



2019-20 Annual Report



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**AME FOUNDATION
BELIEVES IN
"HELPING PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES"**

AMEF is a resource organization. It seeks to empower dry land farmers in degraded ecological situations on the Deccan Plateau, in improving their own livelihoods, along with sensitivity to gender and equity concerns. Pursuing this goal, it works with farming communities, like-minded NGOs and government agencies concerned in creating and testing technological options, for wider application. In the process, it strives to forge institutional synergy among the interacting bio mass actors, playing a catalytic and facilitative role.

AMEF is motivated by a deep-going concern. The initial transformation in Indian agriculture became possible through the Green Revolution technology, which benefited the better-endowed regions and resource-rich farmers, using expensive purchased farm inputs. But, it bypassed the vast dry farming tracts. Trapped in these areas are a large number of small and marginal farmers struggling to make a living, with their depleted environmental assets, eroded soils and rapidly sinking ground water resources. Therefore, a second transformation has become necessary. Working with these families, searching for alternative farming options is a matter of great socio-economic and strategic concern, today.

Does AMEF create something out of nothing? Hardly the case. Adopting the Participatory Technology Development (PTD) and Farmer Field Schools (FFS) approaches, AMEF teams up with responsive farmers groups, interested NGOs and development agencies to locally explore new ways of managing the available natural resources more efficiently. In the process, new perceptions are generated, new insights are gained and new approaches are devised, combining the traditional knowledge with scientific findings. Thus, farmers are enabled to progress one step beyond the present.

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AME Foundation – Genesis and Focus

Agriculture sector, the primary source of livelihoods for nearly 67% of the population in India is displaying a sluggish growth. Smallholders constitute the farming majority (around 70%). More than 60% of them are rain fed farmers. It is reckoned that in future, bulk of the food needs of the nation has to come from rainfed areas, as the irrigated areas have almost neared their peak, while the scope for further increase of irrigation is negligible. Today, we are left with depleted farmlands, degraded farm environment and demotivated farm population who have nowhere else to go.

Farmlands, under cultivation for generations, are getting depleted of their finer soil fractions, fertility and water holding capacity. Further, the degradation of the farm environment is aggravating the situation. Farming in regions like Deccan Plateau of Southern India with low and uncertain rainfall conditions is increasingly becoming unviable with inappropriate land-use practices and depleted vegetation. Challenges to feed and to fulfill the needs of a growing population in a sustainable way require a better and more comprehensive insight into ecologically sound crop production processes, especially in fragile environments of resource poor areas of the Deccan Plateau. While the development programmes focus on a small section of elite, frontline farmers who are able to cope with the changes around them, the majority of small holders who are risk shy have nowhere else to go. AMEF focuses on building capacities of these farming majority to deal with their own situations better.

AME Foundation (AMEF), over the years, with its deep-rooted interest in sustainable agriculture (SA), has been seeking ways to fulfil its mission of empowering the dry land farmers in degraded ecological situations on the Deccan Plateau, in improving their own livelihoods, along with gender and social equity concerns. Born as a training agency in 1982, in a temperate climate in The Netherlands, AME has moved into a tropical region in 1986. Going beyond the training of agricultural environmentalists, AMEF has entered into field situations to forge innovative farming practices combining the traditional and the

modern methods. Presently, AMEF is working as a development oriented, non-government organization, devoted to promoting ecological farming alternatives among small and marginal farmers engaged in dry land farming. The twin objectives of AMEF are: improving the livelihoods of the farm families in dry lands and addressing the environmental concerns. The focus, thus, includes improvement and promotion of alternative farming practices to bolster food security, strengthen livelihoods, address environment issues and promote more sustainable agricultural practices. It adopts participatory approaches that recognise local knowledge systems and involves local farmers' groups, community-based organizations (CBOs), non-government organizations (NGOs), government departments and other biomass actors in the development process.

The **focal activities** of the organization are given below:

1. **Generating alternative farming practices:**

Beginning with on-farm crop improvements by means of Farmer Field School (FFS) and Participatory Technology Development (PTD) processes, technologies related to natural resource conservation and utilisation (NRC and NRU) get generated leading to alternative land use practices. This, in turn, helps to conserve and develop the farm resources and rebuild the environmental support to farming. In the process, the farmers' innovating capacities get enhanced.

2. **Forging gender equity social processes:**

AMEF seeks to mitigate and ameliorate the inequality based on gender, caste and economic status. Thus, AMEF addresses these issues while planning and implementing its activities.

3. **Capacity building of farming groups through experiential learning methods:**

AMEF has a firm conviction and believes that farming is what a farmer does. Therefore, if durable changes in farming are intended, it is necessary that, the farmers' perception is widened, insights deepened, attitudes modified and managerial abilities are upgraded. Therefore **human resource development** is the key. AMEF specializes in participatory and empowering education processes like Farmer Field Schools to guide farming communities.

4. Focus on building capacities of RuralYouth as Sustainable Agriculture Promoters:

For the large and still growing rural population, agriculture still remains a major means of livelihood. For sustainable rural development, building the capacities of the rural youth to gainfully practice farming as well as guide their own farming communities is crucial. It enables **rural youth** to gain confidence in handling their resources better, get better returns as well as help them to get better social recognition which is so necessary for them to remain in villages.

5. Building NGO network: For scaling up of eco-friendly initiatives, AMEF interacts and strengthens the NGO networks involved in the land-based activities. By using training situations created in the cluster villages, capacity building of partner NGOs forms the major portion of AMEF's work.

6. Developing institutional linkages:

AMEF seeks to build linkages with state, national, international research and development organizations to harness the technologies and methodologies for accessing information and involve such agencies to move towards participatory research and development approaches.

7. Information sharing strategies:

Documentation and dissemination on technology and methodology of ecological agriculture form an important responsibility of AMEF. It brings out manuals, guidelines, workshop proceedings, working papers, case studies etc.

8. LEISA India publication: AMEF intends to develop LEISA as a preferred platform for promoting eco-farming alternatives and reach more persons and institutions interested in sustainable agriculture. AMEF also works on enhancing the capacities of NGOs and others in documenting and disseminating experiences on sustainable agriculture.

In attaining the twin objectives of improving livelihoods and addressing environmental concerns, AMEF builds its operational strategies based on the fact that the farmer is the primary user of the land resources. Therefore, AMEF begins working with the farm families, farm resources and farming systems. A start is made in village clusters with groups of farmers, using LEISA technologies. This is used as a springboard for scaling up LEISA practices and as a training base for development agencies and

practicing farmers. So far, AMEF had been using combination of methodologies in implementing the focal activities. Empowering learning processes like Farmer Field Schools and Participatory Technology Development are used. While the primary objective remains promoting SA in the dry lands of Deccan Plateau, AMEF is making earnest efforts to address the issue of natural resource management in some pockets of rainfed and irrigated rice areas through the "System of Crop Intensification" principles in paddy, ragi and red gram. On a modest scale, AMEF has been promoting revival of farmer preferred local varieties and promotion of home gardens with urban citizens.

AREAS OF OPERATION

AMEF Foundation continued its field operations with Area Units located in Dharwad and Dharmapuri and field programmes implemented in Chintamani of Kolar district, and in Telangana.

THE PROGRAMMES

The major projects implemented included:

Improving small farmer livelihoods in rain fed areas through climate resilient farming practices – *supported by Supraja Foundation*

LEISA India programme – *supported by MISEREOR.& SWEDBio*

Telangana Farm Initiative

Improving small farmer livelihoods in rainfed areas through climate resilient farming practices

A programme on climate resilient practices, supported by Supraja Foundation was initiated in three districts in South Indian States – Chintamani and Dharwad in Karnataka, and Dharmapuri in Tamil Nadu. The programme was initiated with an overall goal of improving dry farming livelihoods through better natural resource management, mixed cropping practices towards resilient sustainable farming systems.



The project aims at promoting resilient sustainable farming systems through better natural resources management and enhanced crop biodiversity. The focus is on improved farm incomes through diversity and reduced costs of cultivation; guiding farming communities through empowering educational processes like Farmers Field Schools; organizing farmer collectives for sharing resources, facilities as well as creation of new enterprises. The project is implementing climate resilient agricultural practices in 60 villages, (20 each from 3 regions of Dharwad, Kolar Districts in Karnataka State and Dharmapuri District in Tamil Nadu), since December 2017.

The focus of current year is on building capacities of 2700 farmers (900 farmers through season long FFS events and 1800 farmers through need based modular training events.) in climate resilient agriculture based on agroecological principles. Farmers are organised into Eco Farmer Groups (EFG). Each group is trained through FFS methods or through specific need based Modular trainings which are based on experiential methods. They learn and adopt eco-friendly practices (Low External Input Sustainable Practices) focusing on natural resource management, better and diverse crop and eco system management, take up farm supportive and livelihood supportive enterprises, are guided on business principles and collectivization – for handling inputs, manures and plant protection biodegradable alternatives, farm equipment and marketing.

1. Eco Farmer Groups

In each village, 100 farmers are organised into 5 Eco Farmer Groups (EFGs). Five villages are organized into a cluster. The EFG groups are trained through FFS and Modular training events and are guided in collectivization efforts towards cluster level institutions and level federations.

In the current year, EFGs were formed in 10 new villages in each area. The Sustainable Agriculture promoters (SAPs) belonging to these villages trained earlier through TOT, were involved in the group formation. SAPs also help in minuting the proceedings at the group level. Around 10 Group leaders in Dharwad and 5 in Chintamani area SAPs, and Field Coordinators were trained on book keeping. In each group, savings as a mandatory habit was initiated and bank accounts were opened.

Over the three years of project commencement, hundred EFGs each are formed in Dharwad and Dharmapuri area, and 79 EFGs are formed in Chintamani area. The list of villages and the groups formed so far is given in the Table 1.

2. Farmer Field School

Forty five FFS events were organised across three areas. In each area 15 FFS were organised which included 10 new groups in the 10 new villages and 5 new groups in 5 villages initiated in the previous year. Forty five FFS collaborators were identified across Dharwad, Dharmapuri and Chintamani areas, whose farms served as the learning area.

Dharwad

FFS was conducted in 15 villages. In 12 villages, FFS was organized on Soyabean based cropping system and in 3 villages on Maize based cropping system.

The FFS in Soyabean based cropping system included soyabean as the main crop with intercrop of Black gram, Navane, Green gram and Cowpea and border crop of Niger. The FFS in Soyabean based cropping system was organized in 12 villages namely, Channapur, Muktinagar, Chavaragudda, Devaragudihal, Thimmasagar, Amblikoppa, Kalasanakoppa, Kannenaykanakoppa, Anchatageri, Giriyal, Halligeri and Devarahubballi. FFS on Maize based cropping system included Maize as the main crop with intercrop of Redgram and border crop of Bajra. This was done in 3 villages namely Murakatti, Holtikote and Devagiri.

Initiated with Ballot box exercise to know the current knowledge level of the farmers, the sessions included activities like summer

Table 1: Number of EFGs formed in three areas

Dharwad			
Village Name	No. of EFGs	Village Name	No. of EFGs
G.Basavanakoppa	8	Anchatageri	7
Kannenayakanakoppa	4	Thimmasagar	5
Kalasanakoppa	4	Rayanal	5
Amblikoppa	4	Parasapur	6
Halligeri	5	D. Gudihal	3
Holtikote	5	Channapur	6
Murakatti	5	Muktinagar	5
D. Hubballi	7	Giriyal	4
Lalagatti	4	Ramapur	5
Devagiri	4	Chavaragudda	4
	50		50
Chintamani			
K.Raguttahalli	5	Yerraihgarahalli	5
Narasapura	5	Nalagutlahalli	5
Thammepalli	5	Venkataramanakote	4
Bynahalli	4	Chintapalli	2
Thummalahalli	2	Devappalli	3
Guntturgadda	5	Musturupatna	5
Kondavenakapalli	3	Yenigadale	5
Gownicheruvupalli	4	Salamakalahalli	4
Guttapalya	3	Gadigavarahalli	2
Y Kurupalli	5	Desamvarahalli	3
	41		38
Dharmapuri			
Madam	5	Jakkampatti	5
Kalapampadi	5	Kodihalli	5
Muthugampatti	5	K Agraharam	5
R RHalli	5	Nayakanur	5
Tholur	5	Arakasanahalli	5
Sinnampalli	5	Koothapadi	5
Koppulur	5	Karungalmedu	5
K Pudur	5	Kullatirampatti	5
Poocharampatti	5	Erapatti	5
Allepuram	5	Elavadumail	5
	50		50

ploughing, application of FYM, seed selection, seed germination test and seed treatment with biofertilisers (rhizobium, azospirillum, PSB and Trichoderma), soil fertility management, pest and disease management etc. Few sessions on business integration were included. Overall, during kharif, 16 FFS sessions on Soyabean (Cowpea, Green gram, Navane, Balck gram as intercrop and Niger/Navane as Border crop) were conducted and in Maize (Redgram, cowpea as intercrop and Niger as border crop) ----- FFS sessions were completed.

In FFS plots, the seed rate adopted for soyabean was 24 Kg/acre instead of the prevalent 30 Kg/acre (control plot) and in Maize, 5 Kg/acre (FFS plot) instead of 6 Kg/acre (control plot). In FFS plots the seeds were treated with Azospirillum, PSB and Trichoderma whereas in the non-FFS plots, it was not done. FYM was used in FFS plots while Urea and DAP were applied in the other plots. cowpea was introduced as intercrop in maize in the FFS plots which was absent in the control plots. This resulted in additional yield of 20 kgs besides acting as a trap-crop.

Table 2: FFS

Area	No. of FFS	No. of Members
Dharwad	15	300
Dharmapuri	15	300
Chintamani	15	300

Heavy (1550 mm) Southwest and Northeast monsoon (more than normal 885 mm) during harvest season resulted in loss of yield. In Dharwad region, there were continuous rains during mid-week of July till mid of August months for nearly 25 days. It continued during September months too resulting in damage to Soyabean up to 75%. The price of Soya bean was also lower due to crop

damage. The Maize crop too got damaged upto 50%. It was not possible to remove weeds in the fields till the cessation of rains.

To **utilize residual moisture in rabi season** farmers took up sowing of Sorghum (148 acre), Same (52 Acre), Navane (34 Acre), Vegetables (30 Acre), Maize (29 Acre), Soyabean (16 Acre) and Vegetables (9 acre) as second crop immediately after harvest of kharif crop.

Dharmapuri

FFS was organized in 15 villages, namely Koothapadi, Madam, K. Agraharam, Poochariampatti, K. Pudhur, K. Kullathirampatti, Nayakanur, Jakkampatti, Karungalmedu, Koppulur, Tholur, Elavathaumail, Arakasanahalli, Erappatti, Kodialli. In all the 15 villages, 15 FFS events were conducted with 300 farmers (15 EFGs), each consisted 16 sessions at weekly/fortnightly intervals. FFS program covered various crops such as Groundnut, Ragi, Samai with specific curriculum following the on-field process. The 1st to 11th FFS sessions concentrated on soil and water conservation, sowing and seedling stage, vegetative and reproductive stage, 12th to 16th concentrated on harvest, post harvest, collective marketing, field day events etc..

The seasonal rains during reporting period especially the south-west monsoon, which generally starts by June, got delayed by 45 days. Therefore sowing of dry land crops also got delayed and suffered during critical phases like flowering, peg formation, maturation times in groundnut. The Regional Meteorological Station has categorized this zone as Large Deficient (LD) rainfall of -60% to -90% rain deficits.

During the first week of June there was good rainfall when the farmers had sown Ragi seeds. Due to gap in the monsoon activity till mid of July, the crops dried forcing the farmers to do the resowing in July – August months. The monsoon picked up later. While *Samai* could not cope much during stress period due to fibrous root system, the ragi crop could cope up due to adventitious deep root system which recovered during later arrived rain. The rains were consistent till third week of August and

further continued in September month. This enabled farmers to hope to get normal yield in Ragi and Groundnut crops.

During 12th session, it was observed that the flowering with peg formation in groundnut and the crop stand were found to be recovering, as there was intermittent late rain shower. Similarly, the inter, border, trap crops were performing accordingly. In case of Ragi (GPU 28), the reproductive stage with head formation progressed well towards maturity as the delayed rainfall coincided with maturation stage. The major decision taken was to spray Panchagavya to groundnut crops for better crop growth and establishment followed by NSKE spray to manage the crop pests.



Agro ecosystem analysis

The **summer cropping** initiative in project villages was taken up by 300 farmers. They have cultivated Sorghum/ Cow pea/ Green gram and Sesame. Majority of them have sown sorghum, followed by cowpea and green gram, while Poocharampatti village had sown Sesame, exclusively. Though the rainfall was insufficient, the sorghum provided one tractor load of fodder; cow pea, green gram and sesame, yielded on an average 60kgs, 60 kgs and 75 kgs respectively, per half acre

Chintamani

In Chintamani region, FFS was organized in 15 villages. In 9 villages - Gownicherupalli, Gunturagadda, Kondavenkapalli, Nalaguttalahalli, Narsapura, Tummalapalli, Veerapalli, Y Kurupalli and Yerregarahalli villages, FFS was done in Ragi based cropping system with intercrop of Lab lab (Avere) and border crop of Bajra/Jowar. Groundnut based cropping system with intercrop of Red gram and border crop of Bajra/Jowar as trap crop of cowpea has been taken up in 6 villages - Bynahalli, Yenigadale, Deshamvarpalli, Salamakalahalli, Chintapalli and Musturapatna villages.



Staggered nurseries in Chintamani

The region faced delayed monsoon again this year till July. The Ragi staggered nurseries were raised in July first week. During the last week of July and August, monsoon picked up which encouraged farmers to sow Groundnut and Ragi. The staggered nursery of Ragi became handy for FFS farmers in 5 project villages (Gunthurgadda, Y.Kurupalli, Kondavenakapalli, Narasapura and Veerapalli).

3. Modular Training Events

In each project village, of the 5 EFGs, two groups undergo FFS and three groups are trained through Modular Trainings. Farmers who could not be part of FFS are trained on ecological farming practices. Sixty farmers belonging to three groups in each village are grouped into two training groups of 30 farmers each.

In Dharwad, Modular Trainings were conducted in 10 villages - Lalagatti, Murakatti, Amblikoppa, Kalasanakoppa, Kannenayakanakoppa, Devaragudihal, Thimmasagar, Channapur, Muktinagar and Chavaragudda villages. 300 farmers participated in these modular training events.

In Dharmapuri, Modular Trainings (MTs) were conducted in 10 villages and covered 600 farmers.

In Chintamani, modular trainings were organised in 10 villages namely Tummalahalli, Gunthurgadda, Y Kurapalli, Yerraiharahalli, Venkatarayanakota, Devapalli, Musturapatna, Salamakalhalli and Deshamvaripalli villages.

The topics handled in these Modular Trainings included Soil and Water conservation, seed treatment, Seed Germination, Crops and cropping patterns and Weed management and Integrated Pest and Disease Management. Practical preparation and production of Panchagavya, Jeevamrutha and identification of friendly and enemy pests were done in small groups. As part of field exercise participants were taken to FFS plots and shown various development activities besides interaction with FFS members. Special topics like mushroom cultivation, Honey bee rearing, sericulture etc., were dealt, sometimes using external resource persons.

4. Yields and Outcomes

In Dharmapuri, while Samai harvest in FFS field was 480-500kgs, it was 400-450kgs in control plot per acre. In case of groundnut, the yield observed was 17-20 bags (@40kgs/bag) in FFS plot and in case of farmer plot it was 15-17bags per acre. The improved yields can be attributed to adoption of LEISA practices.

Owing to good moisture content in the soil, post harvest of Samai crop, after the previous season, the second crop of Horsegram was sown. In all the 15 FFS village groups, summer cropping is the new initiative being taken up during April-May 2019 through organizing village/group level meetings, where 189 farmers belonging to 15 villages cultivated the short term crops using summer rain. Crops like Sorghum, Cow pea, Sesame and Green gram were grown and harvested. Around 160-210kgs of grain per 0.5acre was harvested. From summer crop, 189 farmers gained an additional net income in the range of Rs.9000-16,000/- .

In Ragi based system where Ragi is the primary crop, Avare is intercrop and Sorghum is border crop, based on current harvest status, the Ragi harvest from FFS guided plots is around 12.45 q/ac as against 11 q/acre from control plots.

In Groundnut based cropping system with redgram, sorghum and cowpea as other crops, the yields from Groudnut in FFS guided plots is around 5.02 q/acre while it is 4.4 q/acre in control plots. In Dharmapuri, Ragi crop yield data was collected for 300 farmers during the month of January 2020 and data on intercrop yields for redgram, lablab and castor. Similarly, 300 farmers yield data on Horse gram which was grown as second crop was collected. The average yields of various crops in FFS trained practices: Ragi-706kgs/acre, Red gram 94kgs (as intercrop), lab lab 96kgs/acre (as intercrop), Horse gram-192kgs/acre, samai 230/acre. In control plot, it is, Ragi- 528kgs/acre, Redgram 68.60kgs (as intercrop), lablab 71kgs (as intercrop), Horse gram, 142kgs/acre and Samai, 170kgs/acre.

In Dharwad, in 15 villages, 240 Soyabean cropping system and 60 Maize cropping systems yield data were collected. Maize crop was harvested in the month of October 2019. While it is 1750 kg/acre, 1500 kg/acre, 1700 kg / acre in the three villages, in the same areas, it is 1500kg/acre, 1300kg/acre and 1450 kg/acre, in conventional plots, respectively.

Whereas average yield of inter and border crops of all the EFG farmers field got additional yields of Niger - 10 kgs/acre, Green gram - 9 kgs/acre, Navane - 6 kgs/acre, Cowpea - 10 kgs/acre, Black gram - 6 kgs/acre while in the conventional practice farmers took up monocropping.

Farmers have harvested soyabean crop but threshing was postponed. The expected loss of yields is around 60% because of excess rain during the matured crop stage.

Table 3: Average crop yield in Chintamani area (q/ac)

Crop	FFS Plot	Control plot	Difference
Ground nut	5.4	4.8	0.6
Ragi	9.5	5.6	3.9
Redgram(Mixed)	1.0	0.6	0.4
Avare(mixed)	1.6	1.0	0.6

In Chintamani, yield data was collected in 15 FFS villages from 238 FFS farmers data, 15 Collaborators plot and 15 control plots. Major crops grown were Groundnut and ragi. Redgram, Aware and Same and fox tail millets were grown as mixed crops. The average yields harvested in given in Table 3.

The difference in adopting better practices was shared with the farmer groups. The yields were compared between trial plots and control plots. The advantages of methods like Ragi Guli methods, Transplanting, Line sowing methods were compared to broadcasting method which is predominantly farmers practice in the area. Guli method has given good improvements followed by transplanting and line sowing. In case of redgram, seedlings were grown in the nursery by use of poly pocket and which was transplanted in main plot during the sowing window period which recorded highest yield compared to normal line sowing method.

Table 4: Comparison of various methods of crop sowing (Yield in Q/Acre)

CROP	Broadcasting	Transplanting	Gunimethod	Line sowing	Pocket nursery
Ragi	5.6	9.5	11.0	8.0	-
Redgram	-	-	-	3.0	4.5

Recognising the multiple benefits of promoting millets, **millet promotion** has been taken up in selected Villages like Bynahalli, Chintapalli, Gunthurgadda, Nallagutlahalli, Narasapura, Tuluvanur, Veerapalli, Venkatarayakote, Y Kurupalli, Yenigadale and Yerraiharahalli. The crops being promoted include, Little millet (Same) , Foxtail millet (Navane) and Kodo millets (Harka). Same is grown by 40 farmers in 20.25 acre; Navane by 33 farmers on 16.50 acres and Harka by 14 farmers on 7 acres. They are linked to seed bank collective.

5. Linkages

With linkage with UAS, Dharwad, farmers could get 100 Kgs of *Same* and 60 Kgs of Navane, free of cost. which was taken up by farmers in the project villages.

With linkages with the Agriculture Engineering department, 60 farmers from Madam, Chinnapalli, Tholur and K Agraharam villages in Dharmapuri got support for the formation of trenches and farm ponds. At the rate of Rs.2000 per farmer, each farmer availed the support of Rs.1400 from the government, while contributing Rs.600 for preparing trenching / bunding and farm ponds.

150 farmers have taken up fodder production using hybrid Napier grass slips, which was mobilized by IGFRl, UAS Dharwad.

In Dharmapuri area, 12 types of vegetables that included Brinjal, cluster bean, Indian bean, 3 varieties of Greens, Drumstick, 4 varieties of gourds collected in the last season have been distributed to 300 women for backyard kitchen garden.

Similarly, 5 types of fodder seeds such as Desmanthus, Agathi (*Sesbania grandiflora*), CoFs 29 grass variety, Sorghum and *Stylohamata* grass have been distributed to 300 farmers who have water source with the condition that they would return double the quantity to the seed collective.

6. Sharing Events

In Dharmapuri, four events of field days were organised at cluster level. In each event 150-200 farmers participated representing the respective villages of the cluster where the FFS members, non-members, the members of MT groups had interactions. The members were taken to the FFS plot where the experience of FFS group members shared, later people allowed to gather in a common place and explained on the FFS process, allied activities promoted such as poultry and its progress, the biological prepared, its use on field thereby the ecological benefits besides avoiding expenditure on chemical pesticides etc.. The LEISA practices learnt and practiced in the field, their benefits in terms of yield and expenditure part was also shared. All the field day event consisted of exhibits of various experiments went on in FFS sessions, the AESA charts prepared by farmers, models, seeds of various kinds, bio inputs etc.

In Chintamani, 15 field day events were conducted at village level. Initially, all the farmers from the village visited the FFS field and shared their experiences. This was followed by discussions on the LEISA practices adopted and the process of FFS based learning. AOs from line departments are invited for this events. The exhibits included, the experiments

Improvement to Cycleweeder

Dharwad Unit had demonstrated the use of cycle weeder to the FFS members during the last year Kharif season and provided 4 units to the clusters. Farmers found it hard to push by a single person/woman as the harrow blade scarp the soil while cutting weeds, and weeds were not getting cut from the root leading to reoccurrence of weeds. Dharwad Unit with the help of the manufacturer in Bijapur, modified the cycle weeder by adding a 3-teeth plate in front of the harrow blade and adding a rod on the handle for pulling by a second person.

This made the weeding operation easy in terms of:

- Easy operation of the weeder by push and pull method by 2 persons, especially when husband and wife operate to save cost on hiring
- Teeth makes a furrow by loosening the soil upto 2" thereby removes weed from the root.
- Growth of weeds is reduced by 80% due to this uprooting
- Loosening soil helps in good aeration to the roots, thus avoids second inter-culture operation

Farmers are now using the modified (push and pull model) cycle weeders to control the weeds in all the FFS plots. They found the weeder effective in weeding and it has also reduced the cost of cultivation on inter-cultivation by Rs.600/acre)



conducted, the AESA charts, models, seeds of various kinds. The event was captured in local newspapers like Prajavani, Samyukta Karnataka, Vijayavani, Udayavani (Kannada) and Andhra Jyothi (Telugu).

In Dharwad, four cluster level field days were conducted at Murakatti, Chavaragadda, Kanneyankoppa and Anchatageri during Nov-Dec 2019. Around 600 farmers have participated. FFS group farmers shared their learning with other EFG group members through charts, banners, cases, EFG farmers who underwent FFS training explained the benefits of FFS process like reduced cost of production, demonstrated the modified cycle weeder with its advantages, the effectiveness of Biologicals (Panchagavya and NSKE), usefulness of kitchen garden to meet out nutritional security at household level, importance of seed collectives and collective marketing through Farmers producer organisation were discussed. The collaborator farmers were felicitated.

Table 5: Cluster level field days in Dharwad

Date	Place	crop	Participating farmers		
			Male	Female	Total
28.11.2019	Murakatti	Soyabean & Maize	78	96	174
29.11.2019	Chavaragudda	Soyabean	55	105	160
01.12.2019	Kannenayakana koppa	Soyabean	41	44	85
02.12.2019	Anchatageri	Soyabean	48	64	112

7. Seed initiatives

Dharmapuri Unit took initiative to establish 3 seed banks at different 3 clusters of villages, such as Poocharampatti cluster, Koppalur cluster and K.Puthur cluster. Each cluster consists of 5 villages. The prime objective is seed production, outsourcing the good seed material and keeping the stock, fulfilling the seed requirements of the villagers on collective purchase etc.. Each seed bank was provided with one table top weighing balance, one weighing machine for bag (100kgs) weighing, one steel rack with horizontal plates to keep the seeds in bottles and one sealing machine. All these three seed banks are being monitored by respective SAPs.

Seed Committees have been formed for the three seed initiatives established in Poocharampatti, Koppalur and K Agraharam villages. The 10 member committee consists of 5 from the last year Eco Farmer groups and 5 from this year Eco Farmer groups. One introductory meeting to share on the purpose, responsibilities and functions has been conducted with them.

Initially, Ragi seed of GPU-23 was purchased from KVK (8kgs @ Rs.45/kg) for seed multiplication. Accordingly, this variety of seed was sown in one acre of land area owned by SAP Mrs. Palaniammal by following LEISA practices. Around 1500 kgs/ac was harvested under irrigated conditions. She has also initiated seed collection centre in her village. The harvested ragi was stored for 3 months period and instead of selling to middlemen @ Rs.27/kg, it was sold through the seed collection centre maintained by her to 27 farmers of the EFG groups in Madam, K.Agraharam and Jakkampatti villages @ Rs.30/kg. Around 270kgs was sold to be used/sown during Kharif season. While this benefited farmers with easy access to seeds, it also saved an amount of Rs.15/kg.

Improved varieties like Ragi (GPU-28), Samai (Paiyur1 and 2), Redgram (Co6, LRT-48) were collectively purchased from, Paiyur station of TNAU, KVK-Paparapatti and Dept of Agriculture. These seeds were provided to 1050 farmers covering 15 villages (@70farmers/village) for multiplication and testing under FFS plots. The Samai seeds (Paiyur 1 and 2 varieties were purchased collectively from Paiyur Research Station at Rs.35/- per kg of seeds and given to each farmer at the rate of 5 Kgs for farmers. The Ragi (GPU-28) was purchased collectively from KVK-Paparapatti at Rs.30/kg of seeds and given to 184 farmers at the rate of 5kgs per farmer. The

Redgram seed (Co-6 and LRT-48) varieties were mobilized from Department of Agriculture (DoA) at Rs. 60/Kg provided to farmers at the rate of 2kgs/farmer. All the farmers who received the improved varieties cultivated them in FFS plots along with local variety in control plots.

After harvest, the seed collected from Ragi GPU28 is 45kgs, 55kgs and 38kgs in Poocharmapatti, Madam and Koppulur clusters, respectively. Similarly 65kgs, 24kgs and 32 kgs of Samai was collected as seed from the same clusters. The seeds collected are stored in the respective seed collective safely by use of traditional seed storage methods to overcome pest attacks. Currently, while 15-25% farmers depend on seed collectives, 75-85 percent farmers have their own storage facility.

Also, seed production of fodder crops like Sesbania, Cofs and Dainchahas been taken up by 10 farmers.

In **Dharwad area**, 160 farmers in 10 villages saved 30kgs of JS 335 variety Soyabean seeds each in their respective houses for the first time. They have been trained in cleaning and grading to select good quality seeds, conduct seed germination test and doing seed treatment. All the 160 farmers have followed and used the seeds in Kharif season.

Mr Ramanna Ghatin in Murakatti village has produced 10,000 seedlings of Brinjal and Tomato in the nursery to sell to EFG farmers in his village and in the neighbouring Lalagatti village at one fourth to one third of the shandy price like 0.25ps to 0.45ps per sapling. There has been demand for the samplings from the EFG.

To encourage dedicated seed production, 10 farmers in 6 villages namely G Basavanakoppa, Kannenayakanakoppa, Kalasanakoppa, Parasapura, Giryala and Channapura in Dharwad and Hubballi taluks have been given 25kgs of a new improved variety DSB 21 Soyabean seeds along with ½ kg of Foxtail millet (*Navane*) seeds as border crop in 3 lines. These certified (truth label) seeds are purchased from the Department of Seeds in the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad and given to the farmers who have water source to ensure seed production. As there has been good and continuous rain during the last week of June and first week of July, the sprouts have come up. Due to continuous rains during the growth stage of Soyabean crop, all the 10 acres taken up by 10 farmers got damaged to the extent of 75% except in Kalasanakoppa where the damage was around 50%. After showing tremendous promise, the seed crop got affected owing to heavy rainfall (1560 mm this year vs 718 mm average rainfall), during critical stages, thus, dampening the efforts.

However, during rabi season with support by Dr. Nagappa, Scientist UAS Dharwad, mobilized 100 kgs *same* seeds and 60 kgs *Navane* seeds. These were shared free of cost among 80 farmers in four clusters with a written agreement that they would return double the quantity to seed bank.

In Chintamani, During April-May, the team initiated discussions on the seed production and established seed collective in the project villages with the EFGs. There was positive response from 5 groups in Gunturgadda village. Mr. Devaraj (FFS farmer) provided a small room to begin with for establishing the Seed collective in their village. The purpose is to conserve and use local variety of seeds. There is an understanding among the farmers



Seed collective at Gunturugadde

for regeneration and seed multiplication of all varieties of one crop and cultivation of at least one traditional variety.

By January –March 2020, 3 seed collectives in Gunturgadde, Venkatarayanakote, and Yenigadale villages were formed. The seed committee of 11 members was formed. All the 5 EFGs of the village are members of the 'Kalpavruksha Swavalambane Beeja Kendra'. Initially non availability of seed Saame, Navane made them mobilize. This Kendra helps in farmers getting good quality seeds at their door step. Similar initiatives are planned within other clusters also. The seed committees collected seeds for promoting millet cultivation (See Table 6).

8 farmers in Gunturgadde village tried out new variety of Ragi in half an acre each for seed purpose. Along with this they have been given Kodo millet (Haraka) as border crop. Groundnut seed production is taken up by 4 farmers in quarter acre. They have been provided with Red gram as intercrop in combination with Little millet and Foxtail millet.

Table 6: Seed collection details

Available seed	Gunturgadde	V.kote	Yenigadale
Redgram	10kgs	25kgs	15kgs
Avare	-	-	5kgs
Ragi	30kgs	10kgs	10kgs
Same	20kgs	10kgs	-
Navane	30kgs	10kgs	-
Haraka	5kgs	10kgs	2kgs
Cowpea	-	-	2kgs
Total	95kgs	65kgs	34kgs

9 FFS Collaborator farmers have been selected by the group from among the members to take up production of new variety ML- 365 Ragi seed which has been procured from Raitha Samparka Kendra, supplied by the Karnataka State Seeds Corporation, Chikkaballapur. Each collaborator farmer has been given 10kgs of Ragi seeds to prepare staggered nursery for transplantation. To promote Red gram seed production, 6 FFS Collaborator farmers have come forward to take up BRG 5 variety cultivation as inter- crop in Groundnut @5kgs/farmer.

Area Unit enabled collection of local seeds of Little millet (16 kgs) and Foxtail millet (33 kgs) from EFG members. In consultation with the EFG members, the seed committee selected 22 farmers (Little millet- 14 and Foxtail millet -8)interested in seed multiplication with the condition of returning the double seeds to Seed bank after harvest. Similar initiatives have been taken up in Yenigadale as well as Chintapalli villages also.

Seed production of millets was initiated with farmers - Little millet (Saame) with 24 farmers (12 acres) in 4 villages, Foxtail millet (Navane) with 25 farmers (12.5 ac) in 5 villages, Kodo millet (Arka) with 5 farmers (2.5 ac) in 3 villages. Mr Chowda Reddy a farmer in Yenigadale village has observed that the wild boars which attack Groundnut crop are driven away by the smell of Kodo millet (Arka) cultivated as 3 lines of border crop. This farmer has contributed 10kgs of seeds to increase the seed production to make it available to the other farmers. This will be taken up by 6 farmers in Groundnut FFS plots as border crop.

8. Collective production of biologicals

During July to September 2019, the three Area Units conducted practical training sessions on preparation of Panchagavya and Neem Seed Kernel Extraction to the EFGs as a part of the FFS and MT sessions. The groups were also encouraged to try out doing business. The initiatives not only helped other farmers to get timely input but also helped the groups to experience additional incomes by selling them.

In **Dharwad** area, Shri Basaveshwara Swasahaya Gumpu (EFG 21), Kannenayakanakoppa started producing 80 litres of Panchagavya to be used by 80 EFG farmers. Twenty farmers belonging to same group and remaining 60 belong to 3 other groups in the village. Later, ten EFG groups prepared 350 liters of Panchagavya and sold to neighbouring farmers worth Rs. 8750. Five FFS groups prepared 25 liters of Neem Seed Kernel extract and sold to farmers and earned Rs.2500.00. These were sprayed for controlling the sucking and chewing type of pests in soyabean and Maize crops.

In **Dharmapuri** area, initially 3 groups in Madam, Tholur and K Pudur villages have prepared Panchagavya of 60 litres for their own members numbering sixty. Later, 4 groups, one in each cluster of Chinnapalli, Poocharampatti, Koppulur and Madam produced 1400 litres of Panchagavya. Out of this, 910 litres was purchased by 93 farmers. Around 270 members prepared the panchagavya on their own and used in their farm lands.



Collective production of biologicals

All the 300 farmers produced 5 litres of NSKE for their own use. Besides, the seeds of neem trees were mobilized and given to 1202 farmers, to prepare Neem Seed Kernel Extract (NSKE), which is used as bio pesticide. All of them were trained through FFS and MT events about the process of preparation. Farmers utilized NSKE to the groundnut crop, red gram, avarai (lablab) etc..This has helped in avoiding pesticides purchase from outside. The groups see a potential on building on this experience as farmer institutions through organized cluster level activity too.

Around 8500 Yellow sticky traps were produced in bulk and used in 850 acres (@10/acre). Yellow sticky traps destroyed the sucking pests of aphids, whiteflies, thrips etc..in 850 acres. Individual farmer could save an amount of Rs. 800-1100 by avoiding pesticides.

In **Chintamani**, 3 EFGs in Guntturgadda, Chintapalli and Musturpatna villages have prepared 20 litres of Panchagavya for its members. One EFG in Guntturgadda village has prepared 200 litres of Jeevamrutha.

9. Allied activities

Kitchen garden

Various seeds of 14 vegetables were provided to 900 farm families of which 841 farm families have established kitchen garden in their backyard space by August'19. During the quarter each family could harvest on an average Chillies 1.5kg, Tomato 2kg, Bhendi 2-3kg, lab lab 3kg, bottle gourd 25kgs, ridge gourd 20kg, bitter gourd 10, brinjal 2.5kg, greens of 4types have yielded 6-8kgs, cluster beans 8-10kgs, pumpkin 25-35kgs, consuming drum stick leaves two time on weekly basis. While this helped in avoiding purchase of outside vegetables also enabled them to reduce day-to-day expenditure on vegetable purchase. While this helped them to avoid purchase of outside vegetables, this helped them to bring change in their food style with balanced nutrition. Thus, kitchen garden helped each family to save an amount of Rs.3700-4200/- in 6 months period.

In Dharwad, mobilized the vegetable seeds like Coriander, Palak, Methi, Radish, Cucumber, Brinjal, Tomato, Chilli, Bitter guard, Ridge guard, Beans, Cluster beans and Bhendi. They were sown in the

farmers back yard as well as on the bunds of the farmers field, being grown from October, are yielding regularly. They use them for self consumption and also selling in the villages also, each farmer getting an average saving of Rs. 3500 to Rs.4000 per season.

Back Yard Poultry (BYP) program

Poultry keeping at backyard was practiced by 300 farmers where AU-Dharmapuri has provided 600 desi chicks @2per family in March2019. Each of 300 farm families have got 1st generation hatched out chicks of 8-12 nos. (adult+young) which is equal to Rs. 1600-1800/- (by December'19) as economic gain per family and Rs.4,80,000 – 5,40,000/- is the total income value of 300 farm families' economic gain. This besides first generation egg laying of 10-15 per bird and 50% of them hatched out. There are some failures too and hatching % was less in some cases due to heavy thunder and lightning. In order to avoid failure in hatching of eggs, 4 incubators were purchased by all the 4 clusters where the major part of cost (50-80%) shared by the group and remaining with AME's contribution. These incubators are under the custody of SAPs and provide paid service to the members who want to keep their eggs for incubation period (21 days) to hatch out.

During February'20, the 2nd time yield of chicks being hatched out (from 1st pair given) to the range of 4-6 birds per family which are at 40-45days old ones, weighing 300-400grams/chicks (Rs.200-300 economic value) as on March'20. While around 2-4 no. of grown up chickens are maintained at each family level along with 2nd time yield, the excess birds were sold out and thus the cumulative economic benefit through BYP realized by each family (through a pair of chicks) is Rs. 1800-2100 with in a period of 10-12 months.

Azolla production

A green net house established by one EFG in Poocharmpatti village in Dharmapuri has produced Azolla inoculums to distribute to 100 farmers in the respective cluster villages for further multiplication at household level and for feeding to the livestock.

Farmers' Study Tour

In the month of April 2019, 20 farmers from 10 villages in Dharmapuri were taken on a study tour to two different places to show them how mushroom production and sericulture being run as successful enterprises by farmers. While this helped the farmers to understand the nuances, problems, success in each activity, they gained confidence to start in their farms; especially the monthly returns from Sericulture with assured marketing influenced them to take forward this activity. Subsequently, 2000 sericulture plants were mobilized from private nurseries and provided to farmers to plant in their fields.

Tree planting

Tree seedlings (4000no). consisting 4 types of varieties such as Mahagony, Red Sandalwood, wild Vembu, Rose wood and White teak were leveraged from Department of Forest, Dharmapuri. These seedlings were given to 900 farmers @4-5seedlings across 20 villages and are planted in their respective farms towards building on their micro climate.

Bund Planting of Glyricidea

Three hundred farmers planted Glyricidea cuttings on their bunds. They are well established because of good rainfall. The expected benefits include the plant material serving as manure, fodder, fuel for bund strengthening and weed control.

Building awareness in Schools

Trainings were conducted at high schools at Chinnampalli and Kalapambadi villages where the FFS events, awareness on ecological farming, biological preparation, importance of kitchen garden,

poultry rearing and the importance of tree plantation for microclimate building were explained to the children. Thus, 100 students at Chinnampalli School and 50 students Kalapambadi school got benefited. Students were also given with tree seedlings and involved them in the tree planting event.

10. Farmer Institutionalisation process – Towards forming Farmer Producer Organisations

A highly prioritized One day Staff meeting was conducted with the Area Unit staff on July 30th, 2019, to initiate a quick and systematic implementation of the farmer institutionalization processes. A clear time table was drawn for implementation - building on the good momentum created by Field teams in creating eco farmer groups; farmer groups experientially learning benefits of collectivization through AMEF's learning processes. All the requirements for forging farmer institutions were charted out through internal discussions with regard to systematics of village level meetings, identifying potential Board members and the type of statutory documentation required and identifying Chartered accountants for guidance. The norms and procedures were finalized. In order to operationalize professionally concrete and quick action, AMEF identified and availed the services of a highly experienced freelance consultant, Mr. Robins who has specialized in this area for more than two decades, at national as well as donor organizations like HIVOS. Having worked in AMEF earlier, the consultant was also familiar with AMEF's strengths and priorities.

Mr. Robins conducted a detailed orientation on August 11th 2019 to all the staff on FPO processes and the team started putting into action the process suggested.

During the months of August and September months, all the three Area Units organized several village level meetings. The EFG members discussed the purpose and modalities of forming FPOs, the benefits and the possible collective activities (mobilizing inputs, reaching markets, sharing facilities and transport costs) and the benefits, like reducing costs and improving incomes through collective efforts. Potential farmer leaders were identified in each region through consensus by farmer groups.

Besides these hectic preparatory activities, the teams were involved in motivating farmer groups to visit similar organizations existing in their neighborhood and being managed successfully. In Dharmapuri area, the Team Leader along with staff arranged an exposure visit to Navadhanya Farmer Producer Company in Pennagaram on 9th August 2019. The Team observed bulk sale of all major produce. They also saw grain processing using machines and preparation of food products.

During October to December 2019, the procedures required registering a FPO were pursued. The BoD were identified and the requisite documents were collected. The challenge was handling the incomplete details as well as variances existing in details.

Caution was exercised during discussions to enable the farmers to take the lead and key lessons of ownership to manage the process. The consultant visited the team to facilitate the discussions with the team to explore the possible collective initiatives the community would like to take up as part of their newly formed enterprise.

Dharwad –FPO Activities

Initially to give the idea about the formation of FPC, in village level meeting was conducted



FPO preliminary meeting

(August and September 2019) and in the meeting farmers agreed to give Rs.500 as Share amount and Rs.100 as membership fees and farmers chose the Board of members (10 BoDs) to take lead to operate the FPC, all the necessary documents of BoDs were collected. Suspense account of FPC was opened. Especially, Dharwad Area Unit team actively facilitated collection of Farmers certificate through obtaining it from respective villages by village accountant, official from revenue department to issue the certificate. Obtained account statements from respective schedule banks where FPC opened bank account and sent to CA for the further process of registration of FPC.

Book keeping training was done with all the groups. All the 4 Cluster level farmers representatives met for a discussion on the following dates (Cluster 1 on 10.07.2019, Cluster 2 on 17.07.2019, Cluster 3 on 24.07.2019 and Cluster 4 on 31.07.2019). The discussions were on how to carry forward the process of FPC formation with farmers taking lead, while experiencing ownership.

Village level EFG representative (2 members/group) meetings were conducted in 19 village for preparing business plan i.e requirement of seeds and bio fertilizers in working villages and other business plans and utilization of savings money. On behalf of proposed FPC business plan meeting was organized with inputs suppliers like CP seeds company (Maize seeds), Future Biotech company (Biofertilizers), ADM agro industries for Soyabean seeds procurement as well as selling the produce. Field team in consultation with EFG members took 2500 packets Maize seeds and 1200 Kgs of Biofertilizers and 800 packets of Soyabean seeds indents by contacting EFG members in project villages.



BoDs meeting at Dharwad

Dharmapuri FPO Activities

In the month of September, village level meetings were conducted in all the operational villages to discuss with the members about the necessity and advantages of forming the FPO thereby to know their views and suggestions. This followed the exposure visit to Navadhanya Farmer Producer company in Pennagaram on 9th August 2019 along with SAP and FCs. Board of directors selected and held two meetings at office, the required documents such as PAN, Aadhar, voter ID were verified. This followed the 10 BoD members finalization. Initially, Farmer certificates for BoDs were taken in Tamil later, as per advice, efforts were taken for getting the certificates in English for all the BoDs. A meeting was organized with the BoDs where the business plan opportunities were explored.

Internal Review meetings

During April to June 2019, besides the quarterly team meetings, AME Foundation also has started Gsuite based monthly as well as need based team meetings. While the focus of the quarterly review meetings are broad based strategic focus, the monthly and one off meetings are (inexpensive G Suite based google facility) focused deliberations and common understanding on operational mechanisms.

On 16th April, a meeting with Dr. Kedar, former IAS, member of the Board of Supraja, was arranged by Supraja team, at AMEF office. Chairman and ED shared the unique contribution AME has made in the last 30 years, the distinctive features and strategies as opposed to mainstream approaches and also the progress made so far in the project. Points highlighted were: the type of agriculture

(Ecological); Learning methods (Experiential); Approaches (holistic vs specialisations); Diversity and resilience instead of monoculture.

Dr. Kedarji and Shri Laxminarayana visited AMEF Bangalore, (12.02.2020), discussed the progress, during staff meeting. They highlighted the need for recording impacts, handed over the sanction letter after appraisal regarding the process to be followed for implementation of the SA database project; observed and interacted on FPO process progress and WOTR training approaches. The meeting was attended by AMEF field teams along with Mr. Prasad, Ms T M Radha, along with Mr. Kandagal and Mr. Robens. Dr. Kedarji suggested careful preparation of impact through various tools so as to enable greater visibility and credibility if vouched by outsiders too. Kedarji reiterated the need for AMEF to come up with suitable models for sustainable agriculture based on their experience which can be replicated at higher levels.

Donor Meetings and Review visits

The team of officials Dr. Kedar, Mr. Lakshmi Nayaryana from SUPRAJA foundation visited Area Unit Dharmapuri on 18th July 2019. The team first visited Seed initiative at K.Agraharam maintained by Palaniammal SAP, then attended meeting at Poocharampatti. The meeting consisted of 62 women group members and 10 male non-members. At the outset, Dr.Kedar along with team visited the exhibits of various seeds, the photos depicting various activities of mushroom production, SRI, seed germination test, kitchen garden etc.. and various short term experiments carried out in FFS. FFS farmers explained on various experiments namely Nutrient uptake study, soil water holding capacity, leaf cutting experiments etc..about their purpose, importance and learning. This followed the office visit and held discussions on quantifiable models for scaling up. Dr.Kedar said that “the visit inspired him a lot” and Mr.Lakshminarayan expressed that “Seed initiatives were wonderfully done with well organized meet”.

Dr Kedar visited Chintamani Area on August 21st along with Mr Lakshminarayana. The team first visited the office and saw the displays of EFG groups as well as had interactions with AMEF team on context, challenges and the crop choices. SUPRAJA team then visited the FFS plot in Gunthuragadda village. They viewed the staggered nurseries of Ragi (ML-365), with farmers explaining how they are useful in case of late rains when these nurseries help them to transplant right aged seedlings (20 days), thus not affecting plant growth. These practices are being followed in villages of Y.Kurupalli, Veerapalli, Narasapura and Kondavenkapalli. Farmers explained the



Supraja team visits Gunturugadda in Chintamani

advantages of staggered nursery: a) Right aged seedlings transplanted at right time, in case of late rains. b) Reduces the seed rate/seed cost c) Optimum plant population is maintained. D) It is line planted for better growth, weed management .and high production. Farmers groups then explained preparation of Enriched Farmyard Manure (E-FYM) and how and when it is applied and its advantages. The team also visited Kalparuksha Swavalambane Beeja Kendra (Seed collective) and interacted with the members.

On 5th December 2019, a team of delegates from SUPRAJA foundation, namely J.K.Trivedi (Founder Trustee), Mr.Jaymin Trivedi, Dr.Kedar, Dr.Tagat, Mr.Suresh Krishna visited Poocharampatti village in Dharmapuri. Area Unit had arranged a field day program in this village which is situated 35 km away from Dharmapuri district. Around 400-450 farmers representing 20 operational villages of Dharmapuri area unit participated the program. Staff members and farmers from Dharwad and Kolar also participated with exhibits. The team first visited the FFS field where they interacted with FFS participating farmers, the FFS process and methods were explained by showing the session charts, conducting short term experiments and long term experiments by involving farmer groups with on-field exercise. The team also visited the small scale poultry practiced by AME farmer nearby to the FFS field. On completion of FFS field interaction, the team visited the Field Day event spot where stalls with exhibits were arranged. The event was covered in two daily news papers and two TV channels.



Supraja team visits Poocharampatti in Dharmapuri

Supraja Partners Meet was organized on 6th December 2019. During the meeting, AMEF made a presentation highlighting the following areas. The field activities reported for the three areas, namely Dharmapuri, Dharwad, Chintamani included organisation of 15 FFS events; Modular training events; Field operations like sowing and red gram nurseries; application of EFYM; improving weeder design; cultivation of cow pea as summer crop; Group initiatives like biological preparations, seed production and distribution; Training communities on group management; Introduction of administrative management systems and innovations which include design of Access database for baselines, Activity monitoring matrix of Eco farmer Groups; Annual/Hly/Qly/Monthly plans with link to financial utilisation; Work flow measurement through hourly time sheets; Digital knowledge sharing through WhatsApp groups (450 images); Putting the producer organisation formation processes on fast track through frequent and systematic internal meetings as well as community level action;

LEISA India

LEISA magazine is recognized as the leading magazine for sharing field based experiences in Low External Input and Sustainable Agriculture. LEISA India, published in English, is the regional Indian edition of Agricultures Network of the global LEISA magazines, presently coordinated by IED Afrique, Senegal. With continued support from MISEREOR from 2017, LEISA India programme continued to strengthen grass root level knowledge sharing through local language editions (Kannada, Hindi, Tamil, Oriya, Telugu, Punjabi and Marathi) and limited copies of print edition of English. Besides print editions, magazine is widely distributed as e-copy, downloadable on the website and shared in social media.

LEISA India magazine is being produced from the year 1999. The Indian edition (LEISA India) of the global magazine Farming Matters (earlier called as LEISA Magazine) was supported by ILEIA, The Netherlands till 2010-11. Later on, the initiative was funded by MISEREOR in two phases (2011-14 and 2014-17). From April 2017, MISEREOR further continued its support for the programme for another three year period (2017-20), primarily for production of 7 editions in 7 languages (English, Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Tamil, Marathi, Punjabi). Besides, ORRISSA, a MISEREOR partner, brings out Oriya language edition, in collaboration with AME Foundation

Being a member of global agricultures network, LEISA India is disseminated through digital platform and various online means.

1. English Magazine Production

During this period, two issues of LEISA India magazine were produced.

V.21, no.2, June 2019 – Recycling resources in agroecological farms

V.21, no.3, September 2019 – Agro ecology, the future of farming

V.21, no.4, December 2019 – Nurture plants, save the planet

V.22, no.1, March 2020 – Special Issue

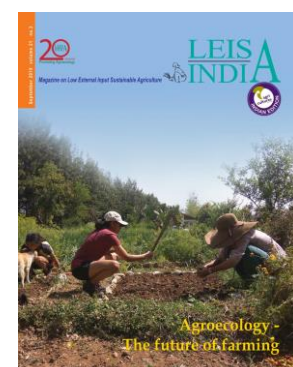
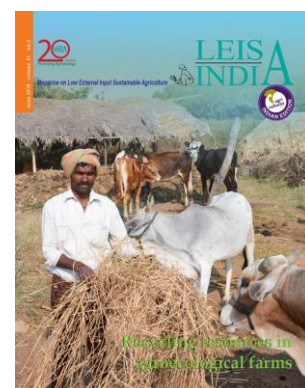
a) Recycling resources in agroecological farms (V.21, no.2, June 2019)

This issue included 8 full length articles. The issue focused on ground experiences on how small farmers are productively utilizing 'farm wastes', recycling nutrients, minimizing investments, reducing farm expenses, and improving net incomes. The magazine was of 36 pages.

We received 13 articles in response to call for papers to this issue. Out of them 8 were selected. Farmers Diary included the experience of Mr. Krishna Rai, a farmer in Nepal.

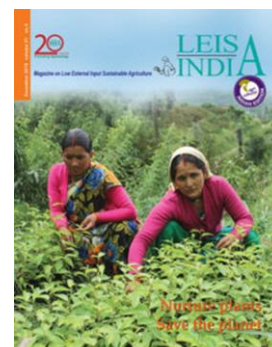
b) Agro ecology, the future of farming (V.21, no.3, September 2019)

The issue included 7 full length articles. In response to the call for articles, we received around 10 articles and finally selected 6 and one was republished. This issue included experiences of farmers using different forms of agroecology like permaculture, agroforestry, Zero budget farming etc. The magazine was of 36 pages.



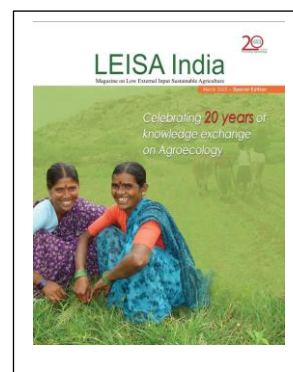
c) Nurture plants, save the planet (V.21, no.4, December 2019)

This issue theme was chosen to celebrate the year 2020-International Year of Plant health. The issue included 7 full length articles. In response to the call for articles, we received around 8 articles and finally selected 5. Two articles were proactively sourced and one was republished. This issue included experiences of the government initiatives, academics and enthusiastic individuals in including trees on their farms. The magazine was of 36 pages.

**d) Special Issue (V.21, no.1, March 2020)**

This issue was produced to celebrate 20 years of knowledge exchange on LEISA. LEISA India which started sharing experiences on agroecology in 1999, completed two decades of sharing knowledge. To commemorate the occasion a special issue was brought out which included some of the best articles published earlier in LEISA India magazine.

The special issue included around 25 articles covering various aspects like food sovereignty, seed security, women, knowledge building, recycling and resilience. The issue is of 100 pages.

**2. Special language editions**

Special language editions are produced in 7 languages – Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Oriya, Marathi and Punjabi. While the first five language editions were being produced from the Phase I of the project (from 2011), two editions, Marathi and Punjabi, were added during phase II.

The five language editions – Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Oriya are produced four times a year (June, September, December and March). The two editions – Marathi and Punjabi are produced two times a year (June and December). All the language editions include translations of selected articles from the LEISA India English edition.

During the reporting period, the following issues were produced


June 2019 - 7 language editions were produced.

September 2019 - 5 language editions were produced.

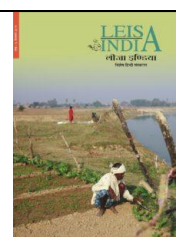
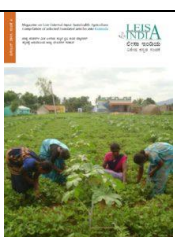
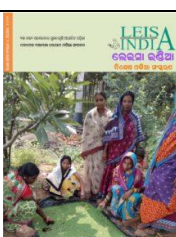
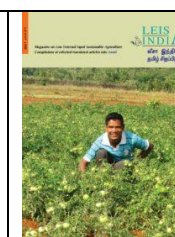

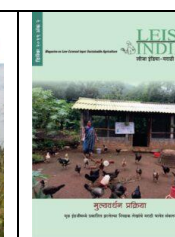

December 2019 - 7 language editions were produced.

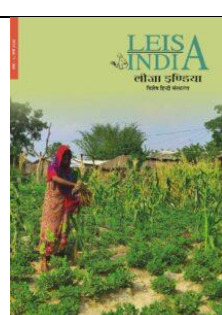

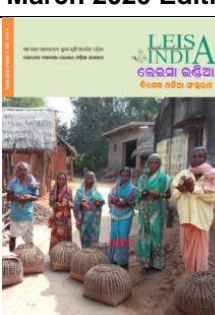

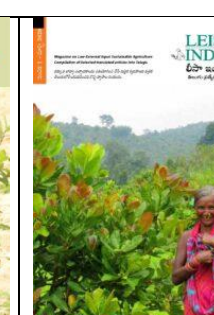
March 2020 - 5 language editions were produced.

June 2019 Edition

						
Hindi	Kannada	Oriya	Tamil	Telugu	Marathi	Punjabi

September 2019 Edition				
				
Hindi	Kannada	Oriya	Tamil	Telugu

December 2019 Edition						
						
Hindi	Kannada	Oriya	Tamil	Telugu	Marathi	Punjabi

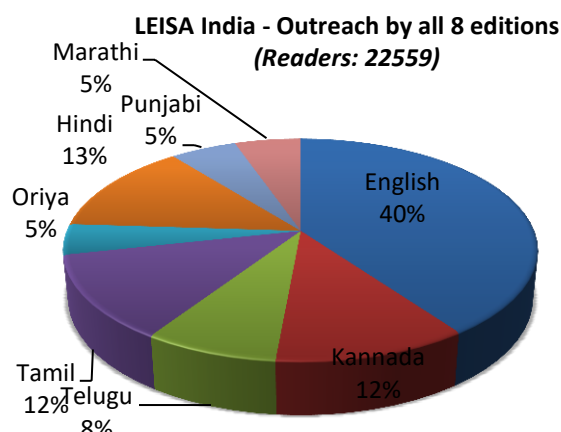
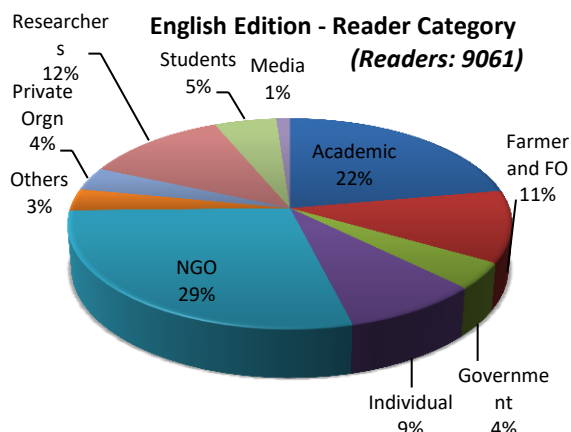
March 2020 Edition				
				
Hindi	Kannada	Oriya	Tamil	Telugu

The language editions are distributed primarily to grassroot institutions which depend heavily on the local language.

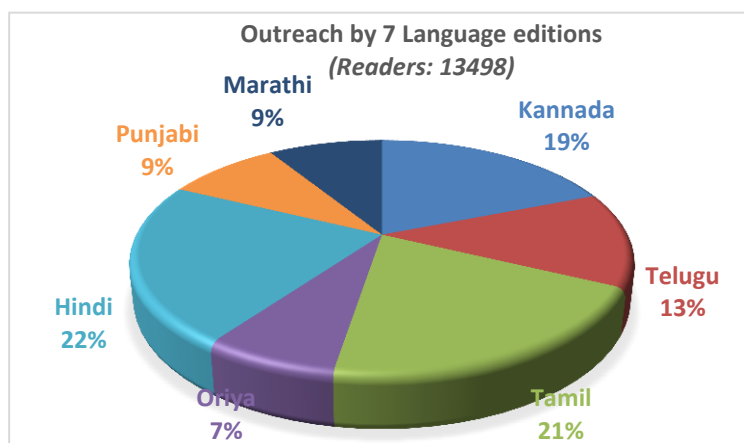
1. Outreach

The total number of subscribers for the **English Edition** as of March 2020 is 9061. Out of them, 3248 received printed edition. These include farmers and grassroot NGOs and CBOs. Around 7395 readers received the electronic version. They include readers from categories like NGOs, Academics, Research Institutions, students etc. This also includes a few of the farmers, NGOs and paid subscribers who are receiving printed edition, who also wished to receive the electronic version.

Of the total readers, 93% belong to the Indian subcontinent while 4% belong to neighbouring Asian countries like Nepal, Bangladesh, Japan, Pakistan, Bhutan etc., and the remaining 3% from across the globe. Among various categories, NGOs formed the major chunk with 29%, followed by academics (22%), researchers (12%), farmer and farmer organisations (11%), and students (5%).



The outreach for language editions (excluding English edition) was 13498. Out of this, the highest readership is for Hindi edition (22%), followed by Tamil (20%), Kannada (19%), Telugu (13%), Oriya (7%) and Punjabi and Marathi at 13%. The language editions were distributed primarily to farmers and grassroot institutions who are comfortable with local language only.



LEISA India outreach is beyond the readership of the magazine. The digital version is being shared by many websites which have a wider outreach. Also, authors share their articles on their institution websites, enabling wider sharing. Hence, the outreach is much wider. See box for some examples.

The online/digital versions of the magazines are gaining immense popularity among the urban

Box

Sharing on other websites

1) On India Water Portal

Number of articles are shared on the portal

http://www.indiaenvironmentportal.org.in/category/8806/name_of_the_journal/leisa-india/?page=1

2) FAO-Family Farming Knowledge Platform

<http://www.fao.org/family-farming/detail/en/c/417493/>

<http://www.fao.org/soils-2015/resources/non-fao-resources/zh/?keywords=LEISA-INDIA>

3) A number of articles on www.academia.edu

[https://www.academia.edu/35015403/LEISA India - June 2016.pdf](https://www.academia.edu/35015403/LEISA_India_-_June_2016.pdf)

4) Climate South Asia Network portal

<http://climatesouthasia.org/tag/leisa-india-magazine/>

5) League for Pastoral peoples and indigenous knowledge

<http://www.pastoralpeoples.org/leisa-india-magazine-focuses-on-local-breeds/>

6) Green Ecosystem portal (link to LEISA India website)

<https://edu.greenecosystem.in/agriculture-magazines?page=2>

7) Vikaspedia

It is a multilingual knowledge portal of Government of India, targeting specific country needs in the domain of social development. A number of articles from LEISA India have been shared in English and Kannada (as we know)

8) www.vikalpsangam.org

<http://www.vikalpsangam.org/static/media/uploads/Food%20and%20water/leisadec2017.pdf>

9) www.scribd.com

Platform for reading books and magazines

population. Also, through social media, the magazine is reaching a much larger readership. There is an interest from the urban farmers to share their experiences in LEISA India magazine. This is bound to have a positive impact on urban readers interested in pursuing eco-friendly farming.

Readers Survey

To understand how the magazine is being perceived and the content used by the readers of all the language editions of LEISA India, a **Readers Survey** was conducted during July-December 2019.

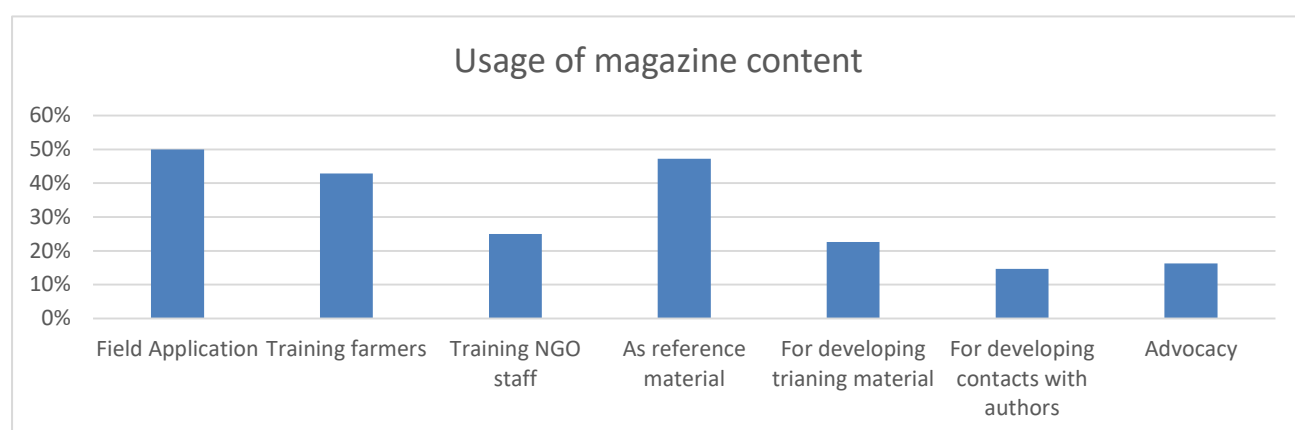
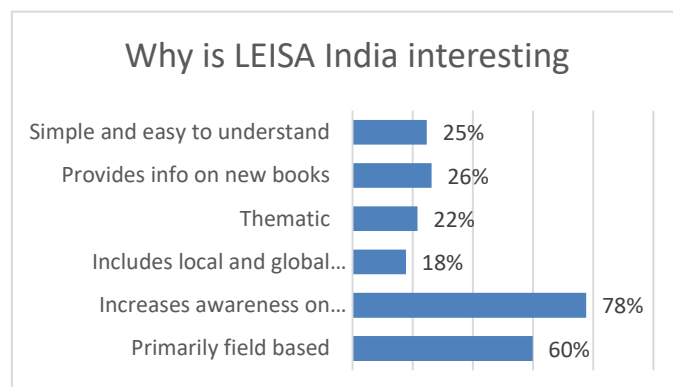
A survey form was designed and translated into all the languages with the active help of our partners. The printed form was sent along with the September 2019 edition of the magazines (English, Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Oriya) and with the December 2019 issue for Punjabi and Marathi

editions. To motivate readers to respond, we had enclosed a business reply envelope, so that the readers could send their response conveniently. For practical reasons, we printed the return address as AMEF, Bangalore on the business reply envelopes for all editions. Thus, AMEF received the survey responses for all the editions.

Also, survey form was developed using google forms and the link sent to all those who have access to emails. In addition, the form was placed on the website too. To motivate readers to respond quickly within a deadline, a surprise gift was offered.

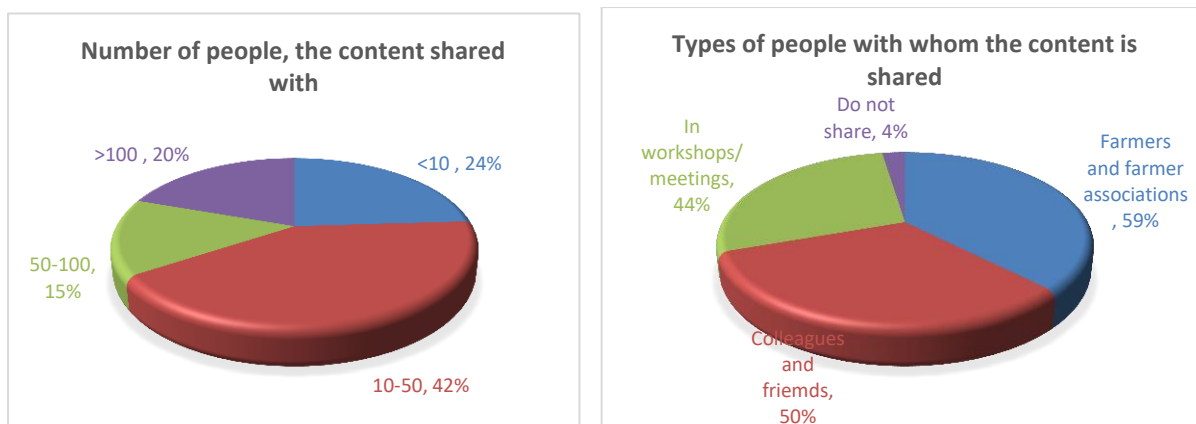
The survey forms were sent to all the readers. Around 261 readers responded to English edition and 493 responded to Language editions. The responses received were analysed.

Around 78% of the respondents (out of 259) expressed that LEISA India increased awareness on alternative agriculture and 60% found the magazine interesting as it includes practical experiences.



The results indicated that around 50% of the survey respondents used the magazine content for field application. They have been using sustainable practices like use of organic manures, water management practices etc. More than 75% of the respondents use the content for training farmers and development staff.

The magazine is also shared with others. Around 20% of the respondents shared the content with more than 100 people, in meetings and gatherings.



4. Maintenance of websites

All the English language issues and the special language editions (Hindi, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Oriya, Punjabi and Marathi) are uploaded on the LEISA India website (www.leisaindia.org). Also, for every issue the call for articles is placed on the website.

The website is increasingly being used by readers for accessing the magazine. The number of visitors to the website annually is around 37,566 with page views of around 75000. Of the total 46% are women. Of the total views, 70% is from India and 30% from other countries. We also get a lot of requests for the magazine through the website.

5. LEISA India Evaluation

An evaluation was conducted by an external evaluator during the end of 2019, approved by Misereor. The conclusions of the evaluation are as follows. The detailed evaluation report has been submitted to MISEREOR, already.

The programme is of high relevance to the present context of India where the conventional agricultural systems have caused unprecedented damage to the ecosystem and health. While smallholder farmers in various parts of the country lack access to information and knowledge appropriate for them to continue agriculture, LEISA India programme can be considered a light at the end of the tunnel bridging this gap. With the mere scale of demand, the programme is only able to reach a fraction of the indented beneficiaries. This is also an opportunity to upscale the efforts and reach out to unreached areas and communities with the message of ecologic agriculture. The consortium approach has been able to build local ownership and there is potential to engage such partners to upscale the efforts. The central team needs to be strengthened to cater to a greater number of partner and content in local languages.

Feedback on the magazine

- *Narayan reddy's columns on bio pesticides and weeding, helped a lot in my school and kitchen garden.*
- *Helped in writing Sectoral Paper of Soil Crop and Water Management of NABARD for the year 2017-18.*
- *It helps our students (Diploma in Organic & Biodynamic Agriculture) to improve their reading habits, knowledge base and research attitude.*
- *It helped me to bring practical cases in teaching my course in Agriculture Extension*
- *The magazine helped in educating farmers on organic farming who have tried it their fields, and have produced good results.*

The team has a robust mechanism to take feedback from the readers and incorporate suggestions for content and outreach. It is very evident that there is a large demand for such publication and the readers demand is to have it more frequently. Active engagement of the consortium partners could

be planned more frequently, and the physical meeting may add value to the partnership to generate new ideas and strategies to take forward the programme. It is evident that the programme cannot continue without external financial support. Donors and partners should consider raising additional resources to support the programme and additionally pilot innovative ideas to effectively reach out to more farmers. Sustainability and communication plan can ensure that the programme reach effectively to the intended readers and help them change their lives themselves. Equal commitment of all partners including donor community is essential to take forward such initiative and sustain it in the long run.

Telangana Farm Initiative

With Srivatsram concluding its support at the end of March 2019, with proposal pending with a donor and efforts to mobilize from other sources like NABARD, a low key support was provided by AME Foundation to retain our presence in Telangana area. The program initiatives were sustained by excellent rapport of the consultant with communities from their own resources as well as other agencies.

The project covers 5 villages namely Ganganaguda, Yedira, Kaslabad, Mustripally and Venkriyal in Kondargu Mandal, Mahboobnagar district. During the reporting period, 30 farmers have taken up irrigated System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method of Paddy cultivation, as per the proposed project. They got trained by AMEF, made comparisons between SRI and non SRI plots. On an average, there were 38-55 tillers (average 46) in SRI plot, while it was around 12 tillers in non SRI plot and the grain count in SRI plots was also higher. The crop is to be harvested in the month of May 2019.

Dal Mill: A mini Dal mill has been installed last year and is being managed by Arundhathi women Self Help Group proving very useful to the farming communities. During January – April 2019 the mill has processed 3.5 tonnes of Redgram of 80 farmers charging a nominal fee of Rs 3/kg, while normally it costs Rs 5 when done with private enterprises. Thus, the group has got an income of Rs 10,500 in the processing. Also, they sold the 600 kgs husk at Rs 7/kg and got an additional income of Rs 7200 to the group's account.

During April 2019, in the 5 project villages, the importance of summer ploughing was highlighted with 300 farmers with the support of local Agriculture Extension Officer who was the special invitee - the importance of summer ploughing, soil and moisture retention was explained to the farmers.

Seed conservation and biological preparations: 25 farmers in 5 villages have saved Redgram seeds at household level for the next Kharif season. Two farmers in Yedira and Mustripalli villages have continued production of bio-inputs, used them in SRI paddy cultivation as well as shared them with 10 farmers in the respective villages. In Khaslabad village, one women SHG prepared these bio-inputs and shared with 15 farmers for SRI Paddy cultivation during the season.

Twenty eight farmers from 5 villages visited a progressive farmer's field in Gimmikunta village who is growing diverse crops, producing and using only bio-inputs like Panchagavya and Jeevamruth for cultivation of cereal and pulse crops.

The AAO of the Mandal distributed 50 kgs bag of Neem cake to 25 farmers free of cost in which 15 farmers were from the FFS group. This boosted the efforts of the farmers in adopting bio-inputs in the control of diseases and pests and pursuing ecological farming.

Trainings organized and Workshops attended by Project staff

Training of Trainers on FFS approach was organized by AMEF for WOTR between 3rd -7th February, 2020 at KVK- Jalna, Maharashtra State. Shri Kandagal with more than two and half decades of experience as FFS (FAO Master trainer) and ecological agriculture promoter of national and international projects, who joined back AMEF as consultant and Mr. Mallikarjun Patil from AMEF, Dharwad conducted the TOT as resource persons from AMEF. The training objectives were systematically discussed with WOTR, training schedule proposed and accepted. The TOT focused on 2 days training in villages on Agro Eco system Analysis with farmer and NGO staff participants; practical farming practices in chickpea and soyabean crops, conducting of mock FFS besides classroom sessions with 4 groups of participants. Focus was primarily on practical and participatory discussions. Expectations were addressed through participatory learning methodologies group discussions, chart preparation and games and other means. The language for interaction was primarily Hindi and to a little extent in English. The training was organised in KVK Jalna, a 40 ha area campus. At the end of event, participants have given positive feedback on ToT and appreciated method of conducting, the content covered, proper planning, and time management within the available resources.



Field session during training at WOTR

Team Leaders from AME Foundation attended a training program on **Ethically Sustainable Branding and Marketing solutions** conducted by Keystone Foundation and Last Forest Kotagiri on 18-20th Nov.2019 at Kotagiri, Tamil Nadu. The program was attended by NGO partner representatives and few FPOs. The primary learnings for the team included exposure to professional approaches to product development and designing including branding and importance of consumer markets.

Workshop on **On-farm production Bio-fertilizers for Sustainable Agriculture** was conducted in association with Dept. Agril. Microbiology, College of Sericulture, Chintamani on 30.12.2019 at College of Sericulture, Chintamani. In this workshop, 7 field staff from Chintamani, 2 field coordinators from Dharwad, 8 Lead farmers representing four clusters of project villages participated. The training was on preparation of low cost bio-fertilizer (Liquid) preparation like Rhizobium, Azotobacter, Azospirillum, Mycorrhiza, PSB and ZSB.

Visitors



JPMC team visits Dharmapuri field area

JPMC (James Morgan Chase and Co.) senior staff were interested in understanding the rural realities as part of their leadership orientation program. Specifically, inspired by AMEF team's special interest in operationlizing seed collectives, were requested to examine the financial sustainability as part of their 10 day assignment. They visited Dharmapuri as part of their assignment to work out models for sustainable seed initiatives. They visited Poocharampatti and B. Agraharam villages. They observed two seed initiatives in respective villages and interacted with the FFS group members. They interacted



SRM students visit to Chintamani

primarily on the input purchases and sale of harvested produce, the savings for home consumption etc. After the field visit, they did work out a model which offers certain options which need to be deliberated with the farming communities.

Sixty eight **students** from **SRM University** visited Chintamani area as part of their exposure trip on the 15 November, 2019. They showed keenness on the following aspects: AMEF's

approach, the significance of ecological agriculture, and the FFS methods of learning; mixed cropping systems. They interacted with the farmers and appreciated their learnings.

3M India team, as part of their orientation program to field realities where AMEF as an NGO was selected, visited Gunturgadde on 9th March 2020. They appreciated field level staff of AME for the efforts to organise farmers for active involvement in the programme, especially seed initiatives, learning through FFS and EFG group formations.



3M team visits Gunturugadde in Chintamani

Fund Raising and Networking

A new proposal has been prepared seeking support for extending the Supraja programme to Telangana Area. Currently, Supraja is providing support to Dharmapuri, Dharwad and Chintamani field programmes. Clarifications sought regarding various aspects have been provided to Supraja team. We are hoping and awaiting a positive response to our request.

As member of the Governance Group as well as other functional groups, ED has been interacting with the Agriculture Network secretariat and partners for taking the movement forward and seeking support for promotion of agroecology movements in India. In this connection, a joint global issue of farming matters is planned with CIDSE.

ED has been guiding SEWA as member of the Decade of Family Farming committee the way forward which includes potential roles AMEF could play in the future in strengthening Family Farming. Discussions with SEWA as coordinating group of the Decade of Family Farming did not make much progress as all of us involved were busy with other priorities.

A new opportunity is being explored with JP Morgan India Ltd. which would be visiting AMEF as part of their development assignment similar to 3M. Earlier, senior management from 3M visited AMEF to understand AMEF way of working with farmers. That time, they were quite impressed and were instrumental in recommending Global Giving to consider a small Grant for us.

A proposal on rainfed knowledge base in cooperation with CIKS was finalized after intensive discussions with regard to features, functions and roles and modalities of cooperation of Supraja partners. Mr. Prasad and Ms Radha visited Chennai to discuss with Dr. Balasubramanyam of CIKS and his team. Budgets were refined and final clarifications were provided, validated by External consultants.

After initiating a proposal for the 2020-2023 phase for support by Misereor, provided detailed clarifications on Donor's queries. Complying with audit requirements for the present phase to the satisfaction of Misereor was a key requirement which has been addressed adequately. The survey results of the present phase showed encouraging results. Several briefings have been completed for identifying and finalizing the details of the proposal. Misereor accepted the proposed Evaluation expert and the TOR was prepared. The expert has just begun doing desk research.

AMEF has been identified to collaborate on a study to be conducted in India with Azim Premji Foundation with Principal Investigator's from Anglia Ruskin University and Coventry University on Farmer's agroecological transitions. A multinational collaborative proposal has been submitted for consideration to a European Donor.

Supraja Partners meeting was attended by ED, TM Radha and Elangovan in Bangalore where a presentation of the progress was made. The presentation also included our unique approaches, like ecological agriculture in rain fed areas, combination of LEISA practices for resilience and sustainability of small holders, empowering learning processes and farmer led sharing efforts, appreciation by 3M and ARCADIS and most importantly the rapid progress made with regard to initializing FPC processes. The Supraja team appreciated our efforts, recognized our strengths in guiding and empowering farmers through Farmer Field School approaches and other participatory learning processes. They have suggested that the other partners should involve AMEF in preparing their teams in capacity building of farmers. WOTR immediately wanted to fix a TOT for its staff in the month of January/ February for training their staff and network partners. While noting the serious

efforts made by AMEF in promoting farmer institutionalization processes, suggested to evolve strong business plans for the potential FPCs. Dr. Kedarji and Shri Srinivasanji mentioned that they shall assist when necessary in formulating sound strategies. With regard to AMEF-CIKS joint proposal on preparing a collaborative rainfed agriculture knowledge base project, was agreed by the partners. The conceptual framework and the rationale and modalities of joint working were explained and agreed.

AMEF – CIKS Sustainable Agriculture Database project

Mr. Prasad and Ms. T M Radha visited CIKS in Chennai to discuss about proposal preparation for Knowledge Base for Sustainable Agriculture. Based on the discussion the proposal was fine tuned and presented to the partners of Supraja, during partners meet for their suggestions and co operation to pursue the initiative. Subsequently based on discussions with external technical support consultants, finalize the proposal and submitted to Supraja for consideration. The sanction letter for the new project on Knowledge base on Sustainable Agriculture was handed over to Mr. Prasad by Kedarji during the review meeting. The roles of AMEF and CIKS were briefly discussed. Subsequently, AMEF had detailed discussions with Dhyeya Media to assess the design requirements, tools for operationalizing the conceptual design in the month of March 2020.

Adapting to Covid conditions

Systems were put in place quickly to deal with COVID lockdown period through very regular and need based g-suite meetings involving the whole team through net, using emails and whatsapp to follow up. Dunzo services were used for transfers, payments etc.

Plans for COVID awareness efforts included preparing rural masks, social distancing measures, grocery distribution to needy and wide display of posters to individuals as well as community places on COVID guidelines issued by Central and State Government in working villages.

Staff as on 31.03.2020

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
Bengaluru		
1	Prasad K V S	Executive Director & Chief Editor
2	Radha T M	Managing Editor - LEISA India
3	Elangovan R	Secretary – Accounts
4	Supriya S Rao	Internal Auditor
5	Shivappa	Driver
6	Chikkanna	Attendant
7	Murthy N	Attendant
Dharwad		
1	Mallikarjun Patil	Team Leader
2	Prasanna V	Secretary cum Accountant
Dharmapuri		
1	Krishnan J	Team Leader

Consultants and Contractual Staff		
Sl. No.	Name	Area
1	Veena Markande	Bengaluru
2	Ramachandra K S	Bengaluru
3	Rukmini G G	Bengaluru
4	Robens C J	Bengaluru
5	S S Kandagal	Bengaluru
6	T Mallareddy	Telangana
7	Mayachari A	Dharwad
8	Akkamahadevi M Patil	Dharwad
9	Venkatesan K	Dharmapuri
10	Munirasu M	Dharmapuri
11	Ramesh Kumar B V	Chintamani
12	Narendra P	Chintamani

FINANCE MATTERS

GOWTHAMA & COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

23/57, 41st Cross, East End C Main Road,
9th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560069
Ph : 26636042, 26656194
Fax No : 26651104

AME FOUNDATION
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2020

31.03.2019 Rs.P.	LIABILITIES	31.03.2020 Rs.P.	31.03.2019 Rs.P.	ASSETS	31.03.2020 Rs.P.
2,37,63,970	FUNDS As per Schedule I	2,32,94,634	89,39,295	FIXED ASSETS As per Schedule III	86,53,073
	CURRENT LIABILITIES & PROVISIONS As per Schedule II		1,28,18,651	LOANS & ADVANCES/ DEPOSITS As per Schedule IV	
5,94,100	Rental Advance	6,50,000	88,115	Fixed Deposits	1,27,94,184
			19,629	Other Deposits	88,115
48,20,486	Unutilized Grants	55,00,135	6,04,874	Advances	38,281
1,14,549	Provisions	83,407		TDS Receivable	3,63,303
			68,22,540	CASH AND BANK BALANCES As per Schedule V	75,91,219
2,92,93,105		2,95,28,176	2,92,93,105		2,95,28,176

For AME Foundation

EXAMINED AND FOUND CORRECT
FOR GOWTHAMA & COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Firm No. 005917S

Chiranjeev Singh
CHAIRMAN

nsleege
TREASURER

Pundarikaksha
PUNDARIKAKSHA
PARTNER
Membership No. 214283

Place: Bangalore
Dated: 21.10.2020

GOWTHAMA & COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

23/57, 41st Cross, East End C Main Road,
9th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560069
Ph : 26636042, 26656194, Fax No : 26651104

AME FOUNDATION
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

31.03.2019 Rs.P.	EXPENDITURE	31.03.2020 Rs.P.	31.03.2019 Rs.P.	INCOME	31.03.2020 Rs.P.
6,344	To Bank Charges	7,863	8,57,528	By Rental Income	5,92,368
2,43,542	To Office expenses	81,038	55,041	By Donations- Leisa & Others	42,612
38,55,893	To Salary to employees	34,76,445	10,065	By Terrace Gardening	24,000
39,20,465	To Consultancy Charges	39,69,239	3,33,571	By Programme Guidance	-
85,073	To Ren., Electricity & Water Charges	1,17,952	-	By Interest Income	-
-	To Rates & Taxes	1,62,673	-	FU Interest	5,66,966
2,67,814	To Homestead Gardens	19,189	8,49,391	FCRA Bank Interest	1,58,778
12,12,813	To FPS Coordination & Field guidance	9,08,430	1,28,207	Interest in IT Refund	38,264
3,95,784	To Travel & Conveyance	5,46,960	-	SB Interest	62,355
27,08,936	To Capacity Building of Farmers	2,76,044	50,616	Interest charged to Project	-
7,97,068	To Critical Inputs & Support Cost	5,64,584	-	By Grants Received	1,33,79,939
1,63,138	To Repairs & Maintenance	1,54,505	-	-	-
1,81,798	To Vehicle maintenance & Insurance	98,781	1,40,98,030	By Excess of Expenditure over Income	1,57,518
1,11,607	To Printing & Stationery	1,97,805	-	-	-
61,517	To Postage & Courier	13,016	-	-	-
1,01,381	To Telephone & Internet	52,739	-	-	-
93,404	To Security Charges	81,201	-	-	-
1,54,302	To Board Meeting Expenses	1,34,299	-	-	-
2,41,413	To Meeting Expenses	3,26,015	9,31,058	-	-
12,477	To Audit Fees	29,500	-	-	-
2,66,905	To Insurance & Gratuity	31,742	-	-	-
18,57,398	To Magazine Expenses (Production & translation)	16,14,265	-	-	-
4,19,726	To Distribution Expenses	5,36,091	-	-	-
7,370	To Membership & Subscription	5,000	-	-	-
1,04,612	To Web Updating	29,500	-	-	-
82,728	To Seed production & distribution	1,27,915	-	-	-
1,73,53,507		1,56,22,789	1,73,53,507		1,56,22,789
9,31,058	To bal b/d	1,57,518	-	-	-
3,77,212	To Depreciation	3,11,818	13,08,270	By Excess of Expenditure over Income	4,69,336
13,08,270		4,69,336	13,08,270		4,69,336

For AME Foundation

EXAMINED AND FOUND CORRECT
FOR GOWTHAMA & COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Firm No. 0059178

Chairman's Signature

CHAIRMAN

Treasurer's Signature

TREASURER

Pundariksha's Signature

CA PUNDARIKAKSHA

PARTNER

Membership No. 214283

Place: Bangalore
Dated: 21.10.2020

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Chikkaballapura District

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TELANGANA

No. 18-394/1/1 MNC Colony

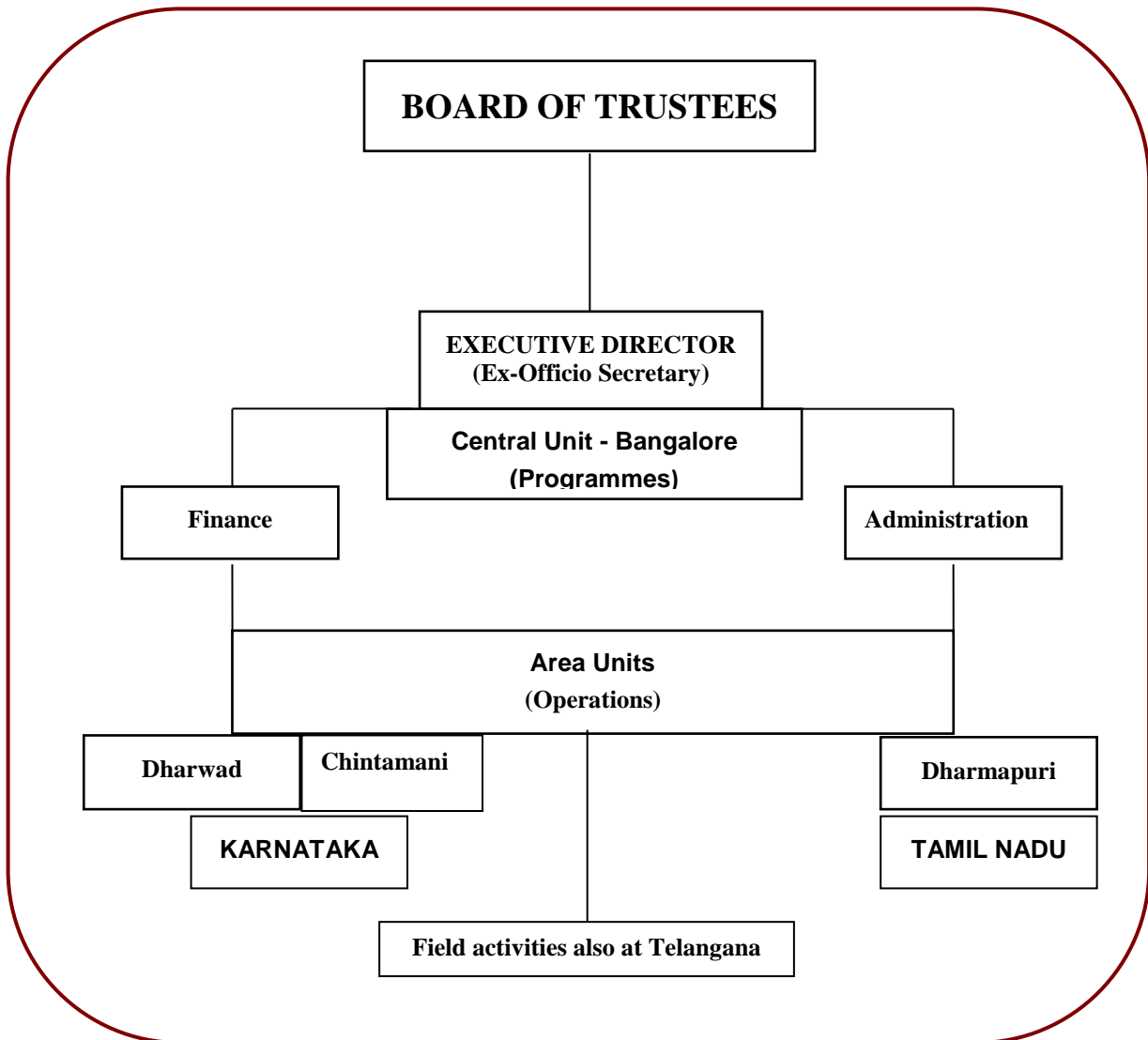
Pargi Road, Farooq Nagar (Mandal) Shadnagar – 509216

Rangareddy District Telangana

Tel: 9959343727

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