

Assumption Province, Patna, India

Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Practices among Tribal Farmers of 15 villages of Munger District, Bihar, India.

Significant progress has been accomplished in uplifting and assisting the community through the "Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Practices among Tribal Farmers" project in 15 villages. 406 people (104 men and 302 women) participated in Awareness Creation Training on Natural Farming, and practical components of Organic Agriculture. Theories and practical demonstrations helped to acquire skills in making organic pesticides, leaf compost, and farmyard compost and custard apple seed insecticides, besides the value of mushroom cultivation and kitchen garden farming.

Part of our Thrust Areas from SDG includes SDG 2- End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition& promote sustainable agriculture, SDG 3- Good Health and Well Being, SDG 13, 15- Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of ecosystems. Participants learned about the fundamentals of natural farming, such as crop rotation, minimal soil disturbance, using organic inputs, and integrating livestock, through engaging workshops giving an impetus for long-term environmental and agricultural sustainability practices.



Demo Plots: Total 24 demonstration plots in the villages motivated farmers to increase productivity ensuring food security while conserving ecological balance and protecting the environment.

Change of Mindset

The program has slowly changed their mindset to utilise natural resources organically which sustains themselves and Mother Earth. They grow multi crop and diverse crops and are becoming self-sustaining than living off the forest produce causing deforestation. It has added nutritional content to their meals and increased soil fertility.

Installation of Bore well for Dry Farmlands:



Acres of land.

The installation of 13 bore wells has significantly transformed agricultural practices for 50 tribal farmers, enabling the irrigation of 62 acres of previously dry farmland. The bore wells strengthened farming households' resilience to climate risks by ensuring a reliable supply of water. Besides growing a variety of seasonal vegetables, it has benefitted the irrigation of horticulture plantations like Guava, Mango and Lemon assisted by NABARD for tribal families extending to 62

Leadership Training: 80 Leadership training programs were conducted in 15 villages for 1,230 persons (Male- 387 ,Female- 843) of Village Planning Committees, promoting awareness about social issues and nurturing latent leadership qualities. Members are now equipped with critical planning, decision-making, and conflict-resolution skills to recognize local problems and put effective solutions in place.



Health camps and Melas: The Project's intentional intervention on basic health promotion through organizing 18 Health Camps within the 15 targeted tribal villages has greatly created community access to basic health services. The project also



organized a large Health Mela (Fest) in collaboration with Notre Dame Health Center, treating 120 patients and addressing prevalent health issues like anemia, malnutrition, and infections, demonstrates a commitment to community well-being. Health Education is an integral component to broaden their understanding to eliminate taboos and superstitions. It aims to enlighten the tribals about hygiene and health, balanced diet, food values, and seasonal illnesses. The classes help

them to access affordable medical care, use traditional health care methods, and timely intervention.

The project's holistic approach positively impacts quality of life, societal challenges, and aligns with global goals for resilience and environmental consciousness.