergencies. This was followed by early warning mock drills in strategic locations across the entire target area.

#### The Hariharpur initiative

In an encouraging development the Task Force members of Hariharpur village conducted a mock drill on their own with enthusiastic participation of community members. This was done without project support and pointed out the increased involvement of the community members in project activities, indicating their growing sense of ownership.

## Pilot projects implemented to demonstrate practical way for climate change adaptation

- Overall the project supported pilot projects include implementation of 24 Integrated Rice Fish Culture (IRFC) Units, 37 vermi-compost units, 20 Integrated Pisciculture Units, Mangrove plantation with 10,000 saplings, avenue plantation(5 km), 4 Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS), horticulture plants provided to 1000 HHs, homestead garden initiated by 1000 HHs, 93 fuel efficient stoves provided to needy families, and women of 47 HHs provided with women's drudgery kits (agriculture) for gardening activities. These activities were initiated and supervised by the Gram Paribartan Committees set up in all villages of the target area. Around 1200 vulnerable poor families have been identified by the Gram Paribartan Committee based upon selection criteria and targeted with special emphasis on gender for all the project supported activities enumerated above.
- The World Environment Day was observed on 5th of June 2013 at both Rajnagar and Balikuda field areas. There was active participation by 363 community members including adolescents and children. The programme reached out to community members from within and also beyond the target area. Community meeting, plantation, rally, quiz competition, and cultural events were organised to make the community aware of environmental issues. The community members took a pledge to plant trees and provide free labour for plantation activities so as to save the environment. The Pentha UP School falling within the project area was awarded the "Prakruti Mitra" prize on the World Environment Day. The Head Master of the School received Rs.10000/- cash award and Certificate from Honourable Minister (Forest & Environment) Sri Bijayasree Rout Ray. It is worthy to mention here that the Pentho village has been continuously engulfed by the sea, and the villagers being under constant threat of marine transgression, RCDC has given special attention to the village under the Paribartan project an outcome of which is this award.
- International Women's Day was observed on 8th March 2014 at Rajnagar & Balikuda blocks where altogether 369 members (F- 317 & M- 52) participated. The objective was to sensitize the women members on inequality issues in the context of climate change impacts and disaster and how to address those issues collectively. Altogether 317 nos of women members from all walks of life could understand the importance of women's equality for all round development in the society. Accordingly they came out with action plan and common resolution to address the existing inequality issues in their areas.
- Mass Awareness Programmes for creating awareness on CCA-DRR issues have been conducted at strategic locations in the project area. A highlight of these programmes has been the spontaneous participation of adolescent boys and girls who have enthralled audiences with theme songs, street plays, and cultural programmes. The senior community members have composed the songs and written the screen plays. They have also enriched the programme with their skills on musical instruments. These programmes have attracted audiences from within and outside the programme area.
- Early Warning Mock Drills have been conducted by Task Force Members with active participation of community. These drills help the Task Force members practice and demonstrate their skills. These drills keep the community prepared for impending disasters and emergencies.
- A two day long advocacy workshop on mobilizing MGNREGS funds for CCA-DRR was organized for the PRI members of both Balikuda and Rajnagar from 6th-7th July 2013 at Adhikar Training Centre, Bhubaneswar. The main points of discussion were: Job Card, Work Application, process of work, work man-days, work facilities, grievances, social audit, role of Gramsabha and Pallisabha, types of MGNREGS work, mobilisation of MGNREGS funds for replication of CCA-DRR pilot options, etc. Case studies and video-clips formed a part of the training process. Resource materials were provided to the participants.

- As a follow up, on 27th of August 2014, an orientation programme on the subject of "Community Mobilization for Advocacy on MGNREGS for CCA and DRR activities in 'Paribartan' Project" was organized at RCDC, Rajanagar field office for orienting the staff members. The orientation programme helped the staff to use the skill for mobilizing local community and Panchayat representatives to advocate for mobilizing MGNREGS fund for CCA & DRR activities. As a result the community members called special Panchayat meetings where CCA & DRR activities were included in Panchayat plan.
- A four day training programme on Basic Engineering Skills was organized by Facilitating Action for Management & Empowerment (FAME) at Youth Hostel, Puri from 5th -8th August 2013 which was attended by 4 nos. of GPC leaders (2 male and 2 female) from the project area besides other key community members. The basic objective of the training was to orient the community leaders working on Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) on basic measurement skills, train other villagers, and to carry out the social audit process. The trainees oriented other GPC members on the skills that they learnt from the training programme when they returned to their villages.
- The project staff in both the field areas of Rajnagar and Balikuda facilitated the process of household level preparedness among the most vulnerable families identified through CRVA/CCP. The objective of the exercise was to prepare the vulnerable families so that they can cope with CC impacts and disaster risk. The families were oriented on the impending disasters due to the Climate Change and CCP, safe place, safe root chart, emergency contact numbers, list of TF members, and response to early warning, climate change adaptation measures and action plan. The demonstration on preparedness level among vulnerable households motivated other families in the target area to be prepared for reducing the risk in disasters and coping with climate change impacts.
- Lessons learnt are promoted and shared amongst practitioners and policy makers at state, national, regional and international levels.
- Sharing the project aims, objectives and achievements with the PRI members, local administration and department officials has been a continuous activity throughout the year either through visits, participation in meetings or through coordination meetings on CCA-DRR issues conducted by the project. The results are observed in increased participation of these stakeholders in project events and their support to project activities.
- The sharing of lessons learnt have been done during various events and programmes attended by Paribartan team members like, a workshop on Civil Defence organized by local administration at Rajnagar, at "South Asia Regional Consultation on Climate Change Adaptation" at New Delhi organized by UN agencies, one day workshop on "Agenda for Developing Renewable Energy in Odisha: Need for Legislative Actions" organized by Climate Parliament at Bhubaneswar, and meetings of the Coast Council, Odisha etc.
- Mr Kumar Sambhav, a journalist from Down to Earth visited Paribartan project area and documented his experience in an article in the national magazine with an international outreach. Other visitors to the project area have been impressed and shared their opinions on the project in their organizations and countries.



## Coastal Odisha: Project PRAYAS

RCDC started implementing an innovative action plan termed as PRAYAS, in collaboration with the local partner SWAD and with support from UNDP, in 2 GPs(Sukal and Madhuban) of Saytabadi Block, Puri district where inadequate drainage caused waterlogging and increased the risk of flood. The project aimed at developing an Integrated Land and Water Management Plan facilitating mitigation measures and adaptation strategies on CCA & DRR concerns based on critical analysis of complex drainage network system and livelihood indices. Accordingly, local stakeholder consultations like community consultation and ground assessments were completed in the reported year for necessary operations, and the excavation work started towards the end of the said year. Achievements under the same shall be recorded in the annual report of 2014-15.

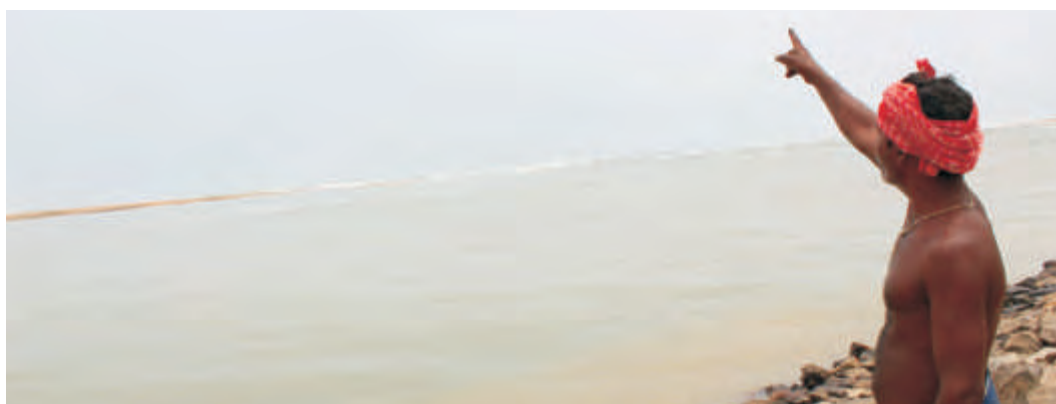
## Response to Phailin

RCDC actively joined with other leading civil society agencies and actors to form 'Odisha Phailin Response Forum' (OPRF) which launched coordinated action for massive evacuation before the cyclone, relief activities during the cyclone and rehabilitation activities after the cyclone.

The project staff of PRAYAS(phase-II) were engaged in damage assessment and relief activities supporting the life and livelihoods of the suffered community with the support from CRS, Concern World Wide and RCDC (volunteerism) from 14th October to 15th of November 2013, in the affected areas of Puri district.

In the Paribartan project, the disaster preparedness initiative practically yielded concrete results during Phailin when the Task Force members, supplementing the overall governmental readiness, took lead role in disseminating early warning message to the communities, readied them for the emergency as trained on a number of occasions, and helped evacuate them to safety. Before landfall of Phailin in the project area, all the community members reached safer places identified through CRVA/CCP process, and as a result there were no casualties in the 84 target villages.

With a special support from RCDC under the SEGOE project local partner Gram Swaraj provided seeds of green gram(100 kg), black gram(110 kg), horse gram(200 kg), mustard(40 kg), and wheat(130 kg) to 65 farmers of 5 villages in the Sorishpal GP of Mayurbhanj district whose crops had been destroyed by Phailin.



## Interior Odisha - Balangir district

Many parts of the western Odisha are drought-prone. Balangir district is one of them. The regional office of RCDC at Balangir, which has been implementing food security programmes there, has tried to incorporate Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction action plan on a preliminary basis through the following activities:

- Vulnerability analysis of humans, animals and resources in 12 villages
- Mapping of drought resistant seeds and conservation thereof in 24 villages
- Establishment of Grain Bank & Seed Bank in 12 villages
- Pre-warning information made available in Resource Centres
- Sharing of knowledge and practice by seniors to the youth mass
- Regular dialogue and discussion with the local communities to help reduce the conflict between humans and wild animals.



## AWARDS

Four community leaders received the Prakruti Bandhu Award while 5 villages received the Prakruti Mitra Award, from the Government of Odisha, under RCDC facilitation in the Balangir district. The said facilitation also led to the recognition of Gandhamardan Surakshya Action Committee(GSAC) as a finalist to the India Biodiversity Award, under the category of 'Community Stewardship'. This inspired GSAC as well as the forest protecting communities of the Gandhamardan hill range in the Balangir district which it represents, and the Committee members critically reviewed their status and strategy so as to ensure necessary legal formalities that could have helped them fetch the actual award. This way, RCDC's facilitation also led to institutional restructuring of an important community-based organization like GSAC.

## STAFF DETAILS FOR THE YEAR 2013-14

CATEGORY	Total	Male	Female
RCDC Scale staff	73	59	14
OTELP	5	5	0
Grand Total	78	64	14
CWW	2	2	0
Volunteer	75	51	24

## ABSTRACT OF SALARY

SALARY RANGE	Total	Male	Female
Upto Rs. 5,000	0	0	0
Rs. 5,001- 10,000	29	20	9
Rs.10,001- 20,000	32	28	4
Rs.20,001- 30,000	11	10	1
Rs.30,001- 50,000	6	6	0
Total	78	64	14

## LIST OF HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Sl.	Name	Function	Profession
1.	Dr. Surendra Kumar Pattnaik	President	Development Professional
2.	Mr. Biranchi Upadhyaya	Secretary	Development Professional
3.	Mr. Sanjoy Patnaik	Treasurer	Development Professional
4.	Dr. Manoj Ku. Pattanaik	Member	Development Professional
5.	Mr. Tapan Ku. Padhi	Member	Development Professional
6.	Ms. Monalisha Mohanty	Member	Development Professional
7.	Ms. Kalpana Mishra	Member	Development Professional
8.	Ms. Minati Padhi	Member	Development Professional
9.	Dr. Alok Rath	Member	Development Professional





REGIONAL CENTRE FOR  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION  
HIG-26, K-6 Housing Scheme  
Phase-II, Kalinga Vihar  
Bhubaneswar - 751 019  
Odisha, India.

### BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH, 2014

SOURCES OF FUNDS	2013-14 AMOUNT (Rs.)		2012-13 AMOUNT (Rs.)	
<b>CAPITAL FUND</b>				
As per last Balance Sheet	34,39,138.85		39,57,106.35	
Add/Less: Surplus/(deficit) during the Year	8,59,305.60	25,79,833.25	5,17,967.50	34,39,138.85
<b>TEMPORARY RESTRICTED FUND</b> (UN SPENT GRANT) (Schedule - I)		1,11,03,829.36		94,39,840.58
<b>STAFF WELFARE FUND</b> (Schedule-II)		12,10,718.47		12,62,172.73
<b>CORPUS FUND</b> (Schedule III)		1,53,251.00		1,47,760.00
<b>GREEN SHOULDER FUND</b> (Schedule IV)		34,732.00		33,501.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,50,82,364.08</b>		<b>1,43,22,233.14</b>
<b>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</b>				
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b> (Schedule-VI)		24,40,881.85		25,68,208.85
<b>INVESTMENT</b>	NIL		NIL	
<b>GRATUITY FUND</b> (Schedule-VII)	7,07,197.00		4,26,936.00	
<b>CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS AND ADVANCES</b>				
Security Deposit	6,000.00		30,000.00	
TDS	1,25,927.00		1,25,927.00	
LOANS AND ADVANCES (Schedule-VIII)	4,53,045.00		1,89,858.00	
CASH & BANK BALANCE (Schedule-IX)	1,17,38,663.43		1,12,18,715.49	
	<u>1,30,30,632.43</u>		<u>1,19,71,436.49</u>	
Less: <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES AND PROVISIONS</b> (Schedule-V)	3,89,350.00		2,17,412.00	
	<u>3,89,350.00</u>		<u>2,17,412.00</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		1,26,41,482.43		1,17,54,024.49
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,50,82,364.08</b>		<b>1,43,22,233.14</b>

The above Balance Sheet, to the best of my/our belief contains a true account of the funds and liabilities and assets and properties of the organisation for the year ended on 31.03.2014.

As per our separate report of even date.

CA Sanjeeb K. Mohanty  
Auditor  
Membership No : 054143



Kalish Chandra Dash  
Executive Director

**Executive Director**  
**Regional Centre for**  
**Development Cooperation**

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**REGIONAL CENTRE FOR  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**  
HIG-26, K-6 Housing Scheme  
Phase-II, Kalinga Vihar  
Bhubaneswar - 751 019  
Odisha, India.

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01.04.2013 to 31.03.2014

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT (Rs.)		INCOME	AMOUNT (Rs.)	
	2013-2014	2012-2013		2013-2014	2012-2013
TO ICCO-M.F-TURMERIC	3,48,070.00	56,060.00	BY GRANT-IN-AID (Schedule-I)	4,21,48,476.35	4,70,11,549.00
TO ICCO-M.F-P.P. EXTENTION	2,01,120.00	-			
TO ICCO-M.F-REGION PIA	3,34,903.00	5,65,825.00	BY BANK INTEREST	3,17,839.00	6,69,283.00
TO ICCO-M.F-FNS	1,14,918.00	-			
TO ACTION AID - STUDY	1,00,000.00	-	BY COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION	7,52,918.00	16,34,029.00
TO KZE - OD PROCESS	2,97,773.00	-			
TO KZE - PLD	3,71,142.00	-	BY CONSULTANCY/ SERVICE CHARGES	22,400.00	2,27,000.00
TO KZE-CB-FRI-III	7,20,980.83	9,38,670.00			
TO E.A - KSF-LAC	3,47,400.00	-	BY REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES	91,727.00	1,85,913.00
TO E.A-KSF-SMALL GRANT	2,18,886.00	2,05,156.00			
TO KSF-SAINITALA	22,119.00	-	BY DONATION/ CONTRIBUTION	1,32,515.00	87,800.00
TO KSF-RICH FOREST	3,51,478.00	-			
TO E.A - KSF-SEO	18,70,313.00	17,53,939.00	BY MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS	-	8,482.00
TO KSF-NTFP-III	1,24,266.00	4,62,210.00			
TO DCA-FS-III	22,90,225.17	32,63,238.01	BY EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME	8,59,305.00	5,17,967.50
TO PHF-III-LIVELIHOOD	19,53,896.50	18,84,510.50			
TO SIMAVI-ORG-WTR	71,76,026.35	67,91,962.99			
TO OXFAM-CFR	19,88,012.00	20,25,155.00			
TO WATERAID NUAPADA	27,81,764.00	-			
TO WATERAID POST - PHAILIN	18,17,250.00	-			
TO WATERAID TRG / WORKSHOP	6,39,591.00	-			
TO CONCERN-CCA-DRR	76,90,766.00	88,17,803.00			
TO PRACTICAL ACTION- STUDY	3,31,555.00	-			
TO E.U - AGRAGAMEE-NUTRITIONA	39,425.00	-			
TO FORD FOUNDATION NTFP-III	-	9,17,214.00			
TO F.F INTEREST FUND	-	6,14,406.00			
TO EC-NTFP - II	-	5,667.00			
TO KZE BRIDGE	-	23,09,459.00			
TO SEVA MANDIR	-	2,20,000.00			
TO LUXEM BOURG	-	3,986.00			
TO CONCERN CONSULTANCY	-	86,000.00			
TO BD-IFG-II	-	15,31,678.50			
TO PHF-II	-	8,000.00			
TO CFI-RED+	-	6,45,556.00			
TO REIMBURSEMENT OF EXP (F.C.)	54,703.00	-			
TO OTHER EXP. (OUT OF F.C.INT.)	2,00,165.00	2,35,101.50			
TO M.F -TATA-EXTRA FUND	3,46,578.50	-			
TO M.F-MKSP	24,93,214.00	-			
TO UNDP PRAYAS-I	-	54,32,891.50			
TO UNDP PRAYAS-II	37,27,880.00	-			
TO UNDP CAPACITY BUILDING	6,13,762.00	13,53,538.00			
TO JTT-LIVELIHOOD	-	4,88,251.00			
TO JTT- DBI-NGR	1,94,470.50	20,05,188.00			
TO OTELP	14,01,576.50	17,32,338.50			
TO OTELP- LAND	3,48,970.50	-			
TO NABARD	55,090.00	92,864.00			
TO LDF	7,44,261.00	31,57,206.00			
TO REIMBURSEMENT OF EXP (I.C.)	37,024.00	-			
TO GENERAL FUND	5,73,810.00	7,43,603.00			
TO SIMAVI-ORG-WTR (CONT'N-Ben)	7,46,728.00	13,43,774.00			
TO KZE-CB-FRI-III (CONT'N-org)	50,946.00	50,201.00			
TO KZE -PLD (CONT'N-org)	1,068.00	-			
TO ICCO-M.F-FNS (CONT'N-Ben)	8,190.00	-			
TO DEPRECIATION	5,11,964.00	5,44,493.00			
TO EPF REMITTANCE PAYABLE	1,40,340.00	-			
	<b>4,43,25,180.95</b>	<b>5,03,42,023.50</b>		<b>4,43,25,180.95</b>	<b>5,03,42,023.50</b>

The above Income and Expenditure Account, to the best of my/our belief contains a true account of all the Income and Expenditure of the Organisation for the period from 01.04.2013 to 31.03.2014

As per our separate report of even date

CA. Sanjeeb K. Mohanty,  
Auditor

Membership No : 054#42



Kallash Chandra Dash  
Executive Director

**Executive Director**  
**Regional Centre for**  
**Development Cooperation**

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