



Laya

Annual Report 2014-15



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1 VISION AND MISSION

OUR VISION

We envisage a socially just and humanized society where the marginalized communities find space for survival with dignity.

OUR MISSION

Empower marginalized communities to assert their rights and to facilitate relevant alternatives at the grassroots level.

OBJECTIVES

- Empower communities to respond to human rights violations, mainly in the adivasi context;
- Facilitate sustainable development initiatives at various levels within the larger climate change perspective;
- Develop capacities of various target groups, especially youth and women;
- Build strategic alliances with other organizations/networks and educational institutions for social development;
- Develop an alternative database through research and documentation to educate, influence policy and support local initiatives.

KEY FACILITATING UNITS

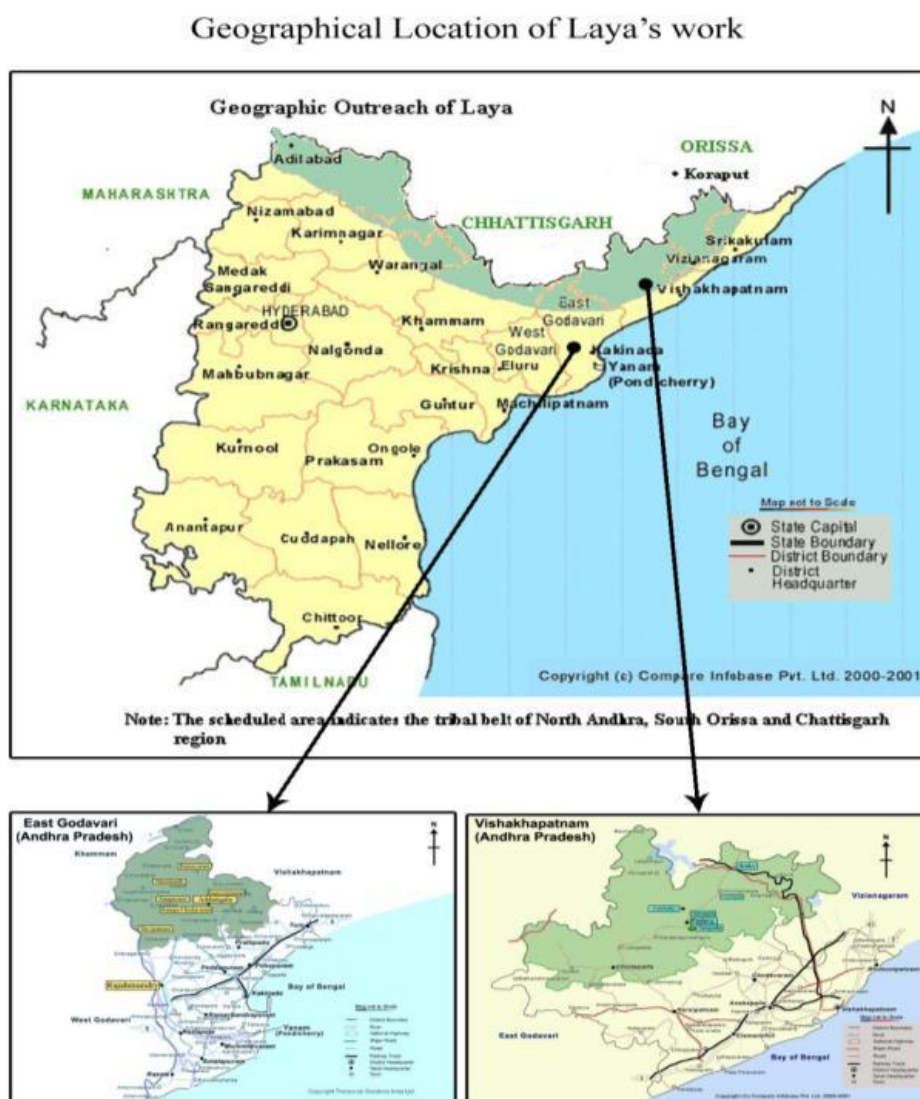
- Human Rights
- Herbal based Health Care
- Natural Resource Management
- Science and Technology
- Empowerment of Youth and Women
- Decentralized Energy Options and Climate Change
- Alternative Data Generation and Documentation

2 CONTEXT AND EVOLUTION

The adivasis of Andhra Pradesh are mainly located in 9 districts in the northern Andhra Pradesh region, which is part of a larger adivasi region comprising contiguous areas of South Orissa, South Chhattisgarh and Eastern Maharashtra. This entire region is rich in natural resources - water, forests and minerals. The major issue affecting the adivasis in this region is displacement and land alienation. The region's high natural resource base is under threat by indiscriminate multiple market demands from agri-business, mining, hydro-power, etc. The special protective laws in the Scheduled Areas do not prevent violation of the rights of the adivasis: lack of access and control over natural resources; threat to livelihood; inadequate basic infrastructure for survival; lack of access to basic health and education; and threat to their identity. The nature of violations becomes more and more complex in an environment, which is more and more exposed to market forces.

3 GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

Laya's geographical spread for its interventions is the adivasi belt of North Andhra Pradesh with an outreach to the adivasi areas of South Orissa and Chhattisgarh. Our direct engagement is mainly confined to the adivasi pockets of two districts: Visakhapatnam and East Godavari. Laya's broader outreach is achieved through collaborating with adivasi leaders, networking with peoples' institutions and adivasi led community based organizations.



4 THE DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT, 2005

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, is aimed at enhancing livelihood security of rural households for creating durable assets and discouraging migration. Work days have also been increased from 100 to 150 days for adivasis. However field reports in adivasi areas show that the wage earners are not able to get employment for more than 2 to 3 months in a year. Corruption remains a serious issue in the adivasi areas with inflated muster rolls, false reports showing supply of horticulture plants to adivasi beneficiaries, etc. The process aspect is still irregular including, neglecting the role of Gram Sabhas in deciding shelf of projects, similarly in the case of Gram Panchayat. Adivasis are made to go around the offices for their due wages. Inexcusable delays in payment of wages are a common problem. Non-functioning of computer systems is being shown often as a causative factor for delay by officials. Since there is no legal process in operation of acknowledging the applications given by wage seekers, they are unable to claim the unemployment wages from the Government. In fact under the provision of the law the concerned officer should give an acknowledgement after receipt of application for wage employment.

ACCESS TO FORESTS

In spite of several directions given by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India for effective implementation of the Forest Rights Recognition Act 2006, no tangible benefit is has accrued to tribal forest dwellers. No concerted effort has been made so far to facilitate filing of community forest rights. District level officials are under legal obligation to take responsibility to see that forest land claims filed by the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG). The trends in second phase of implementation of program under the Act are more depressing. For instance in the second phase, claimants submitted 1,435 claims covering 5,925 acres but only a single claim was allowed in West Godavari by 2014. Several appeals were filed against the rejected forest land claims by tribals. However no notices are served on the appellants by the various committees constituted under the Act and no enquiry is processed to look in to the grievances. The Rules under the Act 2006 say that no rejection order should be passed on technical grounds, and direct that the higher level bodies should reconsider the rejected forest land claims and forward the same to the Lower Level Committees for fresh enquiry. No move is seen in this direction.

Tribals are subjected to harassment by the officials of Girijan Cooperative Corporation (GCC) and Forest Department while transporting the minor forest produce to sell at outside for better price with the support of a resolution from concerned Gram Sabhas under PESA Act.

Officials of Tribal Welfare Department and either GCC or Forest Department are working in parallel and sometimes acting as counter forces in implementing the Forest Rights Act 2006. The Tribal Welfare Department officials on paper supporting the rights of tribals over community forest rights but fail to restrict the GCC officials from stopping the tribals transporting minor forest produce. Thus the Act is not yielding desirable results.

THREAT OF DISPLACEMENT BY POLAVARAM DAM

Parliament passed a bill to facilitate transfer of 205 villages spread across seven mandals in the newly formed state of Telangana to the residual state of Andhra Pradesh for the multi-purpose Polavaram irrigation project. The measure was necessitated as per the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014. The Government of India constituted the centrally-funded Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) and its governing body. However there is no benefit seen in the tribal submergence mandals. Land Acquisition and Resettlement & Rehabilitation process is taken over by State Authorities. The State Authorities are not even implementing the direction of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India, which says that the land losers should be given land to land in the command area of the project. So far no tribal has been given land in the command area of the project. Tribal land losers are offered undulated, waste lands which have no irrigation sources. There are several complaints filed against the land acquisition authorities alleging that they have swindled the compensation amount. As usual land acquisition authorities are paying compensation to the non-tribals in whose favor settlement pattas were granted without considering the actual possessors of the lands.

PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTIONS

The Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Area Act 1998 was brought into force as well as the Rules in 2011. Gram Sabhas were also notified but the Government failed to operationalize the constitutional body 'Gram Sabha' in the Scheduled Areas of the State. The State Government Departments are completely undermining the role of Gram Sabha and going ahead with their initiatives without consulting the Gram Sabha either in planning or implementation process. A feeble attempt was made by the Government to recruit community mobilize to assist the Gram Sabhas. However no specific direction for the implementation of PESA Act was given. On the other hand, several complaints are emerging from the submergence mandals under Polavaram Project that to pave the way for land acquisition process, fictitious resolutions of Gram Sabha are created by concerned officials. Tribals have moved High Court challenging such resolutions. More such resolutions were pressed into service during the Special Officer's regime, where there were no elections to Gram Panchayats. Now the elected Sarpanches are shocked to see such fake resolutions in the Gram Panchayat Resolution Book in Devipatnam mandal, one of the proposed submergence Mandal in East Godavari district.

BAUXITE MINING IN SCHEDULED AREAS

The issue of Bauxite mining has surfaced again with the present Government hinting a move towards taking up of mining activity in the Scheduled Areas of Visakhapatnam district. It may be mentioned here that the Minister for Tribal Affairs Government of India strongly opposed to the bauxite mining in the Scheduled Areas of Visakhapatnam district during earlier Government. Adivasis heaved a sigh of relief. Now the Government wanted to pursue the bauxite mining proposal. The issue was further subjected to a debate with the undervaluation of bauxite deposits by Controller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. The CAG report put the value of the deposit was at Rs. 258 crores as against the official estimate of Rs, 11,400 crores at the signing MOU by the APMDC with private companies during 2005-2007. On the other hand, political parties are arguing that the actual value of bauxite reserves would be more than Rs. 1 lakh crore as per the estimate made by Andhra University experts and opposing to hand over the bauxite minerals to private companies.

TRIBAL SUB-PLAN

The total Scheduled Tribe (ST) population is 5.53 percent of the total Andhra Pradesh state population. The ST population in the submergence mandals of Khammam district, which were annexed to Andhra Pradesh as per the AP State Reorganization Act, 2014. Andhra Pradesh (AP) Scheduled Castes (SC) Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan (Planning, Allocation and Utilization of Financial Resources) Act.No1 of 2013 has been in force Andhra Pradesh. This Act gives statutory status to the allocation of funds to SC and ST in proportion to their population. However the Rules 2013 were not brought into force till the end of March 2015. As per the information available at Tribal Welfare Office, Hyderabad, the budget estimation was Rs 1500 crores, and budget releasing orders were issued for the Rs 1415 crores as on March 31, 2015. This shows that 94 percent of the total estimated budget was released for the programs under the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP). The TSP funds to the tune of Rs 1442 crores were spent, which constitutes of 102 percent of the total budget orders released. Thus the data clearly reveals that the Government of AP was able to spend the TSP funds against the budget estimations. However the allocation of budget Rs 1500 crores was based on the population of Andhra Pradesh excluding the ST population of new mandals merged in Andhra Pradesh. The second aspect was whether the TSP funds were spent effectively is a question to be answered only basing on field level studies that assess the implementation of TSP impacting the livelihoods of adivasis.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS AT THE GRASSROOTS LEVEL

There have been significant ecological impacts in as much as India has been hit by Climate Extremes - the last year saw Cyclone Hudhud hit Visakhapatnam city as well as impacted some of our working areas in the adivasi region of Visakhapatnam. This has followed the landslide

disaster in Uttarakand in June 2013 and the cyclone Phalinin Eastern and Southern India in October 2013 followed by 'Helen' and 'Leher', which have severely impacted the socio-economic and ecological landscape of the country. These disasters point to the need for urgent action on climate change; capacity building and resilience building of local communities, who are dependent on sensitive ecosystems for their survival and livelihoods.

At the all-India level the State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs) have yet to be translated into real action. The government of India has yet to come up with its mitigation and adaptation contributions to be specified in their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) before the next Conference of Parties (CoP 21) in Paris. The central issue is that the urgency of the problem is subsumed under vested interests of an elite minority in the Indian context. That climate change is not yet a priority issue is also evident from the fact that mainstream political parties scarcely refer to the phenomenon as a key issue that India would need to address in the coming years.

It is with reference to this background that community action is of extreme significance to contribute positively to a resilient building process at the grassroots level. Hence, there is a need for continued engagement with the community on issues of energy and sustainable agriculture to enhance the coping capacities of grassroots communities.

In this context Laya's work especially in collaboration with the Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC) in the project areas has been highlighted in various sections of this report.

5 HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

5.1 SAFEGUARDING HUMAN RIGHTS OF ADIVASI COMMUNITIES

The livelihood and survival of adivasi communities is closely interlinked to their ownership and the sustainable use of natural resources. To address the threats to this intrinsic interrelationship, the Resource for Legal Action (RLA) Unit of Laya, has adopted a multi-pronged strategy across 6 districts: Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari of Andhra Pradesh and Khammam of Telangana.

The Resource for Legal Action Unit:

- Facilitates access to justice through legal and other advocacy measures;
- Empowers adivasi communities through awareness and legal education;
- Generates data for advocacy and training on rights to natural resources;
- Promotes paralegals to play a vigilance role in safeguarding rights to natural resources.

ACCESSING JUSTICE THROUGH THE LEGAL SYSTEM

RLA has largely been involved in facilitating access to the legal system to ensure repossession of lands to adivasi communities, and take up public interest litigations, writ petitions and bails in favour of adivasis. The adivasi women have been given special attention in its engagement.

Type	Description
Land cases	Took up 478 legal cases - 95 were successful, covering an extent of 723 acres, which include land entitlements for 39 women.
Public Interest Litigation	15 cases were taken up at the High Court related to adivasi land and forest rights issues.
Conversion of rights into productive assets	Right to Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP): Pullangi Panchayat Gram Sabha decided to sell the hill broom for not less than 50/- and 1 kg Jafra for 70/- in 4 villages.
Cases related to women	Extended legal support to women in 7 cases related to matrimonial disputes under Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process.

EMPOWERING ADIVASI COMMUNITIES

Various programmes were organised throughout the year to reach out to various groups of adivasis for legal awareness, education and training.

Programme	Participation
35 legal education camps for adivasi youth on land rights, women's rights, human rights, Right to Information Act, Forest Rights Recognition Act, etc.	1152 adivasi youth attended: 614 women
36 village level legal awareness camps on PESA Act & Gram Sabhas	1614 adivasis participated: 747 women
25 Legal orientation Camps to CBOs/Women Groups in 25 villages	845 CBO representatives participated: 605 women
28 Gram Sabhas facilitated for effective functioning of Gram Panchayats in East Godavari district.	902 adivasis attended: 348 women
15 meetings organised in 15 villages of East Godavari district to bring awareness on PESA Act.	522 adivasis participated: 239 women
International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8 at Buttaigudem mandal, West Godavari district	120 adivasi leaders participated: 120 women
144 sessions on Human Rights Education were taken up in 6 Ashram Schools in the agency division of Rampachodavaram	305 students attended: 90 boys and 215 girls
25 meetings were held to follow up of issues came during the developing of micro plans of 20 villages	1376 adivasis participated: male 742; female 634

<p>One 2-day training input for adivasi advocates, who practice at the ITDA level. They are selected for training inputs and accompaniment to take up cases relating to adivasi issues. Through this linkage these advocates pursue cases at higher level courts: District Court and High Court.</p>	<p>22 adivasi advocates</p>
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ADVOCACY FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENTITLEMENTS

LAND

- A survey done on Other than Reserved Forests (ORF) lands in 6 villages of East Godavari district: identified the rejected claims of 50 adivasi families under Forest Rights Recognition Act, covering land an extent of Ac. 394.48. Appeals were filed before the Sub Divisional Level Committee, East Godavari District for resolution of claims in favor of tribal forest land occupants under Forest Rights Recognition Act. Forest land claims were permitted in the village Gudisi of Pullangi Panchayat in Maredumilli Mandal, East Godavari for 19 adivasi families covering land to an extent of Ac. 160.48.
- Representation given to ITDA PO, Rampachodavaram regarding Rs.20,10,126/- of agricultural loans from 2012 to 2014 for 33 tribal farmers for 70.00 Ac of land.
- Representation given to Special Collector (LA) of Polavaram regarding 18 Ac of land in Anguluru and Gonduru villages for compensation under Polavaram Project Affected Area.

HEALTH

- Conducted 43 meetings to bring awareness among ICDS/ Mothers' Committees' members of K. R. Puram mandal, West Godavari district and Kunavaram mandal, Khammam district on nutrition, health, etc: 942 women participated.
- 7 Health Camps conducted (4 in Kunavaram Mandal, West Godavari district and 3 in Buttaigudem mandal, Khammam district): 1473 adivasis attended (570 men and 903 women).

EDUCATION

- A survey carried out on school going children dropouts in 26 villages of Khammam, East and West Godavari districts: identified 125 drop outs (boys: 72 and girls: 53). Facilitated readmission of 87 drop outs (boys: 45 and girls: 42).
- A survey on school going children dropouts was carried out in 26 villages of Khammam, East and West Godavari districts: identified 124 drop out children (boys: 76 and girls: 48). Counseling and other efforts were made and 41 were readmitted in schools: (boys 17 and 24 girls).

SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES/LOCAL GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- Identified 111 persons with physical disability from 44 villages of East, West Godavari and Khammam districts: facilitated representations to issue of identity cards to obtain government benefits - 14 sanctioned.



- Identified 193 households without ration cards in 43 villages of East, West Godavari and Khammam districts: Facilitated applications for the issue of ration cards as part food security - 30 sanctioned.
- Identified 136 households without job cards in 29 villages of Kunavaram mandal and Buttaigudem mandal: facilitated applications for the issue of job cards under MGNREGA - 46 sanctioned.
- Identified 340 eligible persons for Old Age Pensions (OAP) from 89 villages of Khammam district and adivasi areas of East and West Godavari districts: facilitated applications to the concerned departments - 103 sanctioned.
- Submitted 1216 representations to concerned officials for safe drinking water, irrigation sources, power supply, completion of housing, clearing of pending MGNREGs bills, transfer of pattas, sanction of new ration cards, Aadhar cards, Voter ID cards, plough bullocks, Irrigated water, bamboo issue, ryotwari pattas and sanction of pensions and other government schemes to the eligible persons, etc.
- Facilitated sanctioning of 42 housing loans in 3 gram panchayats (Pamuleru, Chavadikota, G.M. Valasa).



- Under the MGNREGS facilitated: representation for payment of wages to 100 (64 men and 36 women) members of Pamulamamidi, Busigandi and Banda villages; sanctioning of wages worth Rs 1,60,000/-.

- Facilitated sanctioning of Tribe and Transfer certificates for 22 adivasi students (13 girls and 9 boys) to join in different schools (High Schools and other Ashram) schools from 8 villages of

Maredumilli Mandal.

- Developed one community Library at A.M. Kota of Chavadikota panchayat of Maredumilli Mandal.

- Facilitated sanctioning of 680 ISL (Integrated Sanitary Latrines) in 4 gram panchayats (Pamuleru, Pullangi, G.M. Valasa and Kundada);
- Facilitated sanctioning of 4 Indira Jalabrabha Units to support 8 adivasi families in Kutrawada (2) and Bodlanka (2). Another 4 applications were pending in Kundada and G.M. Valasa.
- 5000/- compensation given in a fire accident to one adivasi family of Tunikalapadu village, Y. Ramavaram Mandal.

FOCUS ON ADIVASI WOMEN

- 324 adivasi widows facilitated to apply for widows' pension in 89 villages of East, West Godavari and Khammam districts: 106 'widow pensions' were sanctioned;
- Facilitated extension of R&R Package under Polavaram Project to 32 adivasi girls, who crossed the age of 18 years in Anguluru village, Devipatnam mandal.



FACILITATED THE GROUPS/NETWORKS TO ADVOCATE THE RIGHTS OF ADIVASIS

- ☞ Strengthened the 17 functional committees to follow up of resolutions of Gram Sabhas initiated in 5 focused Gram Panchayats in East Godavari district;
- ☞ Division Sarpanches Federation formed with 11 Executive Body members.

5.2 NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The challenge in responding to the livelihood security needs of adivasi communities has two major dimensions:

- That of facilitating processes for optimum use and regeneration of natural resources for higher productivity and sustainability; and
- Being culturally coherent in the interventions, especially package of practices (POP) that we seek to introduce.

Key locations of NRMs involvement

District	Mandal	Panchayats	Villages	Households
Visakhapatnam	Peddabayalu	Peddakodapalli, Gamparayi, Galaganda, Sikari, Kimudupalli and Aradikota,	58	735
	Paderu	Vanugupalli, Kinchuru, Batrothuputtu and G. Muchingputtu	24	760
	Hukumpeta	Motujoru, Volda and Boddaputtu	14	228
East Godavari	Addateegala	Addateegala, D. Ramavaram, D. Bhimavaram, Tungamadugula, Somannapalem and Dhanyampalem	42	1202
	Y.Ramavaram	Pathakota, Daragedda, Boddagandi, K. Erragonda, Chamagedda, Yarlagedda and Dalipadu	73	1865
	Gangavaram	Marripalem and Yendapalli	5	135
	Rajvomangi	Kindra and Kirrabhu	7	82
	7 Mandals	30 panchayats	223	5007

ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVES:

Soil testing and soil nutrient management:

Soil samples collected and tested in government soil testing lab by 21 adivasi families in 2014 rabi season and practiced soil nutrient management by 159 adivasi families in 79.90 acres in Paderu area of Visakhapatnam district.

Demonstration and Preparation of high humus based manure models and their applications:

Oriented 60 adivasi farmers to prepare high humus based manure models and their applications in Pathakota, Gurthedu and Daragedda panchayats. A total of 75 adivasi farmers took up preparation of compost using cow dung and biomass, and 45 farmers took up vermin-composting with the HDPE vermin-beds provided to them in 10 villages of Pathakota, Daragedda, Gurthedu, Dalipadu and Dhanyampalem panchayats of East Godavari district; a total of 125 farmers made compost for crops on their own in 2014 kharif season (e.g., SRI paddy, vegetables, mixed crops and pulses) The farmers have benefitted by getting additional yields by using of organic manures.

Applied Bio fertilizers mixers for effective use of Farm yard manures in pulses cultivation during 2014 kharif and rabi seasons in Pathakota, Gurthedu, Daragedda, Tungamadugula and Dalipadu panchayats in East Godavari district.

Supplied 6 tons of vermin-compost to 60 families in 15villages and applied vermin compost for paddy and vegetable crops

Development of Homesteads

The strategy of development of homesteads was introduced with the perspective of increasing biodiversity and economic security at the household level. In 2014-15, our outreach comprised 127.40 acres in 110 villages relating to 591 households, of which 85 were women-headed households: resulting in increased cash income at the household level to an average of INR 5000 to 10000 from an extent 0.20 acres.

System of Rice Intensification (SRI)

Facilitated 115 farmers to cultivate SRI in 2014 Kharif season in 26 villages in an extent of 88.60 acres in 'Pallamu' (wet lands) from East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts. The harvested crop showed an increased yield of an average 40% from one acre compared with the normal cultivated paddy. and facilitated to cultivate SRI in Rabhi season in Visakhapatnam district, 3 Mandals, 9 panchayats 32 villages 137 farmers covered 70.00 acres(Jorelu and Voota Lands), we have mobilized farmers to use seed material drought, pests and disease resistance seed varieties like MTU 1010,MTU 1001 and Thellahamsa and provided technical support to SRI Farmers , from Visakhapatnam districts; 137 families used organic manure for SRI and homesteads in Rabhi season the expected result of yield increase by 45% as compared to normal paddy cultivation.

Mixed Cropping

Promoted mixed crops in 972 acres in "Metta Garuvulu" and "Garuvulu" lands (slope lands) in 13 panchayats of East Godavari District (Y. Ramavaram mandal 8 panchayats, Addateegala mandal 3 panchayats and Gangavaram mandal 2 Panchayats) of East Godavari district, and 48.15 acres from 5 panchayats of Visakhapatnam district (Peddabayalu mandal 3 panchayats, Paderu mandal 2 Panchayats) Facilitated millets (Ragi) as a single crop cultivation with 185 farmers (each 1 acres) from 3 panchayats of Y. Ramavaram Mandal and one Panchayat from Addateegala Mandal of East Godavari district.

Promotion of Pulses and Kidney Beans

Facilitated black gram and kidney beans (rajma) cultivation in 2014 kharif and rabi season in 207 acres of 319 adivasi households from 32 villages of East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts. This was carried out with collaboration of the Department of Agriculture. The department supplied black gram seed material, neem oil, Trychoderma viridi and vermin-compost on 50% subsidy and rajma were supplied with 100% subsidy to the farmers. Black

gram has given a yield per acre on an average 2.50 quintals and sold in the market @ Rs 60/- per kg. Each adivasi family earned an average of INR 15000. However rajma cultivation was damaged due to Hudhud cyclone and thus the yield was poor.

Kitchen Gardens

Kitchen gardens promoted in 132 villages of 11 Mandals across 2 districts with 2200 families: 12 panchayats in Visakhapatnam and 16 panchayats in East Godavari district. Mobilized seed material worth Rs 2,20,000/- from the State Horticulture Mission and supplied as 90% subsidy to the farmers with 10% being borne by the community and the transportation cost by Laya. This venture has cut down the cost of purchasing of vegetables from market up to INR 4800/- for a period of 6months. In some cases the adivasi families have sold vegetables in the weekly markets thereby earning some cash income: an average of INR 3000/-.

Vegetables cultivation

Facilitated vegetables cultivation in 69.5 acres with 83 households in 9 villages from 4 panchayats of East Godavari district: seeds of brinjal, tomato, okra, 3 varieties of beans, gourds and leafy vegetables were distributed to farmers.

Improved agriculture implements

Supplied agriculture tools and implements to the 10 villages of Pathakota and Daragedda Panchayat villages: branch cutting saw, secateurs and SRI markers, weeding instruments, podu farming hand tools and dryland agriculture hand tools. The adivasi farmers found the tools useful as they reduce drudgery in manual labour, particularly among women workers. Mobilised farmers to approach Agriculture Department of the Government to provide other useful tools to the farmers in this region.

Horticulture

Followed up previous years' plantation in 442.5 acres of 233 households from 4 panchayats in East Godavari district. The survival rate of cashew and mango is 72%. This year promoted cashew and mango in 347.5 acres in 24 villages of 7 panchayats of East Godavari district belonging to 299 adivasi households. Plants, organic fertilizer and other inputs was distributed to farmers in 2014 rainy season.

Type of plantation	Number of villages	Number of households	Acres	Programme in collaboration with
Cashew new plantation	18	259	287.5	MGNREGS and SHM
Mango new plantation	6	40	60	State Horticulture Mission (SHM)
Total	24	299	347.5	

Also facilitated cashew rejuvenation scheme of the Horticulture Department of the Government for 190 adivasi households in 242.5 acres in 20 villages of 7 panchayats of 3 Mandals of East Godavari district; these households practiced tree pruning and soil nutrient management and application of FYM, vermicomposting, NPK complex fertilizers for increased yield. Each farmer got inputs and pruning tools with and the unit cost (per acre) was Rs. 10,000/-

Seed centres with Rare Seed Varieties

Followed up 4 seed centres', which stored and supplied 20 rare varieties of seeds to the farmers in Pathakota and Daragedda panchayats; post-harvest the farmers returned the seeds to the 4 seed centres. Seed storage bins were provided for the 4 seed centres in Pulimetla, Pathakota, Pulusumamdilanka and Dumpavalasa villages of Y. Ramavaram Mandal, East Godavari district.

Land Development and Soil and Moisture Conservation

Facilitated land development under MGNREGS in 125 acres, which involved clearance of bushes, removal of dead tree stumps, land leveling, bunding in 17 villages of 9 panchayats in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts.

Districts	Mandals	Panchayats	Villages	Families	Acres
Visakhapatnam	2 (Pedabayalu and Hukumpeta)	4	9	45	45
East Godavari	3 (Y. Ramavaram, Gangavaram, Rajavomangi and Addateegala)	6	8	65	80
2	5	10	17	110	125

Demonstrated soil and moisture conservation in 15 acres of slope lands and 4 acres paddy lands of 15 farmers from Busikota and Dumpavalasa villages in Daragedda panchayat, and Muvvalavariveedhi and Palusurimetta villages in Pathakota panchayat of Y. Ramavaram mandal.

WATER RELATED INITIATIVES

Feasibility study of water bodies to provide irrigation and drinking water facility:

Demonstrated 2 hydram pumps (gravity water flow lifting device) in Muvvalavariveedhi village for community water supply and irrigation of horticulture plants in 4 acres of slope land of Pathakota farmers in Pathakota panchayat of Y. Ramavaram mandal, East Godavari district.

Constructed one gravity water flow scheme for irrigation in Busikota village to irrigate 40 acres of slope land of 12 farmers.

Feasibility study done for total 24 sites in 12 villages in East Godavari adivasi areas: 24 sites were found feasible for irrigation and reports were prepared separately for each one.

Conducted 26 village level meetings to bring awareness among community in East Godavari district on rain water harvesting structures, usage of surface water for irrigation, and access to drinking water facilities. Representation was given to Department of Rural Water Supply to repair borewells and motors in 26 villages. Recently technicians were sent to these villages and 12 bore wells and 2 motor s were repaired.

Maintenance of fisheries in water bodies:

Followed up 31 water bodies out of 77 water bodies and facilitated fisheries in additional 25 water bodies in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari district. 28 beneficiaries from 20 villages of Paderu and Addategala area were supplied 54,000 fish seed purchased from the Fisheries Department. These fish seeds were growing well at the end of the December 2014 the fish weight is an average 500 gm to 650 gm. We have monitored 9 families: they harvested fish during this 2014-15 season, consumed and also sold fish earning cash income additionally from Rs.10000/- to 28000/-.

FOREST REGENERATION AND NTFP INITIATIVES:

Forest Species Plantation:

Planted teak - 3000 and bamboo - 3000 in private lands in 5 panchayats of Visakhapatnam district by dibbling forest species seeds in hill slopes and common lands during the Vitingi festival in Paderu area.

Broom grass plantation was done on agriculture field bunds in 20 acres of 40 adivasi households from Chamagedda, Dalipadu, K. Yerragonda, Daragedda, Marrisipalem and Kindra panchayats of East Godavari District and 18.1 acres of 38 adivasi households from 12 villages, 7 panchayats of Visakhapatnam district. The plants have grown well. Hill broom cultivation was monitored for 13 families, who have harvested and earned cash income in the first year of the plantation: Rs.2000/-, and previous years plantation: up to Rs. 15000/-.

Organized 8 monthly meetings with Samaramma NTFP Federation's members In Peddakodapalli panchayat, Paderu mandal, Visakhapatnam district, and Dalipadu panchayat, Y. Ramavaram mandal, East Godavari district: 132 adivasi members attended (36 women).

ACCOMPANIMENT OF CBOs AND PEOPLE'S INSTITUTIONS

Facilitated 6 CBOs to promote NRM activities in their areas of operation in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts:

East Godavari district:

- Adivasi Girijana Samkshema Seva Sangam, Pulusumamidi;
- Adivasi Mahila Raithu Abhivrudhi Seva Sangam, Tungamadugula;
- Vananari Jagruthi (VANAJA), Addateegala.

Visakhapatnam district:

- Samaramma NTFP Federation, Peddakodapalli ;
- Vikasini, Paderu.
- Single women livelihood group in Peddakodapalli panchayat.

CAPACITY BUILDING (ORIENTATION AND TRAININGS)

TRAINING FARMERS, YOUTH AND VILLAGE LEADERS ON RESOURCE PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMMES

- Organized 38 village level meetings in 9 panchayats (Chamagedda-7, Dalipadu-7, Gurthedu-6, K. Yerragonda-3, Kindra-3, Tungamadugula-1, Boddagandi-7, Yandapalli-2 and Marripalem-2) of East Godavari district: orientation on forest ecosystem, sustainable agriculture practices and protection of forests and forest regeneration.
- Organized 52 village level meetings in 15 panchayats of Visakhapatnam district to create awareness on sustainable agriculture practices and government schemes.
- Organized 2-day training in collaboration of ATMA East Godavari district on 'Agriculture Extension Management and Integrated Farming Systems' at the Regional Agriculture Research Station (RARS), Chintapalli: 25 adivasi farmers attended (18 male; 7 female).
- Organized intensive training for 18 adivasi youth in 3 phases on Agriculture PoP and water shed development, etc.
- Organized 3-day training at Andhra Pradesh State Horticulture Mission Training Institute, Eluru for 25 adivasi farmers (all male).
- Organized 2-day training for farmers from 10 villages of Daragedda panchayat at Dumpavalasa: 32 adivasi farmers attended (22 male; 10 female). The resource person was Agriculture Officer, Department of Agriculture and ATMA. He focused on

government subsidies for organic farming, promotion of millets cultivation, improved farming tools, etc.

- Organized one-day training on 'Sustainable Agriculture and Farmer Groups' for 75 adivasi farmers from 48 villages of Paderu region of Visakhapatnam district.
- Participated in Kisan Mela and organic agriculture products exhibition conducted at RARS, Chintapalli: 32 adivasi farmers from Daragedda, Gurthedu and Pathakota panchayats attended (18 male; 14 female); and from Paderu area 25 adivasi farmers attended (15 male; 10 female);
- Followed up 116 village level adivasi farmers' groups in East Godavari district (Y. Ramavaram mandal-70, Rajavomangi mandal-6, Addateegala mandal-32 and Gangavaram mandal-8); and 44 village level adivasi farmers' groups in Visakhapatnam district (Paderu mandal-10, Peddabayalu-26 and Hukumpeta-8): discussion focused on the sustainable agriculture Package of Practices (PoP) for paddy, rajma, ragi and turmeric.

LEVERAGED SCHEMES FOR ADIVASI FARMERS FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Facilitated 2200 kitchen garden vegetable seeds mini kits worth Rs. 2,20,000/- from the government's State Horticulture Mission;

Facilitated horticulture plantations: mango and cashew in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts through State Horticulture Mission and MGNREGS;

Facilitated land development programmes through MGNREGS;

Demonstrated in collaboration with government's ATMA programme half acre of 'Integrated Farming System' in Pathakota village, Pathakota panchayat, East Godavari district; organized exposures for 12 adivasi village representatives from Gurthedu and Pathakota panchayats. Outcome: farmers learnt about Integrated Farming System (fisheries, poultry, vegetable cultivation, fruit bearing plants on tank bund);

Demonstrated in collaboration with ATMA turmeric, maize and vegetable cultivation in rows under rainfed conditions with 50 adivasi farmers from 3 panchayats (Gurthedu, Daragedda and Pathakota).

Facilitated black gram and rajma seeds and organic fertilizers etc., as inputs from the government's Department of Agriculture.

LOW CARBON FARMING (LCF) INITIATIVES:

Laya as a lead organisation in collaboration with a national network, Fair Climate Network, embarked on an initiative to integrate measurement of carbon saved in sustainable

agriculture. In this context a model building exercise as part of a larger national framework was initiated, which involved developing a data base on emission reduction from sustainable farming practices. The baseline development process involves profiling of farmers families and discrete plotting of land holdings. Primary data for 7769 adivasi households in 326 villages of 2 districts has been developed. Awareness meetings in 326 villages were organised.

LCF Base line data for Addateegala Area as on March 31, 2015

Mandal	Vill.	Farme rs	Plots	Acres	Discret e Plots (GPS)	Discret e Acres (GPS)	Committe d Plots	Committe d Acres
Addateegala	46	1289	2497	4946	1110	1497	181	258
Gangavaram	9	282	504	888	242	344	19	14
Rajvomangi	11	304	610	1412	378	378	17	22
Y. Ramavaram	88	2188	4275	10641	2622	6232	331	795
Total	154	4063	7886	17887	4137	8451	548	1089

LCF Base line data for Paderu Area as on March 31, 2015

Mandal	Villages	Farmers	Plots	Acres	Discrete Plots(GPS)	Discrete Acres (GPS)	Committed Plots	Committed Acres
Hukumpeta	37	877	3979	2930	1720	887	77	47
Paderu	43	910	3860	3218	1461	732	499	296
Pedabayalu	91	1919	7953	8658	4110	2985	1094	809
Total	171	3706	15792	14806	7291	4604	1670	1152

LCF Documentation

- Land titles were collected and uploaded to Family Database of LCF software solution;
- Family members' photos were uploaded to the Family Database;
- Tree base line done for discrete plots and uploaded to the Plot Information;
- Bond stones were planted in the discrete plots;
- Farmer Diaries were maintained for 1500 plots in both districts for paddy in 2014 kharif season.

5.3. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The action research in science and technology initiatives mainly focused on inculcating scientific temper in optimum use of common property resources.

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-FORESTRY

A cluster of 5 villages: Choppakonda, Pedanutala, Yerrametla, Kutakarai and Gangavaram in the Papikonda National Park was selected for the promotion of organic manure preparation and its application for better yields in agriculture. Village level survey was conducted to understand livelihood situation in the villages. Cashew yield was found to be very low. Almost traditionally grown millet crop diversity was given up. Few varieties of crops were grown in the village. An attempt was initiated to restore crop diversity in the villages. Organic agriculture meet was conducted, where various forest and agriculture issues were discussed. Economically important forest-



produce and crop diversity (varieties of seeds) in agriculture demonstrated.

To increase yield in the cashew gardens, a package of practices (PoP) were demonstrated. Two acres gardens each in Koyyalagudem and Yerrametla were adopted and better cultivation practices demonstrated. In the gardens, clearing of shrub jungle growth, pruning unnecessary branches, digging cup and saucer pits around the cashew trees, and gap filling was done in the gardens.

Cluster level organic agriculture meet was conducted to discuss on forest and agriculture issues for preparing a policy frame for tribal agriculture.

On use of organic manures such as local dung, penning, plough back of crop residues, plough back of legume crops were discussed with the villagers. Vermicomposting was demonstrated in Kutakarai village. Demonstration of composting in Yerrametla is under process. In Koyyalagudem and surrounding villages, the use of humus, surrounding bio- waste, decomposed tamarind leaves and dung from stray animals was advocated. Experiments were planned for conversion of organic residues into manures.

To encourage domestication of wild tubers, participatory documentation and domestication



was initiated in the 5 villages. In addition, domestication process of gumkaraya, caryota, broom grass and listea species was initiated.

For sustainable harvesting of NTFP, the current harvesting practices in selected NTFP are being documented. Based on the participatory knowledge explored the harvesting practices in NTFP will be standardized and appropriate NTFP harvesting kits are being developed from local resources. Value added

products in tamarind, bamboo and palmyra fibre were attempted. A small shed was constructed in Kutakarai village and a palmyra palm fibre extraction machine was installed.

5.4 DECENTRALIZED ENERGY OPTIONS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Our work continues towards improving energy security for the vulnerable adivasi communities across the two districts of Visakhapatnam and East Godavari in Andhra Pradesh. We have been able to increase our outreach with regards to community access to decentralised energy technologies. We have continued with our Energy interventions from the perspective of improving energy security. In addition to make agriculture more resilient to climate change we have promoted adaptive mechanisms in a remote tribal pocket in Andhra Pradesh with regards to promoting drought resistant crops.

EXPLORING COMMUNITY BASED CARBON PROJECTS

This initiative has provided us the opportunity to upscale viable energy technology solutions for access to tribal communities. Household solar technology, community based small hydro and fuel efficient cooking stoves and recently bio sand filters emerged as being potential options to meet basic energy requirement and clean drinking water of these communities. However, the potential for improved stoves, Bio sand filters were also found to be workable for a CDM/VER project.

LAYA PADERU MICRO SCALE GOLD STANDARD VER PROJECT

We are proud to finally declare that the Laya Paderu team has successfully deployed about 4000 energy efficient woodstoves to as many adivasi families in the region as a part of the 'Laya Paderu Micro Scale Gold Standard VER Project'. This is the first project Micro Scale Gold Standard energy efficient woodstoves project in India.

This year also saw the development of a computer based online monitoring Management Information System (MIS) interface that was designed in house. The MIS is available in the public domain via the web link 'ver.laya.org.in'. In addition we have also initiated the process for the first validation for issuing carbon credits. This is being done in association with the Fair Climate Services (FCS) team.

This year we were involved in monitoring the use of 4000 energy efficient woodstoves with as many adivasi families in the region as a part of the "Laya Paderu Micro Scale Gold Standard VER Project". The feedback to the stoves continues to be positive. Unfortunately in October 2014, a major cyclone, Hudhud, affected about 80 woodstoves. However, within a short period of time we were able to reconstruct the stoves and they are now functional.

The computer based online monitoring Management Information System (MIS) interface that was designed in-house last year is available for viewing through the web link "ver.laya.org.in". It has helped communicate the progress in monitoring the stoves. Finally the first validation to issue of carbon credits was completed by March 31st. This was being done in conjunction with the Fair Climate Services (FCS) team. We are proud to announce that 5,765 tCO₂ or VER credits were realized from the VER project during the first Issuance, till July 2014.

LAYA SURAKSHANA GOLD STANDARD VER PROJECT

The LAYA Surakshana VER Gold Standard project was finally registered in December 2014. Simultaneously the Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA) was signed with Miserior to construct 6000 Energy Efficient Woodstoves by December 2015. At the end January just after the major harvest festival of Sankranti, the first training program for woodstove constructors was initiated. Around 20 youth attended the meeting; subsequently the process of building stoves has begun. Till March 2015, around 1000 stoves were built. A monitoring software was also developed to track the construction as well as monitoring of the stoves similar to that of the Paderu VER project.

PILOT ON ADAPTATION

The work on pilot projects related to adaptation saw through another agricultural season. Effective results were realized in conserving natural resources through watershed management in the attempt to identify, procure and propagate rare varieties of seed banks and encourage cultivation of local drought and flood tolerant varieties of crops. It was observed that out of many varieties of grains, pulses and tubers that was promoted 11 varieties stood out with the opportunity for sustained propagation. This was mainly due to the communities changing socio-cultural preferences.

Meanwhile System of Rice Intensification (SRI), kitchen gardens, vegetative fencing on agriculture bunds, soil and moisture conservation, demonstration of high humus based manure models and applications continued to be promoted. We also experimented with favourable results a mix between SRI and the traditional transplantation method.

Furthermore a gravity flow water scheme was also introduced in the region. 32 adivasi farmers were able to revive about 150 acres of land for agriculture through the repair of an old check dam. Previously these lands were left fallow due to lack of access to water.

DECENTRALIZED ENERGY CLUSTERS

PATHAKOTA AND BONJANGI CLUSTERS

The Alternative Energy cluster at Pathakota, East Godvari District continues to function well. Now with a good road constructed all the way to the village access has become much easier for follow up. The community based Micro Hydro is working thanks to the community effort to maintain it. Recently the village also chose to give up on government supplied electricity in favour of the Hydro due intermittent power cuts and rising charges of electricity.

Bonjangi, Visakhapatnam district, is still not working. However we have been in touch with Practical Action, who was come forward to support the community to revive the system. Along with the communities support we hope it will be functional soon.

MUNAGALAUPTI CLUSTER

The Munagalapudi Pico-Hydro, Y. Ramavaram Mandal, East Godavari District has been repaired successfully and is now running since March 2015. There were numerous delays in getting the machine restarted after it collapsed last year due to a short circuit to the Electronic Load Controller.

3 Hydrams were installed in 2 villages. They are working successfully and we are encouraged to further promote these units in other regions where feasible.

NEW INITIATIVES

A pilot initiative to produce coal briquettes from abundantly available weeds was undertaken successfully. Encouraged with the results we acquired a small machinery setup to produce coal briquettes. We are further encouraged by that there is potential to sell the briquettes at 25 Rs/kg. However due to lack of personnel we have not initiated the process so far.

In addition we have been trying to explore alternative materials to make the energy efficient woodstoves more robust. In April this year we plan to invite Aarti, Pune to review the existing stoves built and train our team to use a combination of cement, mud and gravel to improve the stoves design and durability.

5.5. ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE

For hundreds of years the adivasi communities have used herbal based medicines. This form of medicine is closer to Ayurveda but different from the conventional allopathic medicine. The medicinal plants, which are the source of this medicine, are abundantly available in the forests of this region. Moreover the use of herbal medicines has been an integral part of

adivasi culture. Herbal medicine can be potentially relevant and useful at least for basic illnesses. Our experience in community health care through herbal medicine in the past 16 years has demonstrated that it is affordable, reliable, efficient and accessible.

PROMOTION OF HERBAL GARDENS

MOTHER HERBAL GARDENS

Maintained and upgraded 2 Herbal gardens in Gummaripalem and in Addateegala (Vanantharam: Gummaripalem Herbal Garden is equipped with 200 varieties of medicinal plants, and in Vanantharam (Addateegala) Herbal garden is equipped with 240 varieties of medicinal plants: These Mother Herbal Gardens are being used for seed collection and demonstration.

MEDICINAL PLANT NURSERY

Raised 20 varieties of medicinal plants in Vanantharam nursery (each variety 500 to 800 seedlings) and supplied to community Herbal Gardens and interested individuals.

COMMUNITY HERBAL GARDENS

Maintained 87 community herbal gardens in two districts (64 in East Godavari district and 23 in Visakhapatnam district, which are established in primary schools, community health centres (CHC) and traditional healing centres (THC).

PROMOTION OF HEALTH CARE AT LOCAL LEVEL

Provided Treatment for 8320 patients (male – 4587; female - 2876) through Community Health Centres (CHC), Regular Health Centres (market place), Need-based (Special) Health Camps in collaboration with the AYUSH Department and in Vanantharam for referral cases.

Treatment Details from April 2013 to March 2014				
		Male	Female	Total
Community Health Centres (CHC)	44 CHC are providing health care in 155 villages	2966	2512	5478
Regular Health Camps (RHC)	Regularly organize health camps in weekly market day in 5 centres	882	720	1602
Special (Need based) Health Camps	Organized health camps in 18 villages	327	276	603
Treatment provided in Vanantharam		412	225	637
Total		3579	2876	8320

Distributed malaria preventive dose to identified 450 chronic malaria patients in 2 districts;

Distributed malaria preventive Medicine (CHINA ARS - Homeopathy) in 5 tribal welfare residential schools (P. Yerrakonda, Dalipadu, Bandigedda, D. Bheemavaram, and Kindra);

Upgraded and followed up 23 Traditional Healing Centers in 2 districts, which are providing health care in 65 villages and regularly monitoring of other 80 Traditional Health Practitioners to provide treatment in their respective villages and facilitate writing of OP registers;

POPULARIZED HERBAL MEDICINE

Organized mega Medicinal Plants Exhibition In Vanantharam, Addateegala, which was inaugurated by Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board Chairman, local MLA and the District Forest Range Officer, This exhibition was put up for 4 days and displayed around 400 types of medicinal plants and 250 varieties of tubers.

This exhibition was attended by 2 pharmacy college students, 5 degree college students and 4 junior college students and lecturers. A total of 650 students and lecturers attended from East and West Godavari districts; also 130 Ayurvedic Doctors from all over the state and 110 Traditional Health Practitioners from Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East and West Godavari districts, and local Government officers visited this exhibition;



Conducted 2-day workshop for Government Degree College (BSc) students on the 'Importance of Herbal based Medicine' and 'Identification of Medicinal Plants: 26 students attended (male – 17; female - 9);

Organized a 3-day workshop in collaboration with Kovel Foundation for adivasi youth on the 'Importance of Herbal based Medicine' and 'Identification of Medicinal Plants and preparation of 4 types of herbal medicines for common illness: 22 adivasi youth attended.

SKILL UP GRADATION TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH PRACTITIONERS (CHPs):

Organised two 3-day skills up-gradation trainings for Community Health Practitioners in Addateegala (East Godavari district) and Paderu (Visakhapatnam district). In Addateegala training program 9 CHPs (female - 4, male – 5) and in Paderu 11 CHPs (female -1, male - 10) attended.

INTENSIVE TRAINING ON HERBAL MEDICINE PREPARATION AND HEALING (HMP&HP) FOR YOUTH:

Conducted 2-day training program on safe drinking water and sanitation focusing on water borne diseases and the importance of safe drinking water; explored different water treatment methods: 22 adivasi youth (female 9) from 16 villages.

SKILL UP GRADATION TRAINING FOR TRADITIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS (THPS):

Organized 3-day skills training for Traditional Health Practitioners (THP) in Doddipalli village, Visakhapatnam district, on medicine preparation and preservation methods: 16 THPs attended.



Organized 3-day skills training for Traditional Health Practitioners (THP) in Vanantharam: 27 (one female) THPs were attended. At the end of the training program medical kits and medicine preparation instruments were distributed to 8 THPs.

ACCOMPANYING TRADITIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS (THP) NETWORK

Facilitated THP Network to conduct bi-monthly mandal level meetings in 10 mandals (4 mandals in East Godavari district and 6 in Visakhapatnam district). The main agenda was sharing experience among THPs, strengthening mandal level network and construction of traditional healing centres.

Facilitated THP Network to conduct executive body meetings in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts (3 meetings in each district) to strengthen mandal level networking and ensure that all THPs obtain a panchayat resolution certifying their practice and wear an identity card; increase the membership fee from Rs 60 to Rs 100 and identify potential THPs for training.

Facilitated the Adivasi Sampradaya Vanamulika Vaidyula Sankshema Sangam (THPs network) to conduct General Body meeting in Addateegala with the attendance of 86 THPs (male - 64, female -12).

Facilitated the Adivasi Sampradaya Vanamulika Vaidyula Sankshema Sangam (THPs network) to conduct General body meeting in Paderu with the attendance of 60 THPs (male - 51, female -9). It was decided among other things to go for new registration with a new executive body.

RESPONDED TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS FOR WOMEN

Distributed 11 types of vegetable seeds for 220 households (East Godavari-130 and Visakhapatnam-90) to promote kitchen gardens; also distributed nutritious plants' saplings (sapota, drumstick, papaya, Pomegranate, guava, lime) to 130 households in East Godavari district.

SENSITIZED ADIVASI COMMUNITY ON HIV/AIDS



Celebrated international AIDS Day on December 1, 2013 in three places: Addateegala (conducted rally with college and school students, PHC staff: 300 students and Government officers participated); Dalipadu Girls Ashram School (organized rally with students and village elders in Dalipadu village: 250 students and villagers participated; and Veeravaram Boys Ashram School (organized rally with students village elders and VANAJA CBO representatives in

Veeravaram village: 220 students and villagers participated.

Conducted a 2-day workshop with youth to create awareness on HIV/AIDS: 22 youth (male 17, female – 5 attended). The main focus was on the causes of spreading HIV in adivasi areas and the precautions to be taken; and the importance educating the community on HIV/AIDS.

COLLABORATED WITH VANANTHARAM AYURVEDIC PHARMACY, ADDATEEGALA

Prepared 20 types of herbal medicines in collaboration with Vanantharam Ayurvedic Pharmacy for distribution in Regular Health Centres and Special Health Camps and to Community Health Practitioners;

5.6. EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH AND WOMEN

Also known as 'Parichay', this unit of Laya is involved in the process of engagement in leadership development of adivasi youth. Its outreach has been mainly 4 adivasi populated districts of Andhra Pradesh: East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, and Srikakulam. Its specific objectives are to nurture adivasi young men and women for their self-development as well as on the development concerns of their communities

The overall perspective of the activities is to promote value based leadership potential among youth in the region. This year we intensively engaged in highlighting youth's role and participation in the local body elections; worked with youth leaders in promoting good governance in the panchayat Raj institutions; and engaged with government departments on policy



issues, especially related to MGNREGA, FRRA. We facilitated institutional building processes through our engagement with Community Based Groups (CBO), and Village Level Committees (VLC). Some of the specific initiatives included literacy for leadership, herbal based health care and climate change.

KEY INTERVENTIONS:

HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

In order to strengthen youth engagement and action against violation of human rights at the district level, we facilitated 9 meetings and followed up action on the initiatives of (MGNREGS, RoFR, RTE, Social Security schemes) access and implementation taken up in Srikakulam and Vizianagaram districts. The CBO representatives in these districts identified the issues and actively brought them to the notice of the ITDA authorities. As a result 53 adivasi villages are enjoying better implementation and access to the government programmes.

WOMEN COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS (WCBO) PROMOTIONS AND NETWORK OF WCBO INITIATION:

Monitoring and accompaniment continued with the WCBOs in East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts focusing on nature of issues they are involving in and the strategic involvement of women in the process of development. Strategies were developed for the promotion of women leadership across the four districts. WCBO group members play watch dog role in the implementation of government schemes and actively mobilizing community focusing on women and girl child for a better sustainable leadership; raise women's voices in grama sabha and at the panchayat level; and actively participate in the PESA implementation process.

VILLAGE LEVEL COMMITTEES (VLC) NETWORK PROMOTION:

Facilitated the strengthening of 64 VLCs in 12 panchayats in 8 mandals in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts. 64 village level meetings and 12 panchayat level meetings were organized to strengthen the VLCs' capacities on women's issues/gender issues and women's leadership. They were involved in the issue of village level drinking water, bore well repairs, MGNREGS, follow up of Mother Committees, and SHGs.

Facilitated VLCs' 'Regional Network' in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari districts to create space for a collective voice on adivasi women issues; and to meet the needs of adivasi women's leadership to act on their own. Adivasi women are more actively involved in the process.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

INTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMME

In January - March 2015 4 intensive training programmes were initiated for adivasi youth from Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts to develop youth cadre

and strengthen the youth leadership to respond to human rights violation and promote youth livelihood. 120 youth were selected for the training programme and first phase was completed. Training modules were designed in the areas of personality development and leadership, government policies, legislations, adivasi rights and government schemes.

ISSUE BASED WORKSHOPS:

4 issue based workshops were organised to continuously nurture the CBO representatives in 4 districts: Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, East Godavari, and Visakhapatnam. Through this initiative youth/youth groups (CBOs) are intensively involved in understanding their issues and drawing road maps to tackle them.



NEW CBO PROMOTION:

18 CBOs were promoted, of which 4 are WCBOs. As they were in a growing stage, they need more specific capacity building.

ORIENTATION MEETINGS:

In the process of awareness building on issues in the field we reached out to around, 10,000



youth in 4 districts through orientation on the nature and roles of PESA, health, agriculture, RTI, FRRRA, RTE, SMC, anganwadi centres, SHGs, Climate Change education, etc.

EVENTS:

Key events: International Women Day, International Indigenous Day, and International Youth Day were organized in the project area.

LITERACY FOR LEADERSHIP:

Conducted 3-day 'Refreshment Programme for Neo-Literates' at Vanantharam, Addateegala. 14 neo-literates attended. Apart from inputs on basic literacy and numeracy skills, also input sessions on women's health, fuel efficient wood stoves, MGNREGS were organised.

FELLOWSHIPS

The fellowship programme has been an effort to reach out to individuals, who are involved in adivasi empowerment. 19 adivasi youth from community based youth groups were supported with fellowships: women rights - 9; youth and sustainable development - 6; field youth facilitation-4.

NETWORKING AT LOCAL LEVEL

Networking in collaboration with other units of Laya continued with active involvement in implementation of MNREGA, and relevant information generation through RTI. The unit collaborated with Andhra Pradesh Adivasi Sanghala Samakya in raising the voice of adivasi youth voice at the district and state levels on implementation of MGNREGS and RoFR through 120 village level meetings.



5.7. ALTERNATIVE DATA GENERATION AND DOCUMENTATION

The documentation focused on building an alternative database on issues and through programmes and activities. We disseminated information to remote areas on one hand and attempted to sharpen the thrust of our intervention by influencing policy on the other. Documentation, field based studies and publications of relevant documents continued as a priority depending on the need and purpose of involvement. Campaign activities addressed local issues as well as issues in the region. These activities are coordinated by at the Resource Centre level.

ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Documentation: Continued to focus on building alternative database mainly on adivasi issues and disseminating information for strategic involvement and campaign initiatives.

Maintaining library: Continued filing of relevant materials from 4 daily newsletters and about 40 magazines and bulletins for internal and external use on various aspects: sustainable agriculture, natural resource management, displacement, decentralized energy options, government policies and programs, environmental pollution, mining, climate change, health, gender issues, human rights, literacy and education, etc.

Material preparation: Reading and training material on 'documentation process; personality development; communication skills and climate change' was prepared for both internal and external use of trainings. This material was used in all the training programmes conducted in this period to students, field activists of Laya and other organizations.

Dissemination of information through training, participation in seminars, etc., and other processes:

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- A 2-day training programme on 'Documentation Processes' was conducted for the field staff of ASDS in Khammam district.
- Attended as a resource person a 2-day training program on the 'Role of Social Activist in Social Service Sector' for the volunteers and field level staff of ASDS, Khammam district.
- Attended as a facilitator in Parichay's 2-day training programme for adivasi youth activists on 'Practical Problems in the Implementation of MGNREGA' at the S.R. Sankaran Sramika Vidhya Sikshana Kendram, Achhiyapet.
- Attended as a resource person in two 2-day trainings on the 'Role of Social Activist' for the participants of the intensive training of the Youth Empowerment Unit.



PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS (CLC)

Followed up the Community Learning Centres in the three field areas of Laya, East Godavari (two regions Addateegala and Rampachodavaram), Visakhapatnam (Paderu area) and Srikakulam (Manapuram area) districts as a follow up programme of the '10-day Adivasi Leadership Literacy Programme' in those villages, where the number of neo-literates is high. Promoting reading habit among the adivasis as part of lifelong learning process, is another objective of the CLCs. The CLCs are stocked with some relevant books/publications, e.g., back issues of 'Mannemlo' and other publications of the Laya, as well as some other popular Telugu magazines, journals, books, etc. Some CLCs are also being used as meeting places for CBOs and Women Village Level Committees. These CLCs are maintained by the village community. The local CBOs are playing a significant role in the functioning of CLCs, especially in Addateegala and Paderu areas.

PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS, MEETINGS

- Participated in the film screening programme: Charlie Chaplin's 'The Kid', as a guest speaker from the 'Mannemlo' editorial team, organized by the Anakapalli Film Society (AFISO).
- Participated in 'ASPBAE's 50th Anniversary' function on the concept of 'Climate Change' at Vanantharam, Addateegala.

- Participated in a planning meeting for curriculum designing and preparation of material on 'Climate Change Course' for the adivasi students organized by Laya at Addateegala.
- Participated in 'Andhra Pradesh Adivasi Sangala Samakhya's' district representatives review meet organized by Youth & Women Empowerment (Parichay) Unit.
- Participated in a workshop on 'Right to Information (RTI)' conducted collectively by IRDS and APVVU for the postgraduate students of A.S. Raja College, Visakhapatnam.
- Participated in the general body meeting of Andhra Pradesh Adivasi Sangala Samakhya, Sithampeta, Srikakulam district.
- Participated in a 'Candle Rally on Hudhud Cyclone' organized by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Visakhapatnam.
- Participated in an awareness programme on 'New Land Acquisition Act, 2013' organized by ASDS, Rekhapalli, Khammam district.
- Participated in a discussion on the issue of 'Land Acquisition by Non-Agrarian Communities and its Impacts on the Indian Economy and Landless Poor', at Vijayawada organized by WASSAN, Hyderabad.
- Participated in the 'International Women's Day' programme as a main speaker at Pachipenta village, Vizianagaram district, organized by Andhra Pradesh Adivasi Sanghala Samakhya and Adivasi Ikya Vedika.

PUBLICATIONS:

Regular Publications (Newsletters):

'MANNEMLO': 4 ISSUES

- April - June 2014 with a special focus on 'Implementation of (Adivasi) Rights / Acts'.
- July - September 2014 with a special focus on 'Adivasi Self-Rule'.
- October - December 2014 with a special focus on 'Tribal Agriculture & Andhra Pradesh Adivasi Sangala Samakhya'.
- January – March 2015 with a special focus on 'Adivasi Land issues'.

'ECO-ETHIC' (ON CLIMATE CHANGE)

No issue came in this year

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

- Thakkuva Karbana Vyardhalanu Vadile Melimi Abhivruddi Margalu Ivigo, (Telugu translated version) of the “Development through A Low Carbon Pathway - 8 case studies” which was published in 2011 by INECC.

Translated a draft note on “Development Alternatives” into Telugu, which was prepared for a debate by Ashish Kothari and published in ‘Mannemlo’.

FILMS:

- A 30-minute video film was produced on construction, maintenance and user manual of bio-sand water filters and screened in 10 villages.

DISSEMINATION ROLE

Disseminated information on various development issues: displacement, exploitation of local resources, non-implementation of welfare schemes and legislations (MGNREGA, PESA, FRRRA, Constitutional Rights, etc.), and issues (gender, environment and climate change, adivasi health, violation of Human Rights, atrocities on weaker sections, and sustainable development).

PROVIDING SERVICES TO OTHER UNITS

This unit provided different documentation services and support in organization of trainings, meetings etc. to the other units as its contribution to the overall goals of the organization.

5.8. POLICY ADVOCACY

The Resource for Legal Action (RLA) Unit was mainly involved in specific policy issues and campaign activity:

- Demanded that the ITDA, K.R. Puram, West Godavari district address the issues of students: facilities in Tribal Welfare Hostels in the Scheduled Areas of the district: 200 adivasi youth participated.
- Submitted memorandum by 17 adivasis (12 female and 5 male) to ITDA, K.R. Puram seeking steps to reopen the School at Kumaravaram village of West Godavari district.
- Representation made to the Asst. Project Officer, ITDA, K.R. Puram for the sanction of Rs.60,000/- to two adivasi girls under Girl Child Protection Scheme.
- Representation made to Asst. Project Officer, K.R. Puram by 15 adivasi leaders (13 female and 2 male) seeking appointment of School Teacher at Jillellagudem School.
- Demanded that the MDO, Butaigudem speed up the payment of Old Age Pensions to eligible persons: by 50 adivasis (38 female and 12 male).

- Demanded that the ITDA, K.R. Puram does not withdraw their villages from the purview of the MGNREGS: 100 adivasi participated: 50 female and 50 male.
- Demanded for Implementation of Forest Rights Act with 150 adivasis at Maredumilli: 64 female and 96 male.
- 29 adivasis applied of R&R Package under the Polavaram Project from 4 grama panchayats of Devipatnam mandal, East Godavari district.
- 16 adivasis applied for R&R Package under the Musurumilli project, East Godavari district.
- Appeal filed against a liquor shop at Chandramma colony, Zelugumilli mandal, West Godavari district.
- 23 'Registers' supplied in 23 villages to maintain grama sabha records in Maredumilli mandal, East Godavari district.
- Community Library opened at AM Kota, Maredumilli mandal, East Godavari District.
- Dialogue with ITDA level GCC Officials, State level officials seeking release of a vehicle carrying hillbrooms by adivasis worth of Rs. 4 lakh from their area to plain area market at Rajahmundry to sell 7500 bundles of hillbrooms, each at the cost of Rs 70/-. The Manager, GCC, seized the stock even though the GCC is offering Rs 50 per bundle. After the intervention of higher officials and meetings with adivasis the vehicle was released. The adivasis of Pamulamamidi and Gumpenagandi of Pullangi grama panchayat, who are the owners of the hillbrooms secured an additional benefit of Rs 1,50,000/-.

5.9. NETWORKING

NETWORKING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Laya's collaborative work and experiential sharing with other likeminded people and other civil society organizations was continued: APVVU, ASDS, Andhra University, HRF, NAPM, different public and private Forums, NGO networks, Film societies, Government departments like DRDA, etc. There was also collaboration with government agencies related to agriculture: State Horticulture Mission, Integrated Adivasi Development Agency, and High Altitude Adivasi Zone RARS, Chintapalli, Visakhapatnam district.

NETWORKING AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Apart from the networking processes that are initiated at the unit level last year Laya was intensively associated with, **Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC)**, a national network, which has been engaging with the issue of Climate Change from a grassroots' perspective; and the **Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE)**, a regional network that works towards promoting quality education for all. It comprises 4 sub-

regions: South Asia, East Asia, South East Asia and the Pacific; and the **Fair Climate Network (FCN)**, which facilitates and capacitates grassroots entities to develop pro-poor CDM Projects in India and tap carbon resources for the sustainable development of the poorest of the poor.

INDIAN NETWORK ON ETHICS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (INECC)

Laya has been the secretariat of INECC since its inception in 1996. The network has been more active over the last couple of years because of the increasing significance of Climate Change in the national and international context. Laya-INECC has been engaged in relating to the issue largely from an ethical and justice perspective. The network was involved in the following key thematic areas:

- 1 **People's voices into policy choices:** 'Peoples' voices in Policy choices' has been at the core of INECC's engagement. INECC works to bring to the fore, the concerns of the marginalized. Its engagement with policy dialogue ranges from the local to the international.
- 2 **Dialogue on climate justice:** INECC has created spaces for dialogue with a diverse set of youth and individuals that focus on climate justice, international processes, campaigns and behaviour change. Its aim has been to help youth and individuals become catalysts for climate change. Through this, it democratizes and enables climate responses that are varied, responsible and equitable.
- 3 **Climate Change and sustainable development:** INECC's work aims to mainstream climate change into sustainable development processes. Its action research on vulnerabilities, livelihoods and adaptation and other areas like food security, health gender through a climate lens. It strongly emphasizes climate education at various levels as a critical component of mainstreaming.
- 4 **Linking, learning and convergence:** defines how INECC shares experiences, learns from others, builds collaborations and forge convergence with a variety of actors: NGO representatives, grassroots organizations, movements, academicians, researchers, scientists, etc.

INECC's work explores how pilots in diverse areas such as renewable energy clusters, decentralised waste and 'climate-neutral villages' can lead to a larger climate action through replication and upscaling. In this context our specific contribution to the INECC process involved the following:

Civil Society Workshop on Sustainable Development and Future Climate Politics: October 7 – 9, 2014, Holy Spirit Hospital, Andheri, Mumbai

The workshop programme was to mainly address the following topics:

- Recent developments of climate and sustainable development policies in India and internationally

- Experiences with the sustainable development impacts of the climate mitigation projects with special focus on the CDM
- Future carbon markets initiatives in India with particular focus on Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA).

Pre-COP-20 Consultation, New Delhi: November 18, 2014

Siddharth D’Souza, Ajita Tiwari Padhi and Dr Nafisa Goga D’Souza attended a one day meeting on November 18, 2014, a Pre-COP-20 Consultation with various NGOs working on climate change issues to share their insights on India’s positions before COP 20 at Lima. The Secretary to the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), attended the meeting in the last hour and responded to various queries from the participants. He welcomed the contribution of civil society to the COP process and agreed to meet with civil society members, from India who would attend the COP at Lima.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change’s (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP) – 20, Peru, Lima: December 1 – 12, 2014

Siddharth D’Souza, Ajita Tiwari Padhi and Dr. Nafisa Goga D’Souza will be traveling to Lima on the November 30, 2014 to attend UNFCCC’s COP-20, where there will be a presentation on the findings of our project on CDM and Sustainable Development at a side event on the December 2, 2014. There they will follow the events and decisions of the



COP, as well as relate with international civil society organizations on issues related to the marginalized and vulnerable communities. An exhibit booth will be put up to showcase INECC’s work with communities in different eco-systems in India.

Side event at a Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP 20) at Lima on “Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) & Sustainable Development – Insights from India” on 2nd December 2014.

This side event was attended by approximately 50 participants. Nafisa Goga D’Souza, the Executive Director of Laya facilitated the side event. Raman Mehta, a representative of Vasudha Foundation, which had undertaken this study in collaboration with Laya-INECC presented the highlights of the study ‘CDM Projects in India: Do they truly promote sustainable development?’ This presentation was followed by insights on the study by Ajita Tiwari, National Facilitator, INECC. Eva Filzmoser,



Programme Director, CDM Watch shared her reflections on the current scenario of the CDM

framework placing it in the larger context of financing mitigation initiatives. A final presentation was made by Siddharth D'Souza, Coordinator, Climate Change Desk, Laya on pro-poor carbon initiatives which demonstrate a low carbon path while meeting development needs of marginalized communities.

The presentations were well received. During the open discussions the question of accountability of the corporate sector and the crucial importance of public participation were underscored.

HUDHUD cyclone relief and rehabilitation process:

Following the HudHud disaster Laya representatives assessed the impacts of the cyclone in the working areas of Peddabayalu, Hukumpeta and Paderu mandals in Visakhapatnam district. The assessment related to damages to housing, land, crops, stored grains, trees and plantations and livestock in 656 households in 66 villages.



We analysed the field level data and proposed action to deal with specific loss and damages from the perspective of relief and rehabilitation: tarpaulin sheets as a temporary measure for the roofs and side walls of households damaged either fully or partially, clearance of the deposited sand, mud and stones and levelling of land covering the most vulnerable households to restore land damages, provision of saplings and seeds for crops and forest species, seed dibbling on ridges and hill tops, repair and construction works of drinking water sources, and the organisation of special camps for immediate health needs.

The process of rehabilitation is being carried out, thanks to the kind support of our partner agency, Misereor, Germany.

LAYA-INECC meeting March 26 – 28, 2015 at Visakhapatnam

LAYA, in collaboration with The Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC) organized a team meeting 26-28th of March, 2015 at Visakhapatnam. LAYA-INECC partners and members from across 9 states participated in the meeting. On Day 1, Project Partners shared insights on their specific projects on resilience building, youth and media engagement on climate change and climate education. On the



following days there were specific inputs and reflections from the 6 working groups related to Adaptation, Livelihoods, Climate Education, Ethics, Sustainable India and Climate Neutral villages as well as on national and international processes. Issues of common interest and

strategic engagement of the network related to climate education, corporate accountability and community based adaptation were deliberated. On the final day, a stock taking process was initiated and priorities for follow up initiatives by INECC were planned.

A special panel session on “Disasters Risk Management- Concerns and Initiatives” was also organized against the backdrop of Visakhapatnam experiencing the worst cyclone Hudhud in October 2014. The purpose of this session was to understand Disaster Risk preparedness and initiatives undertaken by the district administration and lessons learnt on resilience building. Approximately 50 participants from the government, civil society and academia were present during this session.

Field visit by the Bread for the World (BfW) German Delegation

A German delegation from BfW visited Laya on 31st March to 2nd April 2015. The participants comprised of twelve members: five from BfW including the President, representative from the Climate Desk, the Press officer and Public Relations Officer, two German parliamentarians belonging to the Green Party (Leader of the Environment Committee in the German Parliament) and Christian Democratic Union, Head of the Climate Desk at the Ministry for Dev. Cooperation (BMZ), three journalists and one photographer.

The first day comprised of an orientation on the perspective of LAYA’s work particularly related to LAYA’s response to the climate crisis at the grassroots level. This was followed by a field visit on 1st April to an adivasi area where Laya has been involved. They interacted with some household beneficiaries of an



efficient woodstoves project outreaching 4000 families which is registered with the Gold Standard as well as witnessed some initiatives of LAYA on community resilience. The Germans had an opportunity to interact with representatives of the local community and experience the cultural wealth of adivasi communities in this region. Subsequently, on the final day reflections on the visit and LAYA’s collaboration as the secretariat of the Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change were deliberated. In this context policy aspects related to Government of India’s position on Climate Change was also shared.

LAYA Paderu Energy Efficient Woodstove Project Micro Scale Voluntary Emission Reduction (VER)

"In 2012 August, LAYA Paderu Energy Efficient Woodstove Project Micro Scale Voluntary Emission Reduction (VER) project was initiated to enable 4000 families in the Paderu region, Visakhapatnam district to avail as many energy efficient woodstoves for relatively smoke free kitchens in replacement of their traditional woodstove. This would also help create carbon savings of 1.3 tCO₂e every year for each stove. We are happy to announce that as on July 31 2014, 5,765 tCO₂e has been issued as Gold Standard VERs for "GS997 - Laya Paderu Energy Efficient Woodstove Project". These credits will be transferred as the first repayment installment to Bread for the World, Germany. This is the first project of its kind globally specifically designed for communities."



ASIA SOUTH PACIFIC ASSOCIATION FOR BASIC AND ADULT EDUCATION (ASPBAE)

Laya is a member organisation of ASPBAE. The Associate Director of Laya has been re-elected as a member of the Executive Council for another term: 2013-2016. He has been involved with ASPBAE and related organisations in the following events in 2014-2015:

- ASPBAE's 'Festival of Learning' as part of its 50th Anniversary Celebration from November 18 – 22, 2014 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- Kominkan – CLC International Conference on Education for Sustainable Development – Community Based Human Development for Sustainable Society from October 9 – 12, 2014, Okayama city, Japan.
- 'National Consultation on Post 2015 Education Agenda and Process, jointly with the Literacy & Non-Formal Education Department', Government of Punjab' organized by Bunyad Foundation as part of ASPBAE's 50th Anniversary Celebration on May 22, 2014 at Lahore, Pakistan
- Participated in the ASPBAE Executive Council Meeting, February 9-11, 2015; and thereafter made a presentation on 'Community Learning and Action on Climate Change' in a session on Education for Sustainable Development in Policy and Practice: Examples from the Field as part of a Regional Consultation Workshop on 'Education and Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Development', February 12-13, 2015, Non-Formal Education Development Center, Vientiane Capital, Laos People's Democratic Republic.

Laya is kept informed on the latest developments, especially advocacy issues on education through the regular publications of ASPBAE: 'The APSBAE Bulletin – Learning Beyond Boundaries' and 'ASPBAE Ed-lines – Quality Education for All'. (www.aspbae.org)

National Consultation on Defining the Education Agenda Beyond 2015

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of ASPBAE, Laya in collaboration with ASPBAE has organizing a workshop on 'Understanding Education for Sustainable Development in a Climate Changing World' as part of the 'National Consultation on Defining the Education Agenda Beyond 2015' at 'Vantharam', Addateegala, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh on June 19 - 20, 2014.

FAIR CLIMATE NETWORK- LOW CARBON FARMING COALITION

The Executive Director of Laya, who is one of the core group members of the Fair Climate Network (FCN) promoted the involvement of NGOs working with adivasis on Sustainable Agriculture in the Scheduled Areas to join in the coalition of FCN and Low Carbon Farming (LCF). Low Carbon Farming leads to reduced emissions from agriculture practice as a new concept in the discourse of climate change carbon trading mechanisms. (www.fairclimate.com)

6 GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Laya is legally registered under the Societies' Registration Act of 1860, now amended as the Andhra Pradesh Societies Registration Act, 2001, and under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) of 1976, now amended in 2010 and governed by the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 2011. The Society has a General Body of 13 members, governed by a Board of Management with 7 members, which advises the Secretariat through the Executive Director. A team of unit facilitators, constituting the Project Policy Team, assists the Executive Director.

As a strategy a unit approach has been adopted to facilitate quality and focused intervention in the programme promotion and implementation. These are based on the specific dimensions of the issues or problems addressed. The unit approach has helped to decentralize decision making for more effective functioning. Each unit has been encouraged to function autonomously with responsibility and collaborate through organic linkages with other units on the programme front.

In the last several years there has been a concerted focus on governance, particularly by strengthening the accountability systems within the organization. As a general management strategy of the organization, a relatively small core of personnel manages a wide outreach through a network with CBOs and collaborative relationships with other NGOs. There have been several discussions within the Board of Management on the roles of the Board and the

Executive within the organisational context. All the Board members are professionally qualified and have wide experience in the field of development.

MANAGEMENT – GOVERNANCE INTERFACE

STRATEGIC MEETINGS

The strategic meetings of Laya:

- ☞ The first one was held on January 19, 2015 focused on ‘Governance and Second Line Leadership’
 - Rationale for setting up the entity;
 - Current status of the entity in terms of its nature of functioning including its legal status and governance structure
 - Vision and plans for the future

BOARD MEETINGS

THREE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT WERE HELD LAST YEAR:

- June 6 – 7, 2014: Workshop on Project Monitoring and Evaluation (June 6) and Board of Management Meeting (June 7);
- September 19 – 20, 2014: Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Laya (September 19) and General Body and Board of Management Meetings (September 20);
- January 19 & 20, 2015: Governance and Second Line Leadership (January 19) and Board of Management Meeting (January 20).

SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF LAYA

The Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Laya was held on September 19, 2014. The first session, facilitated by Ms. Lata Narayan, Governing Board member, involved sharing of experiences, thoughts of the Laya personnel in their journey in Laya and was presented it in a pictorial form.

Post lunch, there were 3 Panel Presentations followed by discussion on the following:

1. ‘Role of Civil Society in People Focused Development’: speaker was Mr. Minar Pimple, Senior Director of Global Operations, Amnesty International, United Kingdom.

2. 'Combating Human Rights Violations': Challenges for Civil Society: Speaker - Dr. E.A.S. Sarma, Former Power Secretary, Government of India and Convener, Forum for Better Visakha.
3. 'Adivasi Focused Development and the NGO Sector': Prof. B. Devi Prasad, President, Laya, who also moderated the panel presentations.

STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING

Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop, Addateegala, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh: November 10 – 15, 2014

Association for Stimulating Know How (ASK), Delhi facilitated a one week (November 10-15) intensive training to develop a result based monitoring system for Laya's work with Adivasi communities in the region. The facilitators from ASK, Prakash Kumar Layak and Neha Dobhal worked with the entire staff. Each unit of Laya was encouraged to formulate their result and outcome indicators, based on which a monitoring system was developed. Subsequently a consolidated framework for monitoring results of the organization was sketched by which an overall organization system would be developed to monitor Laya's work.

A Workshop on the 'Use of Photography for Effective Communication in Community Development' January 21-23, 2015

A workshop on the 'Use of Photography for Effective Communication in Community Development' was organized for 26 Laya staff and adivasi volunteers at Vanantharam, Addateegala, in January 21-23, 2015. The main objective was to sensitize the participants to the effective use of digital compact camera and the use of photographs to improve communication on aspects of community development. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Sanjay Khatua, Governing Board member of Laya, who using practical examples engaged the participants in critical appreciation of the present 'taking and use of photographs' and the key elements in photography: composition, lighting, etc. The outcome was to realize the experience of what makes a good, effective photograph for varying needs.

SUMMARY OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CONCISE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 01.04.2014 TO 31.03.2015

RECEIPTS	Amount (Rs. Rounded in Lakhs)		PAYMENTS	Amount (Rs. Rounded in Lakhs)	
Opening Balances:		159.69	Payments:		
TDS Receivable		0.30	Foreign Contributions	283.08	
			Indian Contributions	13.12	296.20
Receipts:			Maintenance, Upgradation & Development Fund		45.17
Foreign Contributions	311.96				
Indian Contributions	9.77	321.73	Closing Balances:		181.33
Maintenance, Upgradation & Development Fund			TDS Receivable		0.30
Bank Interest Received		1.84			
Advances to Projects		4.26			
Total Receipts		523.00	Total Payments		523.00

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31-03-2015

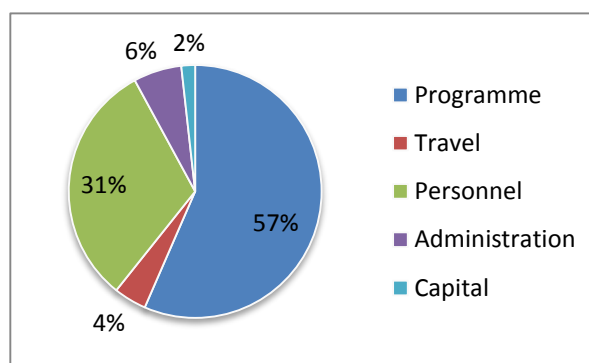
LIABILITIES	Amount (Rs. Rounded in Lakhs)		ASSETS	Amount (Rs. Rounded in Lakhs)	
<u>Excess of Income over Expenditure:</u>			<u>Fixed Assets</u>		219.85
Opening Balance	375.85				
Add: Excess of the Income over Expenditure for the year	18.43	394.28	<u>Current Assets</u>		
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			Cash-in-hand	0.64	
Project Advances	4.26		Cash-at-Bank	166.34	
Audit Fee Payable	0.33		Programme Advances	10.09	177.07
Provision for Medical Reimbursement	2.61	7.20	Project Advances		4.26
			TDS Receivable		0.30
Total		401.48	Total		401.18

RECEIPTS FOR 2014 – 2015

Funding Agencies	Total (in Rs.)	%
Centre for World Solidarity, India	385725	1.20
EED, Germany	7157950	22.25
Katholische Zentralstelle fur Entwicklungshilfe e.V, Germany	22673852	70.47
Environmental Defence Fund (EDF),	809091	2.51
North Eastern Social Research Centre, Guwahati	170000	0.53
Department of Science & Technology, India	976750	3.04
Total	32173368	100

EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2014 – 2015

Expenditure	Rs.	%
Programme	16744868	57
Travel	1240317	4
Personnel	9289244	31
Administration	1824620	6
Capital	521309	2
Total	29620358	100



UNIT/PROGRAMME-WISE EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2014-15

INTERVENTIONS	Total Expenditure	%
Natural Resource Management	1675901	6
Alternative Health Care	1163402	4
Micro Credit & Micro Enterprise	715774	3
Empowerment of Youth & Women	4229988	16
Resource for Legal Action	2582372	10
Alternative Data Base, Networking & Advocacy	849876	3
Science & Technology	1754255	6
Alternative and Decentralised Energy Options	14302861	52
Total	27274429	100

ANNEXURES

GENERAL BODY

- 1 Dr. B. Devi Prasad, Professor, Centre for Equity for Women Children and Families, School of Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai;
- 2 Dr. Nafisa Goga D'Souza, Executive Director, Laya, Visakhapatnam;
- 3 Mr. Walter Mendoza, Director - Administration, Timbaktu Collective, Ananthapur;
- 4 Dr. Lata Narayan, Professor, Centre for Lifelong Learning, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai;
- 5 Ms. Nandini Narula, Development Consultant, New Delhi;
- 6 Retd Prof. T. Sudhakar Reddy, Department of Fine Arts, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam;
- 7 Mr. Sanjay Khatua, Director, DHARA, Bhubaneswar;
- 8 Mr. Dominic D'Souza, Associate Director, Laya, Visakhapatnam;
- 9 Dr. D.V.R. Murthy, Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam;
- 10 Ms. Mani Mistry, Executive Director, Bharbhaya Orphanage for Hindu Girls, Mumbai;
- 11 Mr. Minar Pimple, Senior Director of Global Operations, Amnest International, London;
- 12 Ms. Maveen Soares Pereira, Head of South Asia Programmes, Traidcraft, United Kingdom;
- 13 Ms. Rama Nandanavanam, Independent consultant in the HIV AIDS sector, with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

- 14 Prof. B. Devi Prasad, President;
- 15 Dr. Nafisa Goga D'Souza, Secretary;
- 16 Mr. Walter Mendoza, Treasurer;
- 17 Dr. Lata Narayan, Member;
- 18 Ms. Nandini Narula, Member;
- 19 Prof. T. Sudhakar Reddy, Member;
- 20 Mr. Sanjay Khatua, Member.

THE LAYA TEAM

S No	Names	Location	Designation
1	Dr. Nafisa Goga D'Souza	Visakhapatnam	Executive Director
2	Dominic D'Souza	Visakhapatnam	Associate Director
3	Dr.Venugopal Rayudu	Visakhapatnam	Specialist, Science and Technology
4	Ms Nagamani V.V.	Visakhapatnam	Coordinator, Finance
5	Mallikharjuna Rao. L.	Visakhapatnam	Coordinator, Documentation
6	Ms Manisha Banerjee	Visakhapatnam	Coordinator, Administration
7	Satyanarayana M.	Visakhapatnam	Coordinator, Information Technology
8	Kumar D.S.S.P.	Visakhapatnam	Office Assistant
9	Ms Bala Jyothi P.	Visakhapatnam	Accounts Assistant
10	Shankar Rao P.	Visakhapatnam	Driver
11	Ms Ramulamma. Ch.	Visakhapatnam	Office Assistant
12	Kantha Rao T.	Visakhapatnam	Field Coordinator, Empowerment of Youth
13	Madhava Rao R.	Visakhapatnam	Driver cum Office Assistant
14	Jagadeesh K.	Visakhapatnam	Hardware Technical Assistant
15	Ms Lavanya K.	Visakhapatnam	Assistant Accountant
16	Siddharth D'Souza	Visakhapatnam	Coordinator, Climate Change
17	Ms Ajita Tiwari Padhi	New Delhi	Facilitator, Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC)
18	Myron Mendes	Mumbai	Field Coordinator, CDM Project
19	G.V. Prasada Rao	Rampachodavaram	Field Coordinator, Science and Technology Unit
20	Bulliyya G.	Addateegala	Coordinator, Alternative Health Care
21	Koteswara Rao K.	Addateegala	Coordinator, Natural Resource Management
22	Satyanarayana G.V.V.	Addateegala	Accountant
23	Ms Padmavathi A.	Addateegala	Project Assistant, Empowerment of Women
24	Chakra Babu B.	Addateegala	Field Coordinator, Natural Resource Management
25	Ravi Raja J	Addateegala	Coordinator, Community Media Unit
26	Satyanarayana D.	Addateegala	Driver cum Office Assistant
27	Veeraraghava K.	Addateegala	Field Coordinator, Herbal Based Health Care
28	Gowri Shankar E.	Addateegala	Field Coordinator, Empowerment of Youth & Women
29	Prasad R.	Jalampalli	Care taker of Training Centre
30	Ravindra V.	Paderu	Area Coordinator
31	Srinivas Rao N.	Paderu	Field Coordinator, Empowerment of Youth
32	Ms Annapoorna S.	Paderu	Finance and Administrative Assistant
33	Lova Raju D	Paderu	Field Coordinator, Decentralised Energy Options
34	Ms Lakshmi Sunitha V.	Paderu	Data Entry Operator, LCF Project
35	Somesh Kumar R.	Paderu	Field Coordinator, Natural Resource Management
36	Satyanarayana B.	Paderu	Field Coordinator, VER Project
37	Trinadh P.	Rajahmundry	Advocate, Resource for Legal Action
38	Ms Annapurna M.	Rajahmundry	Advocate, Resource for Legal Action
39	Ram Babu P.	Rajahmundry	Field Coordinator, Resource for Legal Action
40	Ram Babu M.	Rajahmundry	Office Assistant, Resource for Legal Action
41	Murali Vasu P.	Rajahmundry	Finance and Administrative Assistant, Resource for Legal Action

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES:

NAFISA GOGA D'SOUZA:

- ☞ Conference of Parties (COP) - 20: December 1 – 12, 2014, Lima, Peru

DOMINIC D'SOUZA:

- ☞ ASPBAE's 'Festival of Learning' as part of its 50th Anniversary Celebration from November 18 – 22, 2014 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- ☞ Kominkan – CLC International Conference on Education for Sustainable Development – Community Based Human Development for Sustainable Society from October 9 – 12, 2014, Okayama city, Japan.
- ☞ 'National Consultation on Post 2015 Education Agenda and Process, jointly with the Literacy & Non-Formal Education Department', Government of Punjab' organized by Bunyad Foundation as part of ASPBAE's 50th Anniversary Celebration on May 22, 2014 at Lahore, Pakistan
- ☞ Participated in the ASPBAE Executive Council Meeting, February 9-11, 2015; and thereafter made a presentation on 'Community Learning and Action on Climate Change' in a session on Education for Sustainable Development in Policy and Practice: Examples from the Field as part of a Regional Consultation Workshop on 'Education and Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Development', February 12-13, 2015, Non-Formal Education Development Center, Vientiane Capital, Laos People's Democratic Republic.

AJITA TIWARI:

- ☞ Conference of Parties (COP) - 20: December 1 – 12, 2014, Lima, Peru

SIDDHARTH D'SOUZA:

- ☞ Conference of Parties (COP) - 20: December 1 – 12, 2014, Lima, Peru