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Dear All,

IC Friends and Well Wishers,

With the beginning of the new financial year, a hectic but productive term has come to an end. We step into the new financial year with a sense of achievement and hope for a bright year ahead!

Projects have been moving on well and some of the assignments have been completed. We have been awarded new projects and assignments.

A lot of activities during the quarter-National Consultation on small ruminants, launch of the Organic Cashew Value Chain project in Odisha and the workshops on marketing and capacity building modules for the small ruminant sector are a few of them.

Every programme staff of ICSD has participated in at least one event, whether it is training, workshop or conferences. There were visitors too, like Dr. Gian L. Nicolay of FiBL to the Organic and Fair-trade Cashew Value Chain project in Goa and Maharashtra.

CEO's visit to Switzerland to participate in the Share Week of Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation too has helped us to network with their various country offices, especially that of the South Asia region.

Your continued support, guidance and encouragement are our sources of strength.

With best regards

ICSD Team

National Consultation Workshop on Small Ruminants



Intercooperation organized a National Consultation workshop on '*Preventing production losses in small ruminant sector by improving health and hygiene through service delivery mechanism as a principal tool*' on 22nd June 2012 in New Delhi. Participants included experienced professionals of the sector, including representatives from the government departments of a few states, technical institutes and organizations.



National Consultation on Small Ruminant in Session

Intercooperation has been working on various Small Ruminants (SR) interventions and intends to add value to improve SR health service delivery mechanisms. Many other organizations too have been working on the same in different ways. These experiences have given us many learnings too. It is in this context that the consultation was organized which is the first of a series of workshops and discussions we plan to organise to share experiences and develop a basket of options to improve SR health services delivery mechanisms.

Updates from the Field

Developing Strategies and Action Plans for Climate Change, CDM and Carbon Trading, Rajasthan

Discussions with the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB) have resulted in developing a better understanding of the Rajasthan State Action Plan on Climate Change (RSAPCC). ICSD is in the process of preparing a draft strategic communication and knowledge management/sharing plan for the Climate Change, CDM and Carbon Trading Cell of the RSPCB which will be based on the RSAPCC. This will include key knowledge management and dissemination strategies along with capacity building requirements for the same.

State Action Plan on Climate Change, Tamil Nadu

We were awarded the contract for consulting services to support the preparation of the State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) for the state of Tamil Nadu by GIZ. The team consists of Dr. Indrani Phukan, Dr. Sumana Bhattacharya, Prof. Balasubramanian, Mr. Srinivas, Dr. Raja Rathinam, Dr. C.K. Rao, Dr. Joy Elamon and Ms. Shazneen.) The initiation meeting with various departments in the Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) will be held mid July in Chennai. Following this joint consultative meeting, individual thematic working groups will meet to discuss the current status, the impacts of climate change on their specific themes, the current policies/schemes put in place by the state, the strategies to mitigate climate change impacts and discuss the way forward that the specific government department recommends. These recommendations will feed into the sectoral papers which will become the thematic chapters of the SAPCC.

Sustainable Production of Organic and Fair Trade Basmati Rice in India

The quarter April-June was seen as preparatory session for the annual work plan. Another development in the project was the decision taken for developing Farmers Organization. In order to facilitate this, two field staff Mr. Surendra Singh Bhakuni and Mr Jagdeesh Pant have joined the team in Ramnagar and Betalghat of Uttarakhand.

Organic Value Chain Cashew (Goa & Maharashtra)

Mr. Gian L. Nicolay from FiBL visited the project area of Goa and Maharashtra. During his mission from 8th of May 2012 to 12th of May 2012 he also visited Goa, interacted with cashew growers in field and also met the promoters of the proposed Producers Organisation in Maharashtra.



Mr. Gian L. Nicolay (FiBL) interacting with farmers

Updates from the Field

Small Ruminant Value Chain

During this quarter we had three Review and Advisory Committee meetings on 12th April, 11th May and 14th June, 2012. The main points discussed during the RAC were on ramlamb rearing (feed trial and facilities available to rearer for rearing), repayment of loan by rearers and marketing. There were also specific workshops to discuss these.



Review and Advisory Committee meeting in session

Mid Term Evaluation of GoI-UN Joint Programme on Convergence

Final report of the Mid Term Evaluation of the Government of India-United Nations Joint Programme on Convergence was submitted to Mr. Patrice Coeur-Bizot (Resident Coordinator, United Nations in India). Dr. Meenakshisundaram, Dr. Joy Elamon and Ms. Priti Sharma were the members of the evaluation team.

Guiding Document on Training Needs Assessment for Panchayati Raj

The draft of the Guiding document has been submitted to Ministry of Panchayati Raj. This will be followed by formal presentation, pilot testing, preparation of the model TNA report, modules preparation for the TNA methodology training and pilot training in the next quarter.

Assessment and Analysis of Non Governmental Support System for Local Governments

This is an assignment awarded to Intercooperation by SDC-LoGIn South Asia. The draft concept note and case studies have been completed and the preparation of a guide book is on.

Training Modules and materials for LBSNAA

UNICEF India has assigned ICSD the task of supporting them in developing training modules, training materials on identified topics on decentralization and decentralised planning for various courses in the Lal Bahadur Shastri Academy of Administration. The chapter design and draft chapters have been completed by various experts.

What is New in Intercooperation

Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in South Asia

We were awarded the grant for a project on Getting Climate Smart for Disasters as part of the Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate Change Adaptation in South Asia organized by Climate Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) and funded by START. The main objective of Getting Climate Smart for Disasters is to research the institutional barriers and opportunities for enabling action towards achieving convergence of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) across varying scales - in the context of development, poverty and vulnerability reduction. The research process will apply and thereby test the effectiveness of the Climate Smart Disaster Risk Management (CSDRM) approach as a method for identifying barriers and opportunities for integrating the challenges of climate change with disaster risk reduction and development; for identifying policy innovation, action; and for monitoring and learning from progress towards integration. This will be done in partnership with selected Indian institutions at different scales. We have Institute for Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex and All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI), Gujarat, as partners.

Organic Value Chain - Cashew project (Odisha)

On 1st May 2012, the farmers of Angargaon, Odisha witnessed the launch of the project "Organic Cashew Value Chain in Odisha" supported by SECO. Here ICSD will be connected with 1000 cashew growers. This project also will try to address the issue of child labour in cashew industry.



Launching of Organic Cashew Value Chain - Odisha

National Consultation on Decentralization and Equity for Children

ICSD facilitated the documentation and collated the recommendations of this consultation organised by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj Government of India and UNICEF In association with Department of Local Governments Government of Kerala with Kerala Institute of Local Administration as convener, which was held on 16-18 April 2012 at Cochin, Kerala.

Workshops

Small Ruminant Marketing Workshop

As part of the project on Small Ruminant Value Chain development, we organized a half day workshop on marketing potentials and options in the ICSD office in Secunderabad on 17 May 2012.



Small Ruminant Marketing workshop in session

Workshop on Capacity Development modules

One day module development workshop as part of the project on Small Ruminant Value Chain development was conducted in IC office on 7th June for which officers from the Department of Animal Husbandry, Andhra Pradesh Sheep and Goat Development Federation, National Research Centre for Meat (NRCM), WASSAN and commercial goat farm owners from Mahabubnagar attended.



Capacity Development Training Modules workshop

We were there too!

National Colloquium-'Connecting the Dots: Evolving Practical Strategies for Climate Resilient Development'

Dr. Indrani Phukan was a panelist in the session 'Local Economy and Livelihoods' at the Colloquium organized by the Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR). The workshop was based on WOTR's implementation work of a large scale integrated project on climate change adaptation in rural Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Dr. Indrani's insights will contribute towards a Position Paper across 12 thematic areas.

Training of Trainers on Entrepreneurship Development

Mr. Abhijeet Dabhole participated in the training on "Training of Trainers on Entrepreneurship Development" from 29th of May 2012 to 2nd June 2012 at Panjim, Goa. He will be a trainer in our various projects for the entrepreneurship development. This training was conducted by "I Create India" from Bangalore.



Training of Trainers in Session

Value Chain in HEK's workshop

A three day workshop at Chennai was organized (19th to 21st of June 2012) by HEK and invited ICSD as a resource organisation to present our experience on Value Chain development. Mr. Mustak Khan represented and shared the organisation's experience.

Visit to Bhutan

Dr. Joy had been to Bhutan from 6th to 20th of June 2012 for supporting the Department of Local Governance, Royal Government of Bhutan in developing their strategic framework. This was part of an assignment by HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation project on Local governments in Bhutan.

Training on Social Impact Assessment at CEE

Ms. Shazneen Cyrus Gazdar attended a short term 3 day training program aimed at giving practical exposure to participants on Social Impact Assessment (SIA) with specific reference to development projects, such as infrastructure, mining and other industrial projects. The programme objective is to build capacity and create awareness in understanding the SIA process, Reconnaissance and Baseline Survey, Land Acquisition Survey and Plan (LAP) and Preparation of the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP). The programme also aims at evaluating the SIA report along with the applicable legislations in India.

Organic Food Festival, Shimla

Mr. Mustak Khan and Ashish Srivastava visited Organic Food Festival in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh and presented the case study on Organic Value Chain Development. This event was jointly organized by ICCOA and Department of Agriculture, Himachal Pradesh.



Mr. Mustak Khan presenting our experiences

Share Week

Dr. Joy visited Switzerland to attend the Share week of HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, from 24th June to 7th July 2012. This is an annual review and planning event where all the HELVETAS country directors and all from Zurich and Bern offices had participated. For ICSD this was an opportunity to probe the possibilities of joint activities and also to inform them about ICSD competencies and capacities.

Young Achievers

Intercooperation has instituted awards to children of our staff members for outstanding achievements.

Ms. Lalitha (daughter of Ms. Venkatamma), a B.Tech (EEE) student was presented a cash award of Rs. 4,500 for the year 2011-12. for her achievements in studies.



Ms. Lalitha receiving cash award from the Directors

Memento as token of appreciation to Baby Paridhi (daughter of Mr. Ashish Srivastava) for her achievements in studies and extracurricular activities.



Baby Paridhi

Memento as token of appreciation to Mr. Monish Khan (son of Mr. Mustak Khan), for his achievements in studies and for getting selected to the School and DLF Sub Junior Football teams.



Monish Khan

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ICSD Team

Joy Elamon, Raja Rathinam, Indrani Phukan, Mustak Khan, Nirmala Sanu George, Ashish Srivastava, Shazneen Cyrus Gazdar, Sreelatha, Abhijeet Dabhole, Madhuri, Shobha, Janardhan, Venkatamma