

Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives to Address Global Environmental Challenges

***Solidarity and Action to Promote
Climate Resilient Growth in Semi-Arid Bundelkhand***

2012-2015

Reoriented Focus

- Scaling-up and Scaling out
- Influencing Policy Development
- Influencing the State development programmes and Action Plan on Climate Change to promote and implement appropriate responses to facilitate low carbon economic growth in the Bundelkhand region

Thematic focus

- Sustainability in water and energy use for food security – resistance to and adaptation to increasing drought (unpredictable variability in monsoon) cycles
- Low-carbon and resource efficient habitat development – a sector that indicates high potential for demonstration of climate sensitive development

Overall Objective

“Climate sensitive policies in Bundelkhand that support sustainable habitat development and water management for agriculture leading to appreciable economic benefits to local communities, reduced vulnerabilities, enhanced savings in carbon emissions and regenerated resource base for livelihoods”.

Expectation from the Project interventions

- improvements in policy implementation in the space of rural habitat leading to greater support and application of low carbon resource efficient construction;
- mainstreaming of climate change concerns in water management and agriculture policies leading to enhanced supports and services for farming communities for adaptation to climate change
- Scaling up of Sustainable agriculture and water management practices by communities
- consolidation of knowledge on community based low carbon growth strategies for sub-regional and national policy support.

specific outcomes from April 2012 to March 2015

- **Policies** enable the implementation of climate resilient practices in agriculture and (low carbon) habitat development.
- Sustainable water management **practices** lead to climate resilient development and improved incomes (**in 3-4 clusters (6-8 districts) of similar districts from within the 13 districts of Bundelkhand**).
- Formal and community institutions apply **knowledge on low carbon growth models** (collated from grassroots and scientific collaboration) to service replication of good practice and support policy implementation.

Approach 1.1

- **Consolidation and demonstration of good practices to show-case low carbon growth models:**
 - Working with farming community to address the issues of water and energy co-management for livelihood security and demonstrating:
 - Technological options for low carbon water services for agriculture such as sprinklers, drip systems, mobile irrigation, etc.
 - Improved agri-practices to enable farmers to cope with the changing climate situation such as improved seeds, line sowing, agri-horti, agro-forestry models, shade net techniques, fodder cultivation etc.
 - Efficient irrigation systems and harvesting of water for irrigation
 - Strengthening farmers institutions to demonstrate low carbon economic growth

Approach 1.2

- **Consolidation and demonstration of good practices to show-case low carbon growth models:**
 - Engagement with Panchayati Raj Institutions (at village, block and district levels) to integrate low carbon growth concepts and options in planning processes for:
 - Low carbon habitat and village water conservation and irrigation infrastructure development
 - Facilitating support services to village community institutions to utilise/leverage local government programmes and schemes in the area of water management, irrigation, fodder development, improved seeds, accessing credit, agri-insurance, habitat development etc.
 - Tracking and documentation of carbon savings and economic benefits through improved practices
 - Collating success stories for dissemination, communicate voices from grassroots into policy development

Approach 2.1

- **Replication of good practices in water management for agriculture security across 3-4 clusters of selected districts**
 - Facilitation of support services to disseminate climate resilient and friendly livelihood practices by:
 - Forging partnerships with Agri-support agencies such as the KVKs, R&D institutions, CSOs as nodal centres and others in private and public sector for information and services such as knowledge dissemination, training, weather forecasts, pre-season readiness, insurance, and market links for produce.
 - Setting up support systems for disseminating good practices including setting village demonstration centres across the selected districts of Bundelkhand (synergies with DST, CRIDA, NABARD and ICRISAT).
 - Undertaking a campaign in select villages and districts of Bundelkhand to communicate concerns of climate change and possible options for adaptation through PR Institutions.
 - Knowledge sharing, promotion of practices, collaborative action at grass roots level facilitated by the Bundelkhand Knowledge Platform.
 - Facilitating and enabling civil society partners to replicate and upscale the practices

Approach 2.2

- **Replication of good practices in water management for agriculture security across 3-4 clusters of selected districts**
- - Working with district level CSOs, technical and related partnerships to strengthen local knowledge and scientific value addition under the Bundelkhand Knowledge Platform through:
 - Knowledge events on issues related to good practices for water conservation, energy conservation, discussions on drought mitigation, vulnerability reduction etc.
 - Capacity building of local institutions for tracking change (carbon footprints) and communicating the same
 - Validation and packaging of knowledge on good practice in water management in agriculture into communication documents for endorsement by extension institutions
 - Quantification and documentation of natural assets and other resources such as water bodies, forests, agri-produce, cropping patterns, to define cluster specific concerns for action.
 - Engagement with technical institutions for updated research and developments on climate-resilient agri-practices
 - Bringing in new technology inputs through associations forged between Indian and Swiss agencies or south–south collaborations

Approach 3.2

- **Engagement with policy actors at district and state level to influence water, habitat and other infrastructure development practices at State level and mainstream good practices into policy**
- - Supporting line departments and district governments in Bundelkhand to articulate clear climate benefits in the delivery of [existing/ on the anvil] development programmes and schemes.
 - Capacity building and sensitization of district and state level line departments and agencies through sharing lessons on low carbon growth models.
 - Conducting and communicating cost-benefits analysis of integration of low carbon habitat and water efficient agriculture practices to respective state line departments.
 - Providing inputs to concerned state departments and national government agencies for the development of standards, industrial promotion policies *for* small and medium enterprises, waste utilization, capacity building for services delivery, procurement guidelines, financial services for suppliers and consumers linked to eco-habitat development.
 - Engaging with mass-media of various kinds to bring the concerns of climate change integration into programmes and schemes within the agenda of political and development debate.

Approach 3.1

- **Engagement with policy actors at district and state level to influence water, habitat and other infrastructure development practices at State level and mainstream good practices into policy**
 - Communicating voices from the grassroots to state, national and international policy dialogue by
 - Conducting multi-stakeholder dialogues and policy round table discussions at state and regional level on key issues identified by the BKP, State Action Plan and Bundelkhand Package
 - Reporting carbon savings from grassroots good practices in the area of habitat development and sustainable agriculture into the State Action Plan
 - Tracking programmes and schemes with respect to carbon efficiencies and economic benefits.

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Approach 3.3

- **Engagement with policy actors at district and state level to influence water, habitat and other infrastructure development practices at State level and mainstream good practices into policy**
- - Consolidate, Customize and Capitalise knowledge on demonstrated 'ad-mit' strategies for climate resilient and climate friendly growth to inform policy development and influence implementation of programmes and schemes for the sub-region through
 - Facilitating knowledge sharing, collaborative action and research on sustainable water management for agriculture by the Bundelkhand Knowledge Platform
 - Converting lessons on climate friendly and climate resilient farming livelihoods into policy briefs (targeted towards planning processes, financial and insurance mechanisms, training, education and extension services, technology and market connect and traditional and new knowledge synergies) for promoting climate resilient agriculture practices.
 - Preparation of policy briefs conducting public dialogues to address the issues of low carbon habitat development for the State Policy development.
 - Networking with other similar knowledge networks nationally to share lessons on climate friendly and climate resilient farming livelihoods
 - Interfacing with large programmes of agencies working in the region and nationally on issues of adaptation to climate change and low-carbon growth to share lessons build consensus in influence policy frameworks.

Suggestions...

- On approach
- On networking mechanisms
- On Policy advocacy methods
- On pre-requisites for replication – capacity, infrastructure, know-how
- Any other...