

TOWARDS EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN FARMERS IN VIDARBHA

PROGRESS REPORT

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2012



M S SWAMINATHAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION

III CROSS ROAD, TARAMANI INSTITUTIONAL AREA
CHENNAI – 600 113, INDIA
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Quarterly Report (July– September 2012)

Project Title: Towards Empowerment of Women Farmers in Vidarbha

PIA: M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai

The following is an account of the work done in the project during the quarter July-September 2012.

1. Institution Building:

1) Formation of new women farmers groups:

During July to September 2012, 13 women farmers groups have been formed bringing 196 more women farmers under the programme fold. The programme covers 1816 members in the districts of Wardha and Yavatmal as on September 2012.

Table 1. Total Membership Under the Programme till September 2012			
Blocks	No. of Villages	No. of Women Farmers ,	No. of Women Farmers , Groups
Wardha	21	43	668
Hinganghat	1	1	14
Deoli	17	33	541
Ralegaon	20	38	593
Total	59	115	1816

2) Capacity Building of Women Farmers on Institution Building:

Capacity building programmes under this head were organised at three levels- village, cluster and district level. Awareness sessions on various entitlements available through government schemes as well as on salient features of Panchayati Raj institution were imparted to women farmers. Further, training and demonstration on interface with government officials was also given to the community resource persons (CRPs) and office bearers of the women farmer groups. Training was held at the district headquarters for CRPS; at the cluster level for office bearers; and at the village level for women farmers.

i) Skill building on Liaisoning and Interface: The members' confidence on engaging with the representatives of local administration and officials of line departments were built through a series of awareness and training programmes. The members were educated on the functions of the local administration and the different line departments. They were also made aware of the various

schemes and entitlements handled by these agencies. A one to one interaction with the officials of the different line departments with the women farmers was arranged. The major focus of this meeting was on educating women farmers on their entitlement and the procedure to access these entitlements. Women farmers were provided knowledge on the process of bringing up grievances and they were also oriented on the contact persons in each department to be approached to submit grievances. 179 women farmers from 20 groups participated in these exercises during the period.

ii) Village level awareness meeting on Entitlements and Federation Formation: Village level meetings were conducted for providing information on government schemes and the concept of federation formation. These meetings were held across 53 villages attended by 730 women farmers belonging to 83 groups.

iii) Awareness on Panchayati Raj: Following this 10 village level awareness camps on *Panchayat Raj* was conducted in which 180 members from 17 groups participated. A refresher one-day course was also organised on *Panchayat Raj* for the staff and CRPs.

iv) Brainstorming Workshop on Federation Formation: A one day workshop was organised with local experts to discuss the nuances in federation formation. This was organised with the primary purpose of bringing more clarity for the staff on the federation formation aspect.

v) Monthly meetings with CRPs and VRPs: Regular meetings were held every month to share experiences, discuss difficulties, snags, successes and plan future activities for the CRPs and VRPs.

2) Sustainable Agriculture:

A crop life cycle approach is taken on scheduling the capacity building programmes under this head. Major aspects covered during the quarter July-September 2012 is Integrated Pest Management. The process followed for capacity building is awareness creation using various audio-visual tools and print materials followed by field level demonstration for skill training.

i) Training on integrated pest management practices to staff, CRPs, VRPs and women farmers

During the reporting period one training session was conducted on integrated pest management practices at the district level. Training comprised of awareness creation, skill training and demonstration. This training was attended by 9 staff members, 18 CRPs and 11 VRPs. During the reporting period, six cluster level training on integrated pest management practices were also conducted as detailed below:

Name of the Training	Date	Venue	Resource Persons	No.of Participants	No. of Women Farmers' groups
Cluster level training on integrated pest management practices	14 th August 2012	Community hall Jamni village	Hemantkumar Thakre	28	12
	21 st August 2012	VRC hall, Waiphall		35	18
	22 nd August 2012	Gram vikas priyojana hall Ralegaon		55	16
	23 rd August 2012	Gram vikas priyojana hall Ralegaon		59	17
	24 th August 2012	Buddha vihar hall Wabgaon		35	16
	27 th August 2012	Buddha vihar hall Sonegaonbai		49	15
Total				261	94

Village level awareness meeting

During the reporting period 51 village level meetings were conducted in 51 villages by para professionals with the help CRPs and VRPs to create awareness on the ill effects of pesticide on human health as well as on integrated pest management practices. Two CDs were used for this purpose: *Satya mev Jayte* and module on IPM. Both CDs were played in CD player and discussions were held after the screening. 623 members from 84 women farmers groups participated from 51 villages.

General awareness on sustainable agricultural practices was also created across 21 villages. As regards adoption of sustainable agricultural practices, it is important to note that **562 yellow sticky traps, 370 pheromone trap and 196 bird stands** were distributed to women farmers during this quarter. Beside this, neem *asthra* is prepared and used by 2 to 3 women farmers in each village. **Napier grass** was distributed to 112 women farmers across 10 villages in Ralegaon cluster. The grass was planted on bunds to prevent soil and water erosion. The grass could also be used as animal fodder.

Demonstrations: To demonstrate the standard practices of preparation of neem and bramha *asthra*, as well as seed treatment, germination and various trap use practices meetings were conducted at village level. Details are as below:

Name of demonstration	Number of demonstration conducted	Resource Persons	No.of Participants	No. of Women Farmers' groups
Demonstration on Neem and Bramha <i>asthra</i> Preparation	51	Project associates and para professionals	623	84
Demonstration on seed treatment	19	Project associates and para professionals	248	26
Demonstration on seed germination	8	Project associates and para professionals	124	7
Demonstration on Yellow sticky traps, Pheromone traps and bird stand establishment in filed	49	Project associates and para professionals	620	95

ii) Establishment of Common Facility Centres

Women farmers had expressed a concern about timely availability of agricultural implements and suggested that women farmers' groups may be facilitated for setting up and managing farm machinery hiring centres in villages. Consequently, two Common Facility Centres were established in two villages -Lonsawali village, Wardha taluk and Sonegaon Bai village, Deoli taluk. These centres were inaugurated on the 23rd of August 2012 by the respective Taluk Agriculture Officers. The list of implements needed for the centre as well as the operational guidelines have been arrived at in a participatory manner, on the basis of series of discussions among members of women farmers' groups facilitated by MSSRF.

iii) Animal Husbandry:

Two cattle vaccination camps were organized at village level in Ralegaon cluster in collaboration with the Govt. Veterinary Hospital. A total of 299 cattle were vaccinated against food and mouth diseases in these camps. About 47 of our women farmers, belonging to four women farmers' groups, had benefitted by these camps. In addition to our members other villagers had also participated and gained.

iv) Knowledge Connectivity:

Out 489 *samiti* members list for voice SMS only 296 women farmer's name are receiving messages irregularly sometimes message relevancy is not matching with field situation. Gram warta paper distributed to 86 *samitis*. Two phone in programmes in the theme of general crop management and pest and disease management were conducted by MSSRF Village Resource Centres at Waifad and Yavatmal.

3. Household Food and Nutrition Security:

i) Awareness on food and nutrition security: During reporting period 53 village level meeting were conducted to create awareness on household food and nutrition security aspects: safe cooking appliances, safe drinking water, sanitation, health and kitchen garden practices. 677 women farmers from 89 women farmers' groups participated in the village level meetings.

ii) Demonstrations: To demonstrate the Kitchen garden layout techniques, village level meetings were conducted in 11 villages. 91 participants from 17 women farmers' groups attended the demonstration/meetings. During the reporting period seeds were distributed to 293 members to raise kitchen garden in *kharif* season.

iii) Sarai cooker distribution: During the reporting period 271 *sarai* cookers were distributed at a subsidised rate to women farmers

iv) Health camp: During the reporting period 6 health camps were organized in 6 villages in collaboration with the Primary Health Centres. Basic health parameters were tested and reported for 181 women farmers from 17 women farmers' groups and 135 non members.

4) Other Activities Related to Project Implementation:

i) Baseline Survey

Baseline survey is in progress and up to this quarter baseline of 1137 women farmers have been completed.

ii) Monitoring and Evaluation:

Monitoring tools that have been developed for the project have been translated in Marathi.

iii) Participation in 2nd Quarterly Review Meeting of Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana held on 14th & 15th of September 2012 at NIRD, Hyderabad:

Senior staff from MSSRF presented a synopsis of the progress of work in the project and received positive reviews from MoRD.

iv) Programme Advisory Committee Meeting was formed under the Chairmanship of Prof M S Swaminathan comprising of members with grass root technical experience and scientific expertise. The First Meeting was held on 30 July 2012 at Nagpur with the participation of the following members, namely, Dr Govind Kelkar, Dr Vincent Darling, Dr K R Kranthi, Shri Vijay Jawandia, Shri Kishore Tiwari, Dr Sheetal Amte, Shri B M Mohan, Dr Ajay Parida, Dr R Rukmani and Others from MSSRF.

SNAPS OF ACTIVITIES



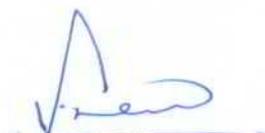
Financial Report

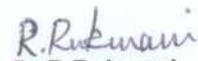
Name of PIA : **M S Swaminathan Research Foundation**
 Project Title : **Towards Empowerment of Women Farmers in Vidarbha**
 Date of Fund Release : **1st December 2011**
 Project Budget : **Rs.5.82 Crores**

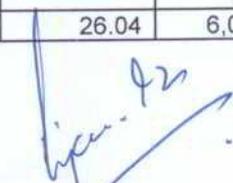
Financial Progress for the period 1st July 2012 to 30 September 2012

Format 1.1: Summary Financial Progress

Opening Balance						
MKSP		State	Beneficiaries contribution	PIA	Other	Total
7912040						7,912,040
Receipts during Reporting Period						
MKSP		State	Beneficiaries contribution	PIA	Other	Total
-						-
Total Funds Available (Rs)						
MKSP (central Govt)		State	Beneficiaries contribution	PIA	Other	Total (A)
7,912,040						7,912,040
Total Expenditure (Rs)						
	Total Funds Available (A)	Expenditure upto last quarter (B)	Expenditure during the quarter (C)	Total expenditure (D)	% age expenditure to total available fund	Balance at the end of reporting period (A) - (D)
MKSP	7,912,040		2,060,097	2,060,097	26.04	5,851,943
Other Sources -Int	182,228					182,228
Total	8,094,268	-	2,060,097	2,060,097	26.04	6,034,171


S Nandakumar
 Finance Manager


Dr R Rukmani
 Project Director


Dr Ajay Parida
 Executive Director

18-10-2012



Name of the PIA : M S Swaminathan Research Foundation
 Project : Towards Empowerment of Women Farmers in Vidarbha

Total Sanctioned Amount : 5.82 crores

Total Project Period : 1 December 2011 to 30 November 2014

Provisional Expenses Statement : 1st July 2012 to 30th Sep 2012

Sl. No	Budget Heads	Budget MKSP		Expenditure MKSP		Variance		Variance in %		Up to end of reporting period	Up to end of reporting period	Expenditure Non-MKSP		Expenditure Total (all sources)		% MKSP Funds					
		Up to Previous Reporting Period	Current Period	Up to Previous Reporting Period	Current Period	Current Period	Up to end of reporting period	Up to end of reporting period	Up to Previous Reporting Period			Current Period	Up to Previous Reporting Period	Current Period	Up to Previous Reporting Period	Current Period	Up to Previous Reporting Period	Current Period	Up to Previous Reporting Period	Current Period	
		A	B	D	E	(B-E)=G	(C-F)=H	I = G/B * 100	J = H/C * 100			K	L	M=K+L	N=D+K	O=E+L	P=F+M	Q = D / N * 100	R = E/O * 100	S = F/P * 100	
A	Programme Investment																				
A1	Training & Capacity Building	50,464,930	4,141,796	8,283,591	1,642,444	2,499,352	6,118,977	60	74												
A2	Travel	3,166,125	250,625	501,250	137,855	118,117	230,887	47	46												
A3	Documentation	993,000	77,500	155,000	83,126	(5,626)	(27,983)	(7)	(18)												
A4	Monitoring and Evaluation	827,500	64,583	129,167	93,346	(28,763)	(113,014)	(45)	(67)												
	Sub - total Programme Investments	55,451,555	4,534,504	9,069,008	1,951,424	2,583,080	6,208,868	67	68												
B	Project Implementation Costs																				
B1																					
	Sub - total Implementation																				
C	PIA Organisational Overheads																				
C1	Administration Cost	2,772,678	226,725	453,451	178,856	118,052	165,921	62	37												
	Sub - total Overheads	2,772,678	226,725	453,451	178,856	118,052	165,921	62	37												
	Grand Total (A+B+C)	58,224,133	4,761,229	9,522,458	1,087,572	2,701,132	6,374,789	67	67												

MKSP Fund Balance as on 30/09/2012	Amount (Rs.)
Opening Balance as on 01/07/12	7,912,040
Add: Grant Received During the Period	-
Add: Bank Interest Received	182,228
Less: Expenditure during the Current Period	2,060,097
Balance as on end of reporting period	5,034,171

Bank Interest on MKSP Funds	Amount (Rs.)
Bank Interest Received up to Previous Reporting Period	182,228
Bank Interest Received Current Reporting Period	182,228
Total	364,456

[Signature]
 S Nandakumar
 Finance Manager

[Signature]
 Dr R Rukmani
 Project Director

Date : 18th October 2012
 Place : Chennai

