



Source: ICSD-meeting with villagers in Nandurbar District

Evaluation of Community Based Natural Resource Management Project (CBNRM) along Watershed Lines for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods/EC, Maharashtra, India (CBNRM – EU) CEVA

The aim of the Community Based Natural Resource Management along Watershed Line for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods is to alleviate poverty through participatory natural resource management of watershed by building community based organisations on a sustainable basis. Contracted by Cyriac Elias Voluntary Association (CEVA) and supported by KARL KUBEL STIFTUNG FUR KIND UND FAMILIE, Germany, Intercooperation's evaluation tried basically to find out whether the activities implemented under the CBNRM project have contributed to raising the quality of life of the target group. The area of study was Nandurbar district in Maharashtra and its duration was from November 2006 to January 2007.

The major objectives of the assignment were:

The evaluation focussed on understanding on how the project and its activities had an influence on the lives of the communities in the project villages. It also tried:

- ❧ to find out to what extent the participatory approach in planning, execution, monitoring and evaluation are followed in the project for all the major activities;
- ❧ to suggest possible changes to be made to improve the standard of living;
- ❧ to bring out the comprehensive scientific qualitative and quantitative analysis with regard to efficiency, effectiveness/impact of the project and the sustainability in all aspects;
- ❧ to find out the impacts of various programmes on the beneficiaries and on the community;
- ❧ to bring out concrete steps for strengthening the established grass-root level groups in the project;



Interventions: The evaluation followed a mix of the qualitative and quantitative methodology and brought out many interesting facts about the project through primary and secondary data collection. Field exercises, orientation workshop with the community members etc., were taken up. There were interactions with different groups in village- women, men, farmers, SHG members, individual cases of livelihood beneficiaries, artisans, etc. Books on a sample basis were checked in a few villages. Watersheds transect covering forestland; private land and drainage line structures were conducted on a sample basis.

Outcomes: During the evaluation it was observed that project has established linkages with many institutions to support the communities. After the field exercises, a workshop was organized for the members of the VWCs, the SHGS and the PLS in the different villages and a pool of many local young male, females, farmers, SHG women, were trained on various aspects of watershed, community organization, VWC, SHG and SMS management, health & hygiene, agriculture, horticulture, kitchen garden, plantation techniques, composting and vermi-composting etc. These persons could provide linkages and would be able to provide future services to the village communities. A report with recommendations covering the objectives was submitted.

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