

HBF-SDC Workshop Proceedings

Background & Structure: A workshop was organized to share the knowledge of SDC SCSI phase 1 & the energy toolkit. The workshop was an inception process of the phase 2 which will focus on the replication of practices in regional clusters. The workshop mainly focused on the issues water, energy, habitat & sustainable agriculture.

The workshop kept the discussions limited to water, energy & sustainable agricultural practices. One of the major focuses of the workshop was to enhance the scope of the Bundelkhand Knowledge Platform as collaborative knowledge base for critical issues of Bundelkhand.

The primary objectives of the workshop were:

- to understand the critical intersection of water & food security
- to judge the nexus between water & energy in agriculture
- to share the experiences of sustainable agricultural clusters
- to share the village energy planning guidelines with a vision to the future linkages with the district planning procedure
- to enhance the functionality of Bundelkhand Knowledge Platform

The workshop brought together the local civil society representatives from the Bundelkhand region. The introductory discussions were made related to climate change issues & vulnerability of Bundelkhand region to it. Past experiences of adaptation of low carbon practices in terms of agriculture & habitat was also shared among the participants. The idea to make BKP a collaborative platform was shared with the participants to strengthen the knowledge base & to construct vision for the knowledge platform.

Key Issues & Findings: The discussions of the workshop put some key issues related to the above sectors. The area comes under BRGF due to its backwardness in development scenario. But impact of this fund utilization is very minimal in the region. The reasons for this are disproportionate utilization of resources, social disparities & institutional weakness. The partners agreed to the matter that there is an acute need for a knowledge sharing platform which will help to identify the priority clusters & sectors. The participants were more inclined to make the

platform a collaborative effort. Micro level learning should be shared across. To make the platform more functional it has to have some quantitative quality. The key issues are delineated into current hindrances & recommendations to achieve the success the replications.

Challenges: There are several challenges which are region & sector specific. The challenges are the following:

- Gaps in information regarding adaptation practices
- Lack of holistic view of the climate change phenomena
- Isolated documentation of projects by the civil societies & hence there is lacuna in knowledge sharing
- Lack of interactive discussion in continued manner
- Difference in policy & practices
- Lack of scientific analysis of innovation
- Region specificity of partners

Recommendations: The recommendations which came out from the discussions with the participants were theme specific. The broad themes are: a) improvement of knowledge sharing process through BKP b) sustainable practices & c) energy issues

For the improvement of the BKP recommendations are the following:

- the sharing of knowledge should be in direction of holistic approach which will include documentation of projects & activities, capacity building manuals and fund accessibility
- thematic areas for the knowledge sharing will be water, forest, land & livestock
- there should be a structured framework for the knowledge sharing: central/ steering committee, region/cluster specific groups & community deliverables
- collaborative efforts should be built on communication process of the platform with more inter linkages with community radio & advocacy planning

In theme area of sustainable agricultural practices the suggestions are manifold:

- to make BKP a more collaborative knowledge sharing platform micro level learning should be shared through it

- the importance has to be given on the sharing of the process specifically in the context of sustainable adaptive practices
- promotion of individual good practices related to agriculture
- promotion of indigenous carbon resilient agricultural practices

In energy perspective the recommendations are mainly made to make the energy planning model commercially viable. The following are the recommendation for it:

- the energy planning based on the renewable source has to be community specific or else it will not work
- green enterprise model should be promoted
- decentralized production of energy

For the future direction it needs to be scaling out & practices has to be cluster specific. It is also very necessary to have simultaneous overlapping of institutions & civil societies. To tackle the issue of climate change tracking & documentation of carbon credit process is also very important.