

Way forward for Self-Sustainability (Swablamban ki Aur)

January 09 – 10, 2015, ICFRE, Dehradun



A two day knowledge sharing workshop was organised by Uttarakhand Gramya Vikas Samiti (UGVS) for cross pollination of ideas and learnings made by the Federations and Producer Groups (PGs)/ SHGs being supported under IFAD's Integrated Livelihood Support Project (ILSP).

Day 1 – January 09, 2015

The workshop was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister Uttarakhand Shri Harish Rawat. More than 220 participants from 9 hill districts of Uttarakhand being covered under ILSP including the representatives of 65 federations, Panchayati Raj Institutions, SHGs and Producer Groups were present. In addition, the event was witnessed by Shri Ganesh Godiyal, Secretary Parliamentary Affairs, Watershed Management and Externally aided projects, Shri Harbans Kapoor, MLA Dehradun Cantt. area, Shri N. Ravi Shankar, Chief secretary Uttarakhand, Shri R.S. Tolia, Former Chief Secretary Uttarakhand and Chairperson, Public Policy, Doon University, Shri R.B.S. Rawat Chairman Uttarakhand Subordinate Services selection Board, Dr. Kamal Singh, CEO ULDB, Dr. Avinash Anand, CEO USWDB and many dignitaries including Secretaries, Directors of different departments.



The Project Director, ILSP, Shri Vijay Kumar, in his welcome address apprised of the objectives of workshop to the gathering that as per direction of Hon'ble Chief Minister Uttarakhand, to provide opportunities to interact and share the experiences of various federations and interact with experts from various fields so that the participants could gain knowledge about federations' sustainability, increase in productivity, innovation linkages and learn about self and external monitoring process of federations.



Hon'ble Chief Minister Uttarakhand in his inauguration address, highlighted the need of value addition of various traditional food products of hills like *Mandua, Ramdana, Bhatt, Wool and Woollen products*. He also informed that there is a need of skill development of rural youth. He informed



that three agencies i.e. ILSP, JICA & Watershed are working for poverty elevation in hill areas and there should be no overlapping of their work in project areas so that the monitoring of their work could be done easily. On this occasion he launched the project website www.ilsp.in and released the training modules for federations and SHGs/ PGs developed by ILRT for the ILSP on Self-governance, Marketing and Businesses as well as the booklet on Collection of Case Studies developed by the project.

Rajendra Gautam, representative from ILRT during his presentation, explained about the need of developing these training modules, how these were developed and the different processes that were adapted in preparing these.

Shri Harbans Kapoor, MLA Cantt. In his address pointed the difficulties any project faces while carrying out developmental activities in hills and he emphasised on taking care of sustainable management of water, forest and land while developing plans and policies for hills.

The representative of IL&FS, Shri Ramesh Petwal shared the details of placement linked vocational training being imparted by them to rural youth in collaboration with ILSP. Selected girls who got placed after training also shared their experiences and appealed the federation/ group members to motivate their girl child to come up and avail such opportunities.

Shri Ganesh Godiyal. MLA Srinagar shared his personal experiences in dairy enterprise and emphasised on continuity of supply, value addition and risk bearing capacity for starting any new enterprise.

Shri R.S. Tolia reiterated that focus of IFAD is on food security which is extremely important in present day context as people of hill districts are disinclined towards practicing agriculture due to the complexities of crop cultivation. He also said that food grain and self-dependence are complementary to each other.

Representatives of various federations with maximum turnover in a district were invited to share their experiences. Under ILSP's skill development training programme, the candidates who have got employment in various sectors after completing skill development training also shared their views and extended their thanks to the sponsors of this programme.

Day 2 – January 09, 2015

Mr R.S. Goutam, ILRT, Bhopal shared the details of various modules developed by their institute like self-governance, marketing and business plan module and how the federation members could benefit by these.

Mr Rais Ahmad, Programme Manager, Gender and Institution ILSP, on this occasion explained the points for Self-evaluation and monitoring process of federation.

Shri Anil Joshi from HESCO, a voluntary organisation, shared his experiences of developmental activities being taken up by his organisation. While sharing his experiences, he focused on the need of having technological interventions for increasing the productivity and adding value to the rural produce. He emphasised on having common resource centres at federation/ block level which could be utilised by its members and others whenever needed.

Shri Rajeev Kumar Singhal, Chief Programme Manager, UGVS shared the briefs about the placement linked vocational training programme of ILSP and as a result 760 students were trained out of which call letter was sent to 229 out of which 134 were placed in different jobs during the piloting carried out under ILSP. Representative from one of the vocational training provider (*IL&FS*) shared the process and experiences in the journey.

Mr Ravindra Singh of Routers Market Light (RML) informed about its new initiative *Krishidoot* programme a web based application which registers the farm commodities producers/ collectors and provides information about the market rates of various products on the portal/ mobiles of registered farmers/ producer organisations.

General Manager from NABARD gave information about the various schemes run by the banks for federations covering loans schemes and procedures for institutions. He informed that NABARD offers loan upto 10 lakhs to federation out of which 20% is subsidy and the interest rate is 10.5 to 12.5%. Collateral security in case of such loans could be a challenge for federations, but the assets being created by UGVS under ILSP like Collection Centres, could prove helpful in availing such loans.

Representatives of various input suppliers and marketers like Indus seeds, Noble seeds, Sanjivini organics, Heath mantra(*Soya Products*), Bharat Agro(Farm equipment'), Barefoot (*Solar Lights*) gave presentations of the various products/ inputs and discussed about uses of various products and the possibilities and modalities of tie ups with federations for taking by new business initiatives.

Shri A H Khan, Director Horticulture, Department of Horticulture, explained various schemes being carried out the department and requested the



federation members to take the benefits of the schemes like Bee-keeping, Mushroom cultivation, floriculture and food preservation etc. He also informed about various trainings being imparted by the department. He informed that 80% subsidy for big and 50% subsidy for small poly houses is available for farmers. There is support upto 1 Lakh for bore well and 90 thousand for purchase of tractors

Dr Kamal Singh, CEO (ULDB) informed that the Board is working for improvement of germ plasms of cattle through setting up AI centres in villages through ILSP support. Through embryo transfer technology developed by the board now 1 cow can produce upto 8 calves at one time. The board is also working on Azolla , Napier fodder , Vermicomposting and Bio gas.

Dr Avinash Anand CEO (USWDB) informed about the various activities of the board like organising health camps for Sheep and Goats in the migratory routes. The board is also providing marketing support for sheep wool for shearing of wool the board is organising machine shearing camps for shepherds.



Shri Anurag Mishra, Additional Director, Dairy Development Board also explained about different schemes like marketing of milk and storage of milk being supported and promoted by DDB. During the interaction, he also gave several suggestions which may be useful in solving their problems being faced by the milk producers in rural areas.

In the concluding session, Dr RBS Rawat Chairman subordinate services selection board stressed on the need to improve the productivity and value addition of rural agricultural products. He also discussed about the various modules for good governance and sustainability of federations and its importance for newly formed federations

Dr R.S.Tolia in his concluding remarks recognised that Women Empowerment in Uttarakhand is clearly visible in the kind of queries raised by them during various sessions. SHGs/ PGs could be further groomed profession wise and their continuous empowerment could be facilitated by the project along with the federations. A task force could be conceptualised under the project for the purpose. The project efforts in bringing out various knowledge products like Knowledge Guide on various Government Schemes, Compilation of Cases, Federation/ SHG training modules on Good Governance, Marketing and Businesses were also recognised by him. He further stressed on the need of such events on regular basis and CDOs from each district, officials from Women Development Department and representatives of Mandi may also be invited to contribute. He concluded with the remarks of roping in various line departments in the process and offered to extend support for federations in future and that the lessons learnt during the workshop should be translated in the fields by the federation members and conveyed his thanks to UGVS for organising such event.



