

ANNUAL REPORT

2009-10



SHRISTI

Plot no-63, unit-VIII, Baramunda, Bhubaneswar-751003

EMAIL: SHRISTI4@REDIFFMAIL.COM

Column of executive Director....

My dear friends and well wishers,

The year came to an end giving a clear signal that most of the educated young and mid-career development professionals look for short to medium term (1-3 years) engagement without any long term commitment to the organization. The donors with priorities in Odisha created this situation due to short period/pattern of funding (6-12 months or maximum 2 years with 3-6 months proposal processing either before & after or in between gestation) and also due to mega development projects of the state recruiting the staff members with good compensation. Some donors faced acute shortage of fund flow and changed their priorities to Advocacy and computer based networks, rather than interactive partnership mode, making it more difficult for the organization to fulfill its demand for various field based programmes. The studies, research and consulting assignments also never became helpful to retain quality or experienced man power in the organization.

Realising this, the trustee members advised me to only build relationship with donors or with knowledge partners with long term commitment in the state. In the process, some of our earlier donors could not continue with us but this helped us in attracting some donors and knowledge partners with long term commitment.

The organization is poised for bagging good development funding from the government and donors due to its commitment to field implementation, building community organization, combination of simple technology and common sense in its day to day work besides being focused on the poverty pockets of the state.

The organization shall actively look for long term programme support from various government agencies, departments, nationalized banks and funding agencies besides a stable funding for maintaining and improving its staff member's strength and abilities.

I take this opportunity to congratulate all our advisors, trustee members, friends, well wishers, colleagues and people in our operational area/project villages for their valuable contribution in shaping the organization to a state level reputed institution.

There is now more and more demand and pressure on us from people and confidence by donors or knowledge partners to work more efficiently.

This is a challenge to all of us

May I take this occasion to seek your guidance and support for meeting expectation?

Ranjan Mahapatra

Introduction

SHRISTI stands for society for harmonious renaissance of Ideas through Simple Technological initiatives. According to Sanskrit it means creation or in other words it is innovation. It is a trust having multidisciplinary expertise team to support the backward community for their rights and livelihoods in the field of agriculture, Integrated Watershed Development, Integrated Natural Resource Management, Water and Sanitation and Rural Finance. Apart from that it has a team for study and research in the above field. The focus of this organization is to form sustainable and self reliant community institutions.

Vision

Aspiring for a society free from hunger and domination by improving life and livelihood of the poor and disadvantaged communities.

MISSION

To provide handholding support towards establishment of community organizations by enhancing their capabilities for resolving their problems collectively, through awareness and training in the field of agriculture, natural resource management, and liaison to make them economically stable encouraging thrift, credit and income generation activities/programmes, so that they develop approaches for improving their life and livelihood.

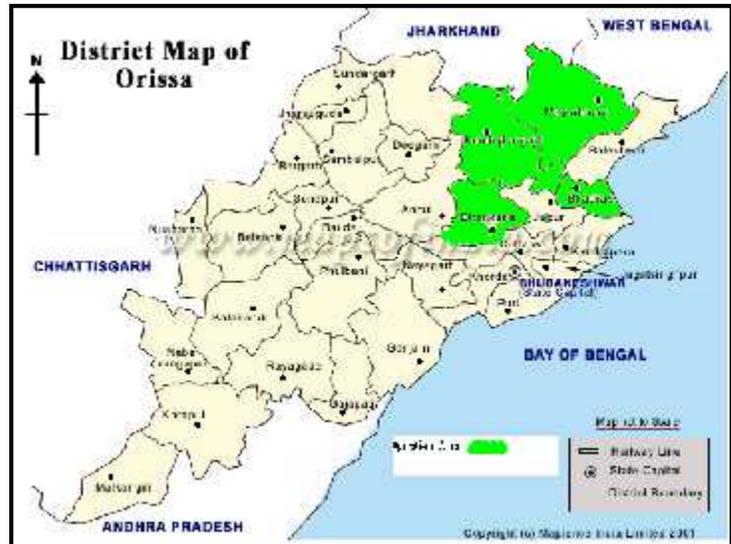
A method of recognition, encouragement and support to their innate talents and capabilities followed for actualizing the above mission.

Operational Area

Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak Dhenkanal and Khurda districts covering more than 60,000 population in 6 community development blocks in Odisha.

Key activities

Agriculture based livelihood promotion through Natural Resource Management and Horticulture Development, microfinance, water and sanitation, Action Research and Capacity building.



Demand Driven Credit through Micro Finance

To establish a favorable environment in which rural women can avail credit according to their need at their door step in a simplified as well as dignified manner to sustain their life and livelihood. Shristi started Women Self Help group and women cooperatives in the year 2003 in the Sadar block of Dhenkanal and Keonjhar district. At that time it was against the stream, because everybody prompted formation of women self help group to receive government subsidies but Shristi promoted women self help groups and cooperative through the real underlying principles which lead to robust women organizations. **Orissa Self Help cooperatives Act_2002 is followed** in 10 WSHC (Women Self Help Cooperative) at Keonjhar and 15 WSHC in Dhenkanal.



Status of WSHC promoted by Shristi(as on march 2010)		
SL	Parameter	Number

NO		Keonjhar	Dhenkanal
1	Village covered	102	15
2	Total Member	4099	1891
3	Total Savings(member own fund)	71,45,439	
4	Loan outstanding	88,62,184	
5	Product	Savings,credit,Share	Savings,credit
6	Operational area	Grampanchayat	Revenue village
7	Current year highest loan amount	50,000/-	15,000/-
8	Current year visitor	RBI,NABARD	RBI,NABARD
9	Event managed, current year	Biodiversity, AGBM	-
10	Current year profits		

A joint venture started to develop micro enterprise through demand driven micro finance with the support of Hivos. A pilot initiative was started to prepare a joint livelihood planning in the sadar block of keonjhar district by involving 2000 individuals both male and female from 40 Village. Improving the sustainability of credit to livelihood development by creating enabling environment is accorded priority. Credit is indeed to lubricate the process of livelihood development. However the micro enterprise development activities involve not only credit but also simple technological training for skill development and management. Keeping this in view Shristi has imparted various capacities building trainings by involving 961 women cooperative members.

Broader Objective:

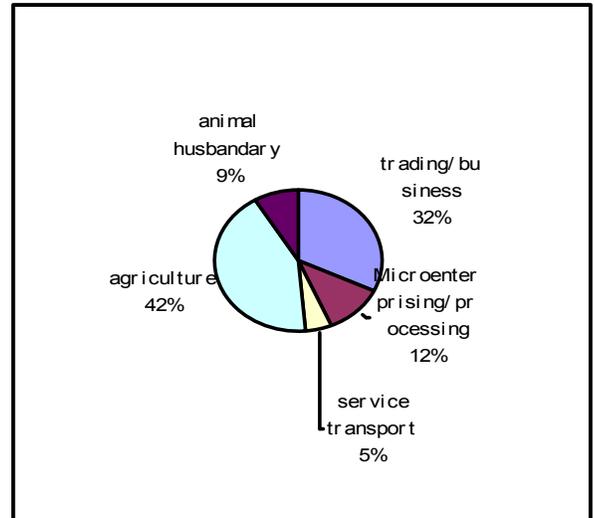
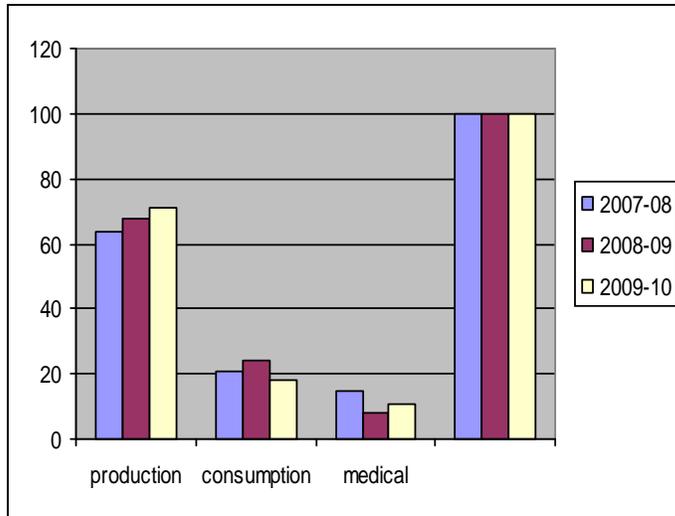
To provide social, cultural and economical security through strengthen the women's micro-finance organization at the grassroots level so as to lead them to maintain an improved quality of life across Orissa.

Impact of the activity

- Around 50 Board directors/leaders are now confident for conducting training programme like MEP(Member education Programme)/DTP(Director Training Programme) as a resource person and they charge Rs. 100/- per 4 hours
- 20 leaders are now capable to act as resource person on cooperative governance
- 10 leaders have confidence on preparing the training module on cooperative strengthening.
- Out of 10, Six cooperative managers have confidence to complete the internal audit

- 10 leaders are confident on facilitating the exposure team, for that they charge Rs200/- per exposure group.
- Few are dependent on rural sahukar for immediate emergency loan
- 100 women rural illiterate members are now became an entrepreneur.
-

Following graph shows the loan type for last three year and sector wise loan for current year



Case story

Member's Awareness throttle the corrupt practices in Cooperative

With the active support of all members of Gobardhan Cooperative, the cooperative was rated as "A" grade. All the members of the cooperative have established good intra-personal relationship among themselves and taking joint decisions for the overall growth of the cooperative. In the process of managing the day-to-day affairs of the cooperative, the members have put a lot of faith upon President in taking important decisions for the cooperative.

Taking the advantage of member's trustworthiness upon her, the President started the monopoly activities in the cooperative. Even she was involved in corrupt practices and favoritism in the cooperative. Though she was giving time for the cooperative, but the time spent for the cooperative was used for the destructive purposes rather than the constructive purposes. The president was involved in preparing forge documents and embezzled the money of the cooperative. However, when it was decided to do the internal audit of the cooperative, many corrupt practices came into the limelight. It was discovered that the president

prepared the forged document and took away one member's saving contribution and loan repayment money. While investigating the cases deeply and putting the incident before the Board of Directors of the cooperative, she could give a satisfactory answer for it. Moreover, she was impeaching the Society Manager's involvement in the case and tried to wash off her hand from the case. As the Society Manager denied vehemently about her involvement in the case and stalled the activities of the cooperative for a couple of months.

Taking into consideration of the gravity of the situation, the Board of Directors decided both of them are equally responsible for the incident and loss made to the cooperative in its function and financially. Hence, both of them must be penalized for the above cause and give an equal amount of money to fill the loss of the cooperative. Further, they decided to sack both the president and society manager from the cooperative. It was also unanimously decided that the Vice-President should function as their President for the cooperative till the next annual general meeting of the cooperative. In addition to that they chose one educated member to function as the society manager.

Enriching livelihood through Integrated Natural Resource Management

In a tribal community, livelihood depends upon mainly land, water, forest and capital. By taking into account all these, Shristi initiated a livelihood project through INRM in Harichandanpur Block of Keonjhar with support of NRTT, Mumbai. This project covers 15 revenue villages which mainly emphasize on IGA promotion, productivity enhancement, WSHG strengthening, soil water conservation and convergence.

Key achievements of this project:

1. **SGSY** linkage to 10 groups which cost around Rs 15 lakh
2. Formation of **SALASREE** federation by taking the sal leaf collecting women in collaboration with DRDA, NABARD and ORMAS. The **District collector Mrs. Debjani Chokrabarty** inaugurated the training programme of Salasree and sanctioned Rs 1 lakh for godown.
3. Successfully organized a block level **KRUSHAK SAMPARK MELA** in collaboration with Agril. Deptt.
4. **Maize** cultivation in 30 acres of land in rainy seasons and **SRI** in 50 acres of land



5. For retaining soil and water 30*40, 5% are dug out in a contribution mode in 50 ha of land
6. Agriculture implements are provided for productivity enhancement
7. A **unique model** is set up in Juanga Community by taking lease of a water harvesting structure which includes duckery, fishery and Vegetables
8. Capacity building on agricultural productivity, WSHG, cropping

Social audit

Shristi is selected by the DRDA, Keonjhar for social audit for MGNREGA in harichandanpur block and Sadar block of Keonjhar. Shristi successfully completed the audit work by taking villagers and govt. officials in all the GP which are covered by the above two blocks.

Livelihood promotion in Flood prone areas of lower deltaic region of Baitarani River Basin

Gathering information from Baitarani River Basin initiatives, an action research project started working on livelihood promotion as a pilot project in severely degraded, flood affected farm lands in a banner of **live with flood**. The goal of the project is improving the productivity of regularly flood affected and eroded lands in the Baitarani River lower basin villages through adaptive soil conservation techniques and active involvement of community. Two villages in this project are taken and started work on soil conservation, crop diversification as per suitability of land, selection of flood resistant crop, training on skill development on nonfarm based enterprises for sustainable livelihood.

Key achievements of this project:

1. Construction of Vermin pit by using local material (bamboo)
2. Introduction of New flood Resistance Variety named Swarn sagan from OUAT
3. Massive plantation in stream bank to prevent flood (Flood resistance species) In collaboration with forest deptt.
4. Hay and silage preparation for storing feeds for cattle and use the waste material



5. Ground nut cultivation in around 500 acres with recommended practices
6. Promotion of backyard garden in 100 households
7. Sharing and planning workshop by taking all the stakeholder of Bhadrak district

Model watershed Development

Shristi is implementing model watershed in collaboration with ICRISAT (International Crop Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics), Hyderabad. It is an action research project on watershed development. It is implemented in eight villages of Khunta block, Mayurbhanj district covering 1600 hectares of geographical area. The area falls under the foot hill of Similipal Biosphere. The selected villages are tribal dominated. As per the watershed Development Guideline 2001 the Committee is formed and in process of registration.

Key achievements of this project:

1. Cultivated around **50 acre of upland in kharif** which was generally barren in rainy seasons
2. Introduced rainy seasons groundnut in upland
3. Introduced new variety Paddy (Manaswani) in 30 acres of land
4. Introduces red gram in 10 acres of land by using residual moisture
5. Introduced line sowing in by developing a implements
6. Demonstration on agril.implements like Tropiculter, groundnut seed remover, MB plough, seed drill
7. Observed annual field day of watershed for sharing the knowledge



Farmers club

Shristi in collaboration with NABARD and KVK, Mayurbhanja formed 5 farmers club in model watershed area. All the clubs were inaugurated by Mr. Saral Das AGM, NABARD. All the clubs are getting Rs 5000/- from NABARD towards their activity.

Plantation programme

Shristi promoted 35 hectares cashew plantation programme in operational districts with the collaboration of Directorate of Cashew and cocoa development (DCCD), Kochi.



Plantation progress					
Sl	Districts	Area(Ha)	In collaboration	Survival	remarks
1	Mayurbhanja	7	DCCD, Kochi	92%	
2	Dhenkanal	11	DCCD, Kochi	78%	Late plantation
3	Keonjhar	17	DCCD, Kochi	71%	Late plantation
	Total	35			

Documentation and information dissemination

Shristi has set up a separate desk for this study, research and documentation. The team document different traditional practices of herbs by local healers, traditional variety of seeds available in rural areas and its traditional method of cultivation. To create awareness about bio diversity the team has organized various competitions among school children and distributed honey bee magazine to the villagers. The programme is supported by **National Innovation Foundation (NIF)**.



Water and Sanitation Programme

Shristi in collaboration with **Gram Vikash** promoted water sanitation programme in 6 villages in two districts.



Key achievements:

1. 100 percentage coverage at dimirimunda Village of Keonjhar
2. 100 percentage coverage at Alusingha village of Dhenkanal
3. Work progress in Kaliabeda, Haladharapur, Palsapokhori and khuntapada
4. 75 days continuous Masson training to 35 village youth

Engaging with water conflicts in Odisha

SHRISTI hosts the 'Odisha State Center' of the Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India (FPWCI). The State Center is implementing a 4 years project 'Engaging with water conflicts in Odisha' starting from January 2009. This action research initiative is aimed at documentation, resolution and prevention of water conflicts in the State of Odisha. This project is sponsored by Arghyam Trust and coordinated by Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management (SOPPECOM), Pune, the national secretariat of FPWCI. Odisha State Center implements this project in association with other Civil Society institutions of Odisha under the larger banner of Odisha Water Forum. Now SHRISTI is working towards the documentation of water conflict both in urban and rural Odisha, and also on different aspects. The step towards the resolution of conflict is another area of work for the Organisation. Right to water and right to livelihood is one of the important areas which required active involvement from the Civil Society Organisation and SHRISTI is working on those aspects.

Key Achievements:

1. Documentation of 31 case studies around water conflicts in Odisha.
2. Working towards the resolution of Industry vs. Agriculture conflict at Hirakud.
3. Stakeholder analysis in 12 villages in Sason Command area of Hirakud Reservoir
4. Bringing out monthly Water Feeder and Quarterly River Basin Transact (analytical documents on different water issues)



SHRISTI's Legal Status & Organization's Profile:

Trust Registration No: 1563 dated 27/07/2001

FCRA Registration No: 104830106 dated 23/08/2002 (Economic Social)

I.T. Registration 12AA 59/2001-2002 dated 6/1/2003

80G: (80G (5) (VI) No. ITO (Tech)/80G-126/05-06/2006-07/2417 9/8/2006

PAN NO: AACTS2023B dated 27/07/2001

TAN No: BBNS01489F dated 5/11/2004

Date of Establishment: 27/07/2001

Contact Address:

Head Office:

Shristi

Plot No. 63 (Ground Floor), Unit - 8 (In front of Unit 8 Boy's High School),
Bhubaneswar - 751 003.

Tel. No. 91-674-2560634 Orissa, India

E-mail id- shristi4@rediffmail.com

Website: www.shristiorissa.org Web: www.baitarani.org

Dhenkanal Field Office

Koilpangi Bhapur, Dhenkanal

Keonjhar Field Office

New Colony

Mining Road, Orissa, India

Tel: 00-91-6762-287359 Keonjhar. Tel. No. 91-9238707325

Harichandanpur Field Office

c/o- Nayan Sahu

Baraguda, Harichandanpur

Mayurbhanj Field Office

C/o- Rama Ch Prusty

Khunta, Mayurbhanja

Tel: 09437443512 and 09853369918