

FES

FOUNDATION FOR ECOLOGICAL SECURITY

ANNUAL REPORT
2019-20



CONTENTS



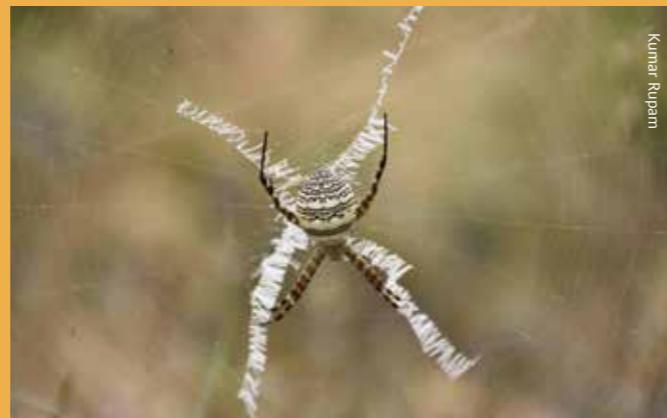
Mark Katzman



Mark Katzman



Anil Sarsavani



Kumar Rupam



Anil Sarsavani



Mark Katzman



Yanajit Deka



Anil Sarsavani

Our Mission.....	03	Our Collaborative Impact.....	19
The FES Signature.....	04	States	20
Cornerstones.....	05	Strategic Action Areas	30
Our Approach	09	Financial Highlights	33
Strategic Overview	11	Covid-19: Our Response	34
The Promise of Commons.....	14	Our Partners and Collaborators	35
The FES Landscape	15	Our Funding Partners.....	36
Impetus for Our Work.....	16	Our Team.....	37
2019-20 at a Glance	17	Acknowledgements.....	38
Our Outreach.....	18	Contact us.....	40

Our Mission

As 'ecological security' is the foundation of sustainable and equitable development, the Foundation for Ecological Security (FES) is committed to strengthening, reviving, or restoring, where necessary, the process of ecological succession and the conservation of land, forest and water resources in the country.

To this end, FES:



WORKS towards the ecological restoration and conservation of land and water resources in the uplands and other eco-fragile, degraded and marginalised zones of the country, to set in place the processes of coordinated human effort and governance, and in particular, provide relief to the poor.



WORKS either directly, or with and through a range of democratic village institutions, their federal bodies, and civil society organisations, to set up initiatives that are ecologically sustainable and socially and economically equitable.



ENSURES the ecological integrity of all efforts by working through various arrangements, as far as possible, with entire landscapes and with all their interrelated communities, on their land and aquatic resources, whether Commons, Public, or Private.



COLLABORATES with Panchayat Raj and other democratic village institutions as well as appropriate civil society organisations, in their efforts to fulfil social and civic objectives, and to provide technical and financial assistance to them.



UNDERTAKES and sponsors studies and research related to the understanding of ecological processes, the biology and ecology of endemic and endangered species, and the various aspects of the political-economy of associated human communities.



ASSISTS in the creation of a coherent perspective on forest and water-related land-use policy, as well as a conducive legal and regulatory environment, and disseminates knowledge and information through dialogue with policymakers, legislators, administrators, professionals, other agencies, and the public at large.

OUR BOARD

CHAIRMAN

Usha Thorat

MEMBERS

Amrita Patel
Samar Singh
Nitin Desai
Deepak Tikku
Mahendra Vyas
Sudarshan Iyengar
Shailesh Nayak

REPRESENTATIVES OF

National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)
National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

Jagdeesh Rao
(*Ex-Officio Member Secretary*)

*Jagdeesh Rao, FES' Executive Director since its inception, will now spearhead the Commons Collaborative and India Observatory as "Anchor and Curator". Sanjay Joshi, the Foundation's Chief Operations Officer since 2018, takes over as Executive Director, effective 1st August 2020.

The FES Signature

205 million acres, a quarter of India's geographical area, spanning community forests, pastures and water bodies, are classified as Commons.

They are shared resources that serve vital ecological functions, contribute to carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, hydrological supplies, and are of social and cultural significance to rural communities. They also meet the critical livelihood needs of **more than 350 million of India's rural poor**. Estimated at a value of **USD 5 billion annually** (in 2001), these shared resources are the backbone of rural economies.

India's Commons face widespread degradation, leading to falling yields, increased cost of cultivation, depleted water tables, shrinking forests, and the unregulated use of pastures. The dominant perspective that delinks Nature and people, and relies on centralised or individualised governance of shared resources, adds to this degradation. The social and economic fallout is felt most acutely by India's rural poor, whose livelihoods are directly linked to their environment. It is also now acknowledged globally, that the degradation of Commons is a key contributor to poverty, conflict, corruption and limited economic growth.

FES THROUGH THE YEARS

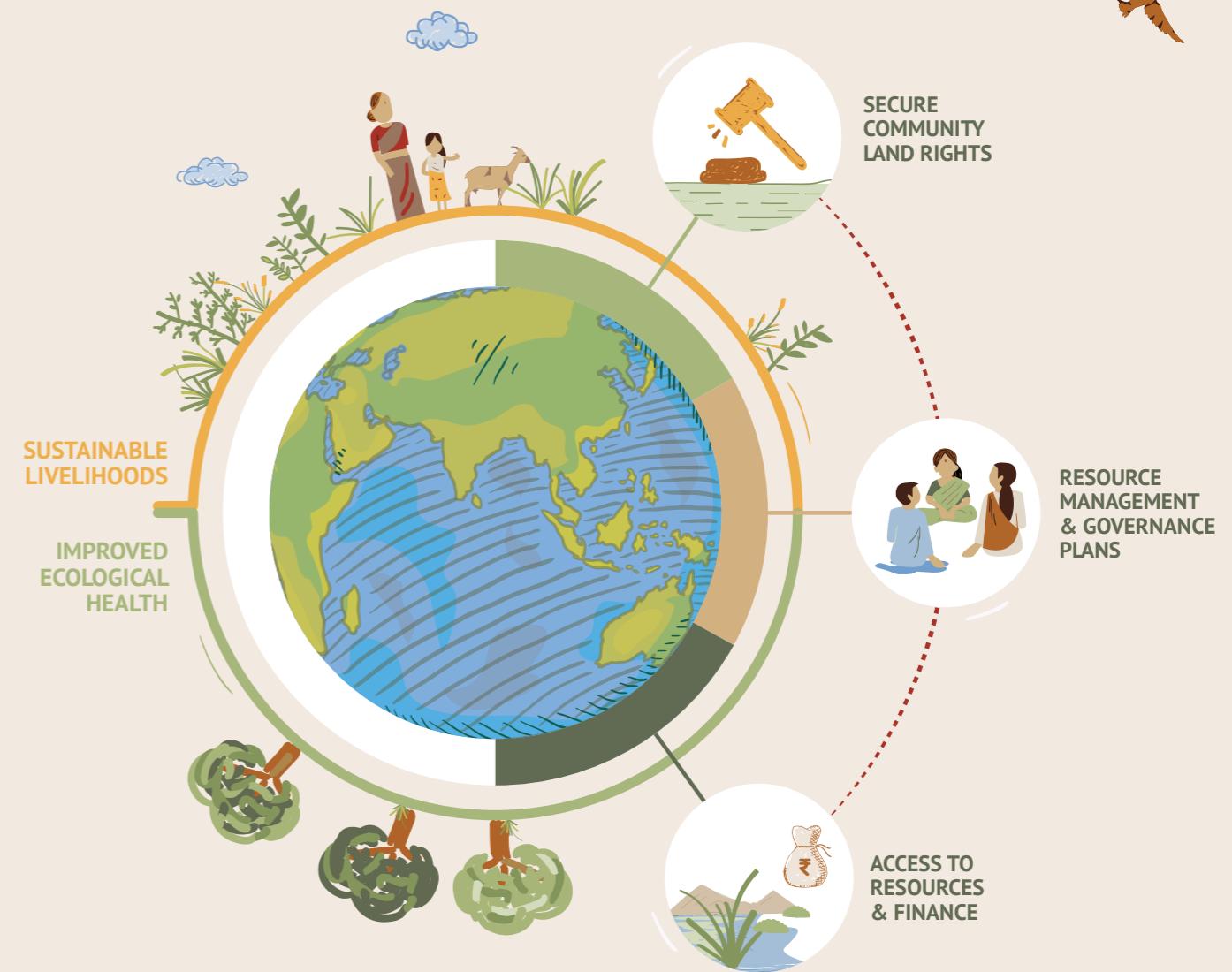
FES works on the ground, at scale, and in diverse settings, with rural communities, governments, and civil society organisations. What began as a pilot in 1986 with field-level implementation in a few villages, across a few geographies, has now spread to thousands of villages across 10 states in India.

Over the years, we have:

- Expanded field operations to more villages in existing locations by setting in place institutions for community-based natural resource management and governance.
- Formed enduring partnerships with government and civil society organisations, to reach new locations.
- Trained and enhanced capacities of rural communities and partners to replicate efforts.
- Aided informed, evidence-based, decision-making for conservation at scale, and the sound use of public funds by harnessing the potential of information technology.
- Partnered with research institutions, nationally and internationally, to help improve understanding, add rigour in field action, and build evidence.
- Collaborated with practitioners, research bodies, and think tanks to elevate the profile and value of Commons, and nature conservation, for improved rural economies.

THE FES CORE MODEL

FES' core approach is built on three interconnected elements, to help decentralise the top-heavy approach to environmental management, and demonstrate how local communities can successfully and cost effectively manage natural resources, Commons in particular. We seek to connect the people to Commons, to understand and respect the inter-relationships of various life forms and natural systems. We look to strengthen local communities' argument to retain their rights over Commons, so that they move towards sustainable land-use practices that aid conservation, and create economic opportunities.



Addressing the interconnected issues of community land rights, resource management and governance plans and access to resources and finance, contributes to improved ecological health and sustainable livelihoods.



Paul Nordinma

AN ECOLOGICAL AGENDA

FES works towards centre-staging an ecological agenda alongside economic growth, to include conservation and social justice in the common perception of 'progress'.

Cornerstones

- *Bringing an ecological leaning to the dominant views of 'natural resource management' and 'rural development'.*
- *Advancing the 'Commons paradigm', or a collective appreciation of Commons, to the governance of natural resources.*
- *Adopting an interdisciplinary approach with equal emphasis on ecological well-being, social justice, and access to economic opportunity.*

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

Finding ways to replicate natural ecosystems

FES works to regenerate and conserve forests, pastures, and water bodies that have degraded over the years. Interlinkages between Commons, agriculture and livestock production systems are viewed at a landscape level, connecting the larger constituency of farmers and livestock keepers with the conservation of natural resources.

As ecological security is fundamental to economic and social well-being, FES works with rural communities towards:

- Maintaining hydrological and nutrient cycles and improving soil health
- Conserving indigenous biodiversity
- Supporting local land-use choices



LOCAL GOVERNANCE

*Enabling communities
to take collective decisions*

As forests, pastures and water bodies are shared by human settlements and require inter-village cooperation, FES works with contiguous villages and traditional forms of local self-governance institutions and nests them within Panchayats to gain formal recognition, to create the institutional apparatus for debate and dialogue at a block or landscape level.

We assist rural communities by:

- Reviving rules and regulations for the governance of shared natural resources
- Helping secure legal rights to access and manage their Commons
- Creating a platform where districts and states recognise and address local needs



ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS

*Creating systems that
conserve and sustain*

FES believes that better management of forests and pastures is directly linked to increased water, fodder and pollinator availability for farming and livestock production systems. This results in assured crops, diversified income, and higher returns.

We promote livelihoods that are ecologically sound, socially just, and economically rewarding, through:

- Effective use of public funds
- Improved leadership and reduced conflict
- Strengthened collective action for cost-effective management of natural resources





Our Approach

Addressing the criticality of Commons restoration, FES centre-stages local communities as stewards capable of leading local action. By working with our partners across varied ecological and cultural settings, FES contributes to the growing recognition of Common Property Regimes, alongside centralised or individual property regimes.



FORESTS IN A LANDSCAPE

Building a larger constituency for forest conservation

Forests contribute positively to key ecological functions: the improved transfer of nutrients, longer periods of water flow, moisture retention, and better pollination and pest control. They also impact local livelihoods, and augment critical water supplies to our cities.

FES views forests as part of the larger physical, social, and economic landscape, and works with forest-dependent communities to plan preservation, conservation, and utilisation of these shared natural resources.

FES thus helps build a larger farmer constituency for forest conservation, where the continuum of forests, agriculture and economic opportunities are appreciated together.



FARM AND FARMING SYSTEMS

Guiding choices that impact ecological thresholds

Efforts to build interlinkages between agriculture, livestock, and Commons find ready acceptance in rural communities; local action to restore Commons sets the stage for collective decision-making on crop choices and judicious use of land and water resources.

FES recognises the value of the interconnections within the larger farming system, and engages with local communities to address subsistence requirements, generate incomes, and influence choices that impact ecological thresholds over a period of time.



TENURE OVER COMMONS

Strengthening community ownership of Commons

The degradation of Commons can be attributed to weak tenure rights, erosion of local institutions, and the misplaced belief that local communities are ineffective managers of their shared natural resources.

FES aids communities secure tenure over their Commons. Where the Forest Rights Act applies, communities are supported to claim rights over Commons as community forests. Where there are wastelands, we help village communities acquire long-term leases, and claim for increases in pastures. We also enable local communities to map their common lands (wastelands and pastures) and register them in the prohibitory order book or Panchayat Asset Register, to limit their diversion to other uses.



WORKING WITH PANCHAYATS

Positioning rural communities as active stewards of their regions

The role of Panchayats and Gram Sabhas in the governance of shared natural resources builds the democratic character of our decentralised governance architecture.

FES helps Panchayats develop Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP) and plan for restrictions on groundwater mining, better sanitation, and protection of grazing land. In doing so, we restore the agency of rural communities to improve collective action, democratise the functioning of local institutions, and devise institutional spaces that safeguard the interests of the poor.



RIGHT TO EMPLOYMENT AND RESOURCES

Helping align 'Right to Employment' with 'Right to Resources'

FES believes that any financial investments need to be backed by institutional ones, to build durable community assets and provide wage employment for benefits in the long term.

FES supports Panchayats to align their Commons restoration plans with the Right to Employment Act. We also assist in establishing democratic and transparent decision-making systems that enable local level institutions to effectively implement programmes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

Strategic Overview

WIDESPREAD ACTION

FES' strategies are designed to promote informed and widespread action on nature conservation, natural resource management, local self-governance and sustainable livelihoods.



ACCELERATING MOMENTUM ON THE GROUND

Aimed to expand engagement on the ground and build widespread evidence on improved ecological, social, and economic outcomes of community-led conservation efforts.



WORKING DIRECTLY WITH VILLAGE INSTITUTIONS

FES works to enable rural communities to:

EVOLVE

replicable institutional models, including established collaborative platforms that foster multi-stakeholder consultation and action.

DEVELOP

informed, collaborative action, by enhancing capacities of local communities, Panchayats and key actors.

INCUBATE

ideas for scale, by applying and adopting knowledge, information and analytics, and landscape-level conservation planning to core actions.

BUILD

sound evidence across contexts of community-led governance that demonstrate secured Commons, improved shared natural resources, and increased economic opportunities.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

FES collaborates with governments and non-government agencies, using experiential learning methods that build social, institutional and technological skills to steer processes at the village level. Together, we seek to:

EMBED

Commons within government and NGO programmes to address conservation and local stewardship.

CREATE

an ecosystem of skilled cadre to secure and rejuvenate Commons, and improve local governance.

PROVIDE

institutional support to partners by sharing tools, communication and training material for implementation at scale, ensuring quality and consistency.

STRENGTHEN

forums for collective gain through linked networks and platforms.

ELEVATING THE DEBATE AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Aimed to enhance the debate, translate knowledge to action, and make visible a system-wide, thought leadership, for a multiplier impact on community-led governance of shared natural resources.

CENTRE-STAGING COMMONS

The Commons Collaborative seeks to advance the dialogue on Commons at local, regional, national and international levels, and root it in the larger goals of climate action and sustainable development. It works to:

BUILD

data and evidence to align Commons as a part of the solution for Sustainable Development Growth (SDGs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), economic improvements and biodiversity conservation.

PROMOTE

informed action by improving the accessibility of knowledge, analytics and tools, for greater transparency, civic engagement and informed decision-making.

INFLUENCE

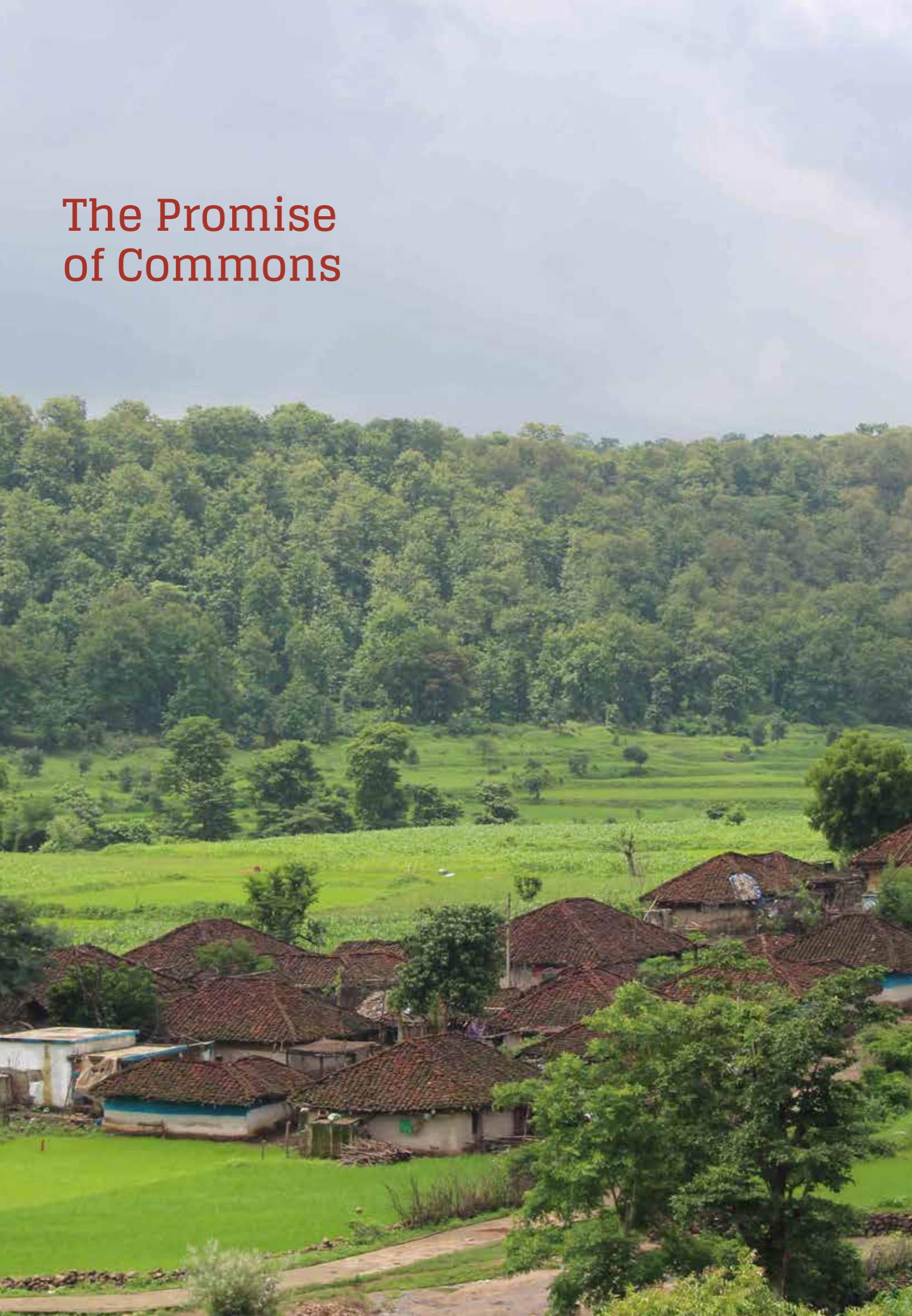
public opinion to celebrate Commons and the significance of nature conservation for rural economies.

SHARING DATA, INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The India Observatory (IO) is a countrywide, open-source data platform with a suite of tools that enables interactive analysis and query-based analytical reports for accountable and transparent planning, and interdisciplinary, knowledge-based governance of natural resources. Founded through collaboration and geared to promote a devolved ecosystem, IO hosts data on 1800+ parameters (social, economic, ecological) which are spatially presented from the village to the national level. The IO platform also hosts the Indian Biodiversity Information System (IBIS), a comprehensive database of Indian birds, mammals and flora to assist mapping and conservation.



The Promise of Commons



Alok Vishnoi

FES aims to impact 38 million people and 30 million acres of Commons by 2023, by transforming the ‘Tragedy of Commons’ to the ‘Promise of Commons’.

Commons or Common Pool Resources (CPRs) are fundamental to the sustenance of life and rural livelihoods. They constitute a quarter of India’s landmass and are primarily administered by the government. When individuals or groups act in self-interest, it negatively impacts these resources. In the absence of legal recognition or land titles, rural communities lack the incentive to effectively protect these resources. As a result, Commons are neglected to the point of degradation. This is termed the ‘Tragedy of Commons’.

FES and its partners enable rural communities to organise themselves, secure land rights, evolve resource management plans and access public investments to restore the environment. We engage with relevant governments to advocate for and implement measures that promote the management and governance of Commons by local communities. Our concerted efforts are to change the narrative, from the ‘Tragedy of Commons’ to the ‘Promise of Commons’.

Scaling through NGO and Government partners, supported by strategic alliances with think tanks, research bodies, and other networks, we aim to:

ACCELERATE

impact on
the ground

EMBED

Commons in policy and
programmatic action

CREATE

awareness that
identifies Commons'
protection and
restoration as a priority

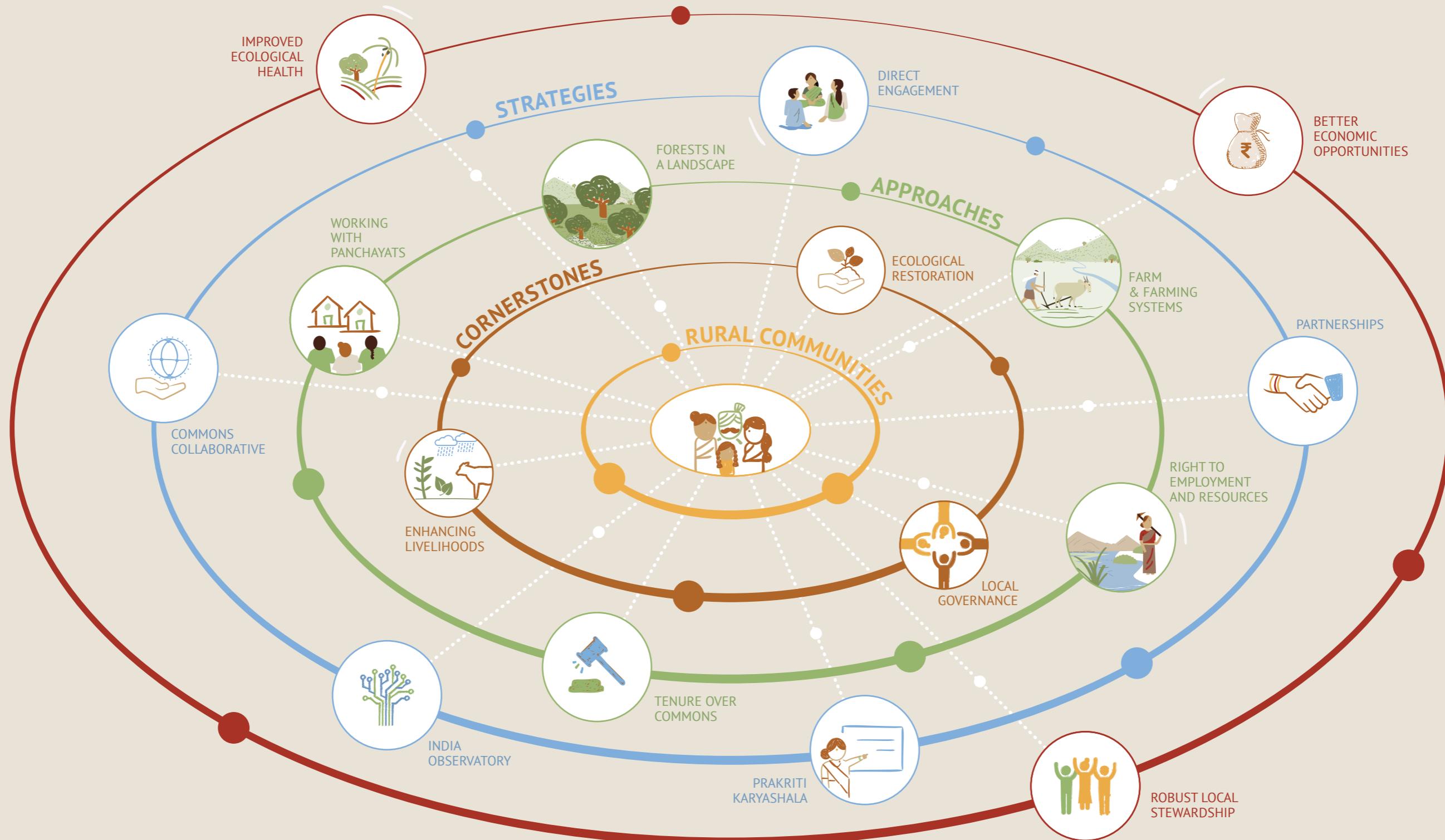


Alil Saeed

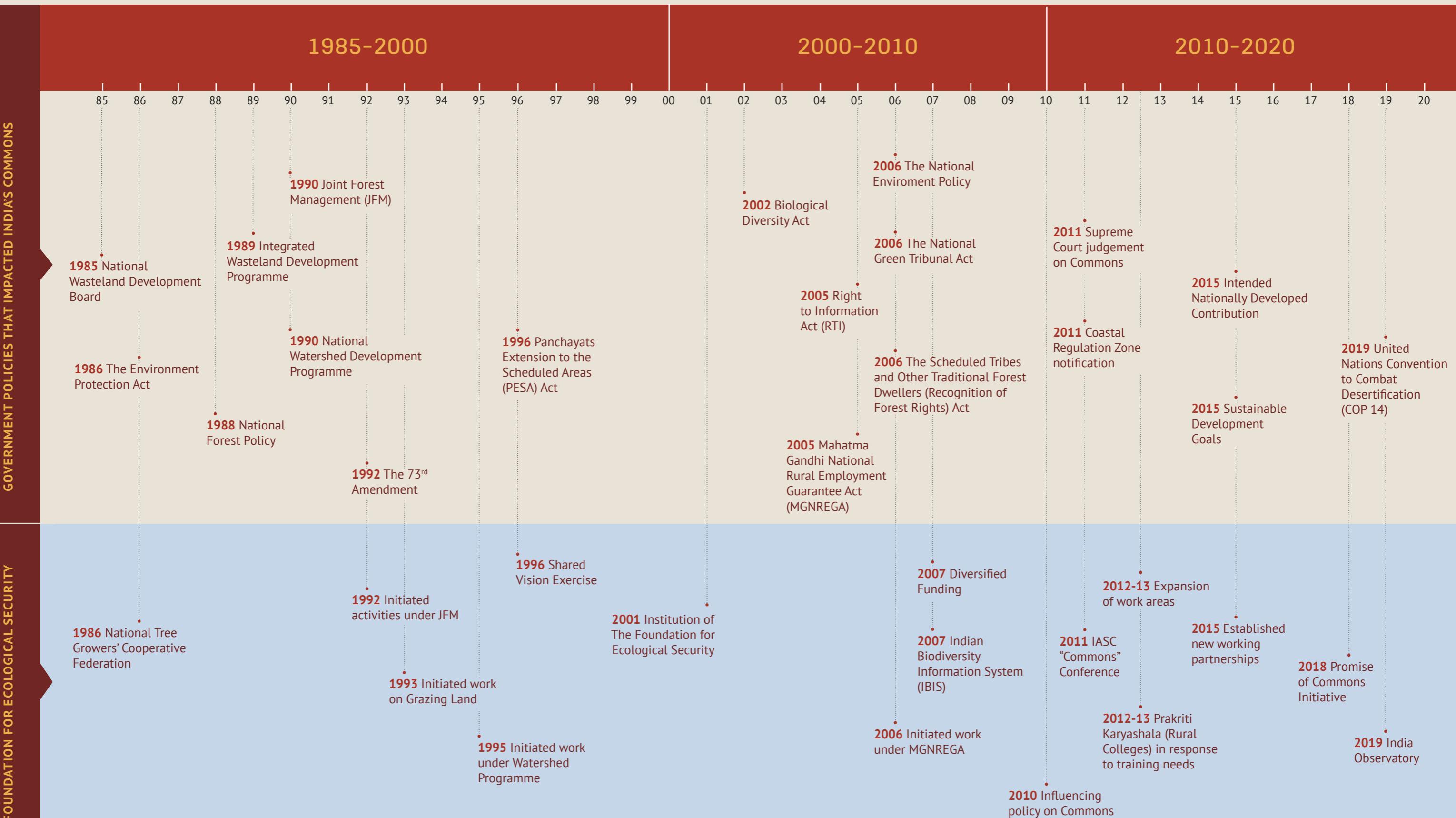
ADVISORS TO
THE PROMISE
OF COMMONS:
Arun Maira
GB Mukherji
Jugal Mohapatra
SM Vijayanand
Tajamul Haque

The FES Landscape

The FES Landscape is multi-layered, and derived from our mission to improve ecological health and build sustainable, resilient livelihoods. Our strategies and approaches are interconnected and interdependent, and they work together to serve and empower India's rural communities.



Impetus for Our Work



2019-20 At a Glance



10,928
HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS
STRENGTHENED

THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT	1303
THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS & KARYASHALA	+ 9625



5.07
MILLION LIVES IMPACTED

THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT	0.83
THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS & KARYASHALA	+ 4.24



2.58
MILLION ACRES OF COMMONS
UNDER COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT	0.32
THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS & KARYASHALA	+ 2.26



LAUNCHED
INDIA OBSERVATORY
AT GEOSMART 2019
IN HYDERABAD



70,815

PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH
LIVELIHOOD INTERVENTIONS



14
NEW NGOS ENGAGED



59,890

PEOPLE TRAINED
BY KARYASHALA



1
NEW STATE ADDED



20,978

ACRES REGENERATED



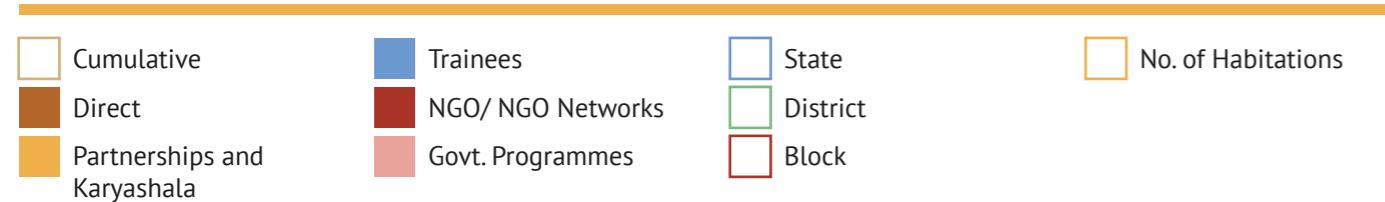
77
UNIQUE AGENCIES
USED IO TOOLS



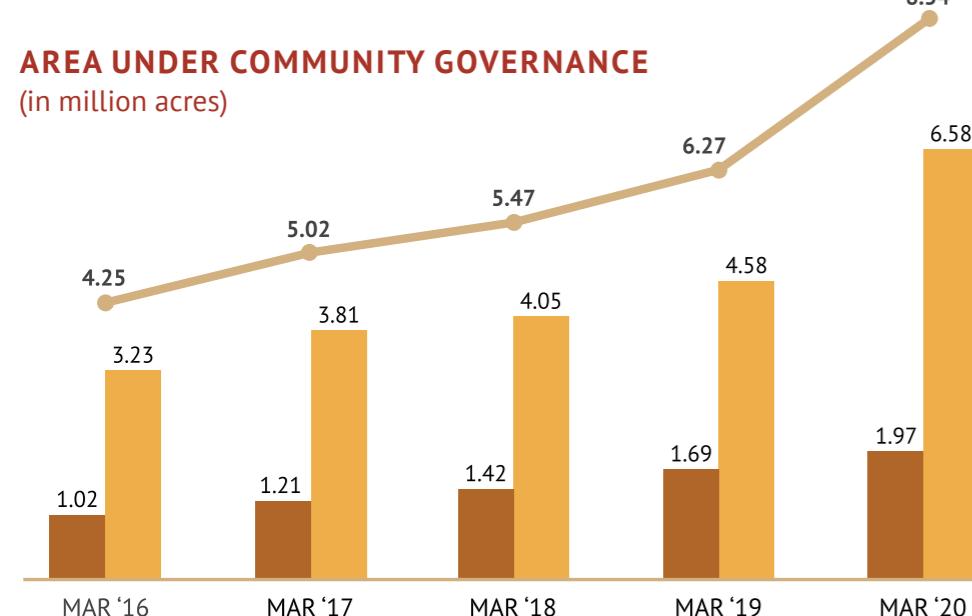
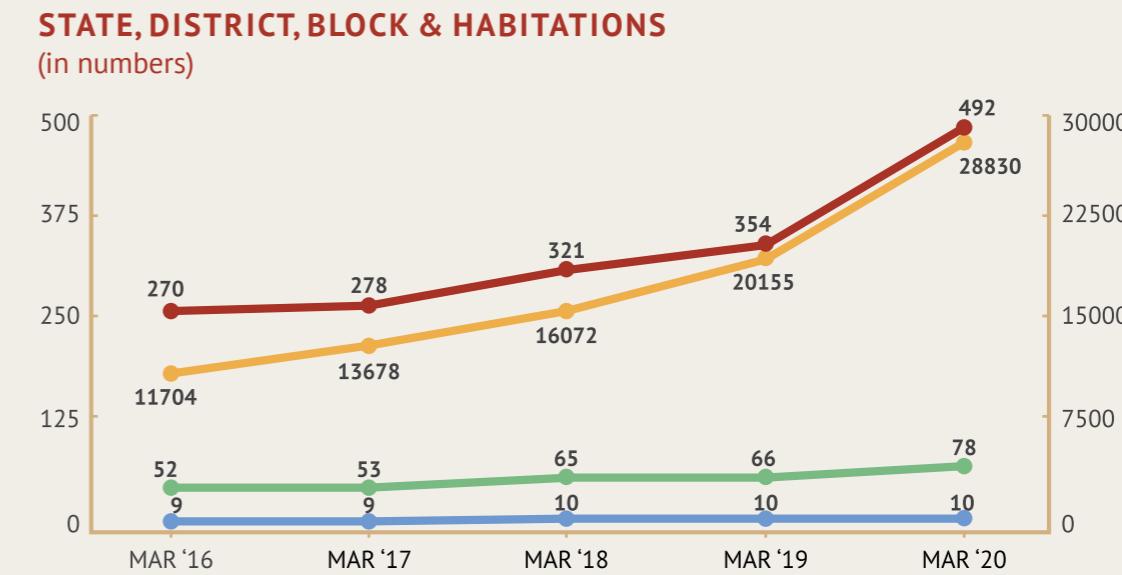
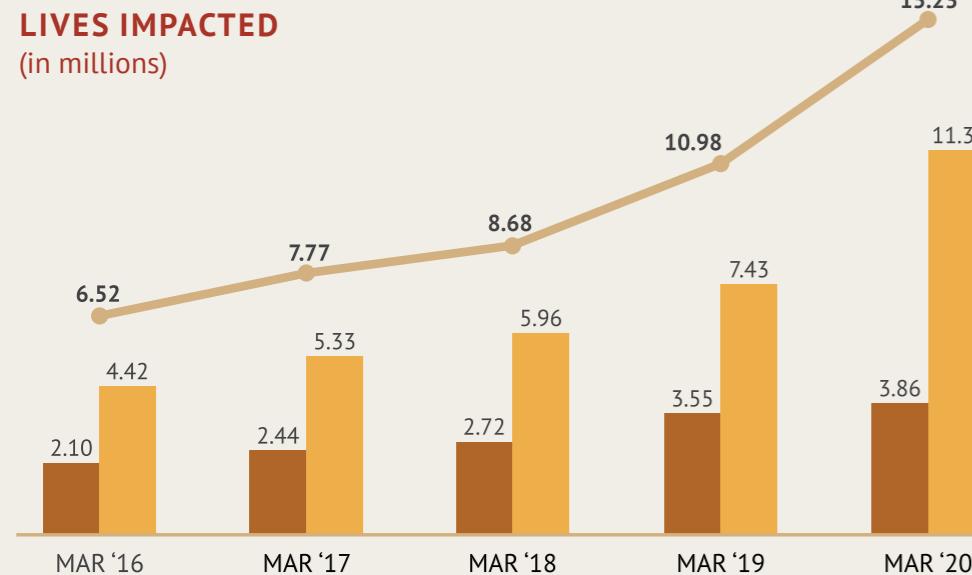
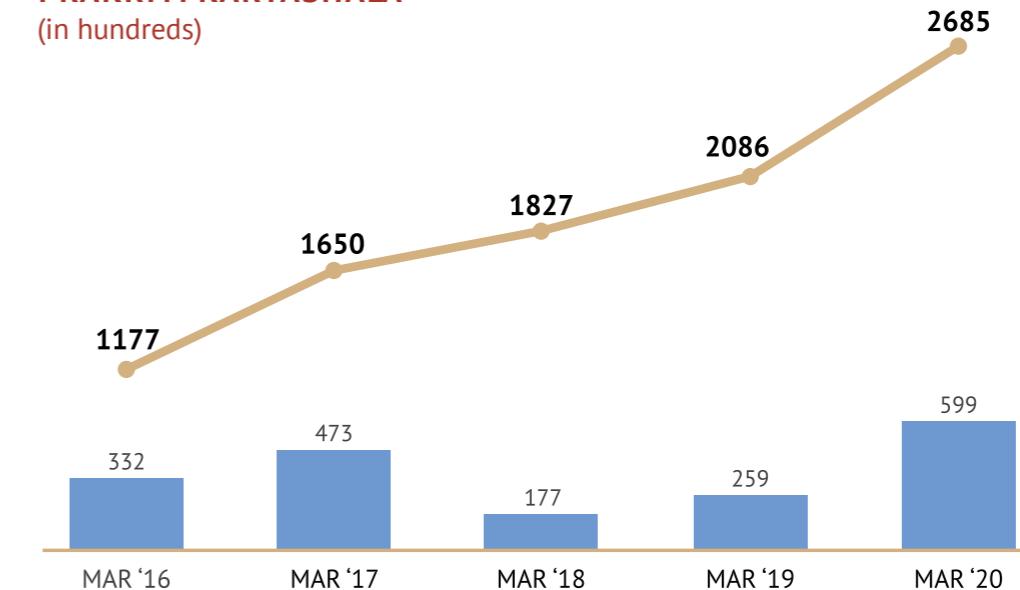
44,034

ACRES TREATED WITH SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

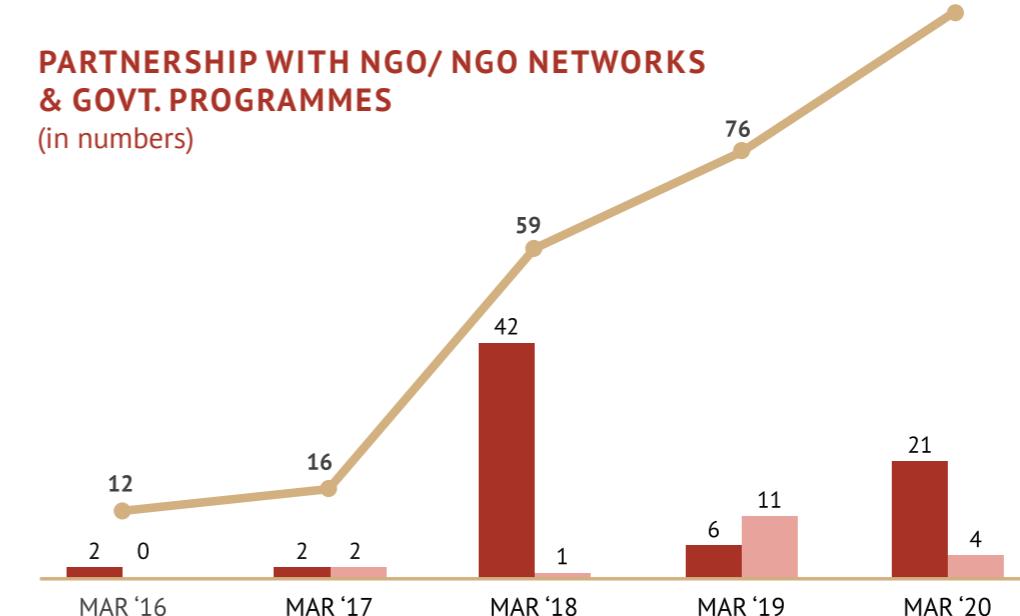
Our Outreach



PERSONS TRAINED BY PRAKRITI KARYASHALA
(in hundreds)



PARTNERSHIP WITH NGO/ NGO NETWORKS & GOVT. PROGRAMMES
(in numbers)



Our Collaborative Impact

Our experience, and evidence from diverse socio-economic-ecological conditions has demonstrated that multiple and varied interventions lead to improved ecological and socio-economic outcomes.

IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:

78 districts,
10 states

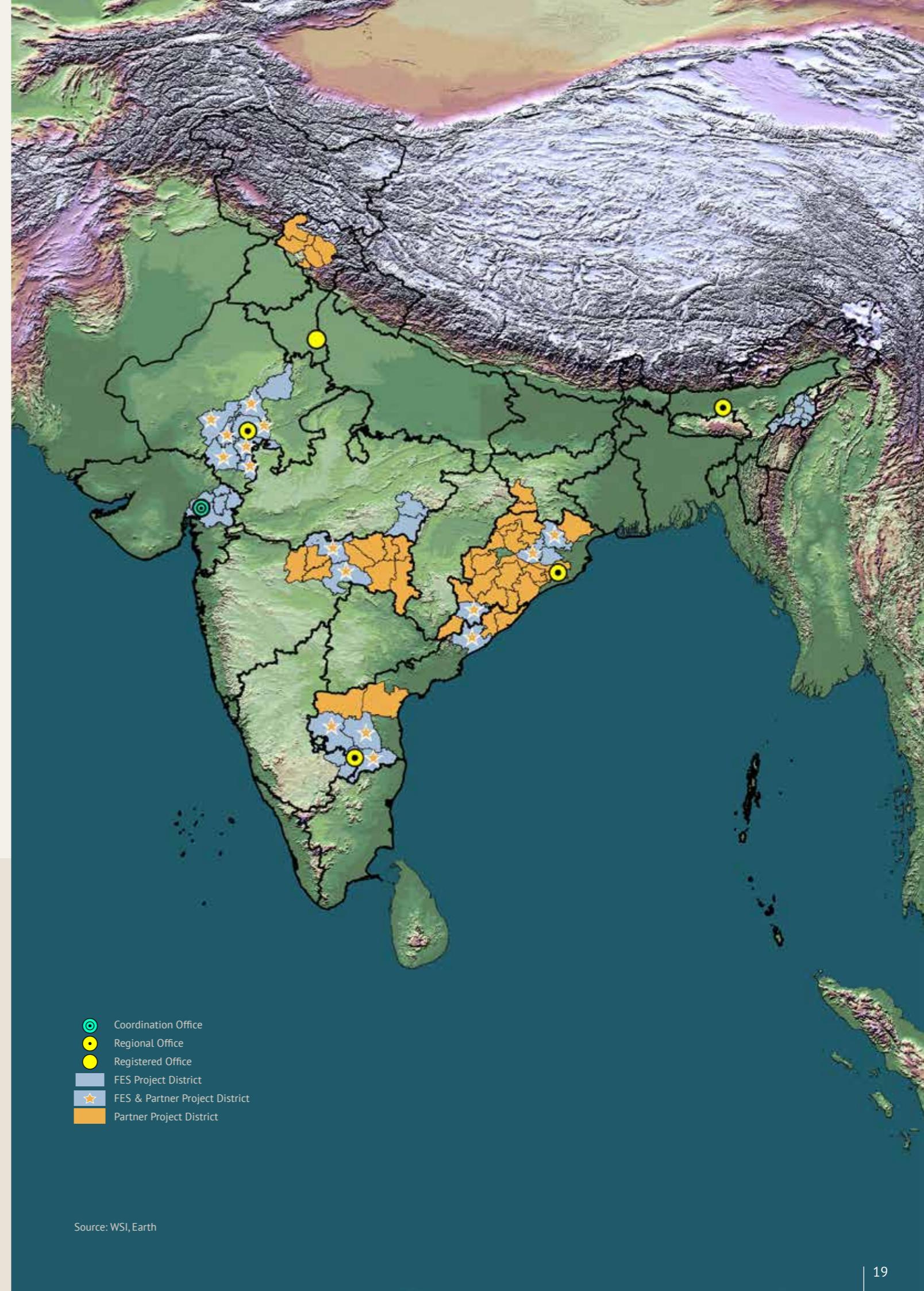


*Cumulative as on
31st March 2020

28,830	HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED	15.23	MILLION LIVES IMPACTED	8.54	MILLION ACRES OF COMMONS SECURED
THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT	6753	3.86	1.97		
THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS & KARYASHALA	22077	11.37	6.58		

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

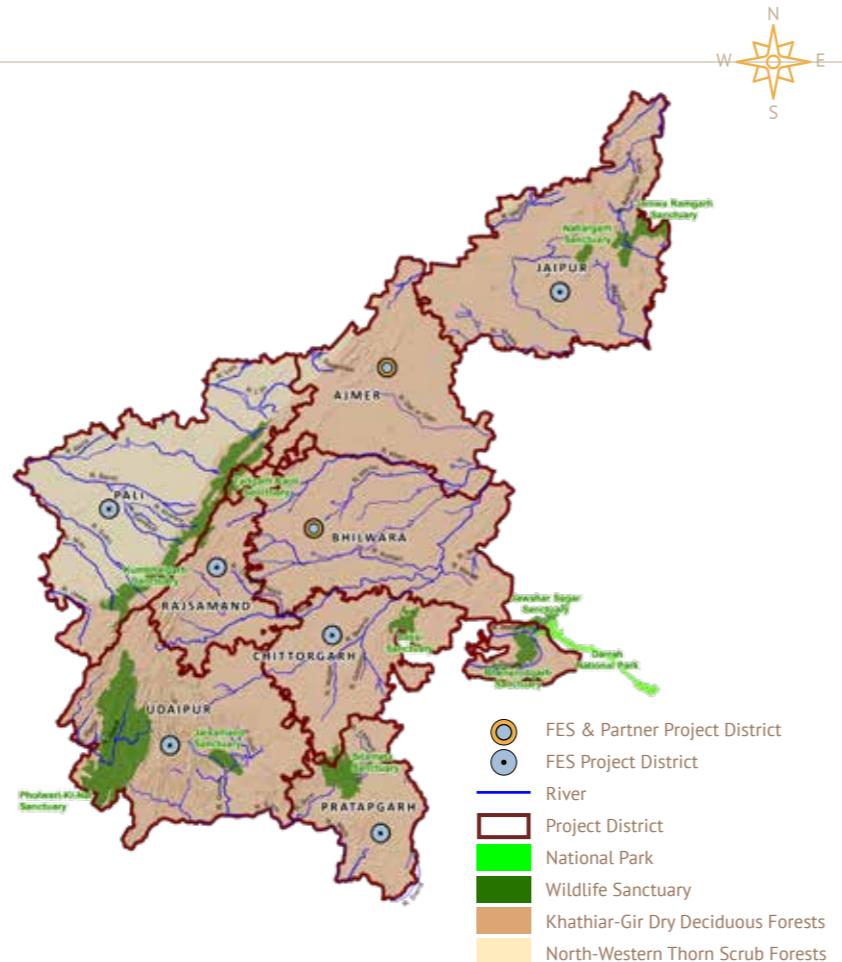
ANDHRA PRADESH	HIMACHAL PRADESH	MADHYA PRADESH	ODISHA	Nayagarh	THE NORTH-EAST
Anantapur	Bilaspur	Balaghat	Angul	Nuapada	Dimapur
Chittoor	Chamba	Mandla	Balangir	Rayagada	Kiphire
Cuddapah	Hamirpur	Bargarh	Bargarh	Sambalpur	Kohima
Guntur	Kangra	Akola	Boudh	Sundargarh	Longleng
Kurnool	Kulu	Amravati	Cuttack		Mokokchung
Prakasam	Mandi	Bhandara	Debagarh		Peren
Srikakulam		Buldhana	Dhenkanal	Ajmer	Phesk
Vishakhapatnam	JHARKHAND	Chandrapur	Gajapati	Bhilwara	Tuensang
Vizianagaram	Simdega	Gadchiroli	Ganjam	Chittorgarh	Zunheboto
	Gumla	Gondia	Jharsuguda	Jaipur	
GUJARAT		Nagpur	Kalahandi	Pali	
Anand	KARNATAKA	Wardha	Kandhamal	Pratapgarh	
Dahod	Chikkaballapur	Washim	Kendujhar	Rajsamand	
Kheda	Kolar	Yavatmal	Khordha	Udaipur	
Mahisagar			Koraput		
Panchmahal			Malkangiri		
Vadodara			Mayurbhanj		
			Nabarangpur		



Rajasthan

FES works directly and through partners in eight districts, with agro-pastoral communities in Bhilwara, Ajmer, Jaipur and Pali, and with tribal communities in Udaipur, Pratapgarh, Chittorgarh and Rajsamand. The central districts face recurrent drought conditions, while the southern districts are marked by severe deforestation, loss of biodiversity and increasing levels of poverty.

Across regions, we support local communities to secure long-term tenure over common lands, improve local governance of shared natural resources, promote local federations, and channel public investments such as MGNREGS to revive forests, common pastures, and water bodies. We also highlight the critical ecological functions of forests for viable agriculture, and meeting food, fodder, firewood, and water requirements.



PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

In coordination with the Sirohi district administration, PRADAN and Jan Chetna Sansthan trained 685 women from Pindwara and Abu Road Blocks in MGNREGS implementation. This boosted the number of women qualified for employment as mates and the number of women MGNREGS mates rose to 90% in the two blocks. District administration scaled this model in other blocks, making Sirohi the first district in Rajasthan with 90% women MGNREGS mates.

IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:



4,902
HABITATION-LEVEL
INSTITUTIONS
STRENGTHENED

THROUGH DIRECT
ENGAGEMENT
2382
+
THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS
& KARYASHALA
2520



4,715
THOUSAND LIVES
IMPACTED

1633
+
3083
718
+
605



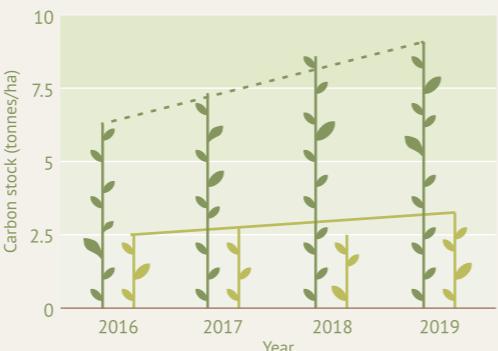
1,322
THOUSAND ACRES
OF COMMONS
SECURED



"Our village depends entirely on the monsoons for water, and most of it is lost to runoff. Training on water conservation showed us how to harvest water in the monsoons. Together, we built the anicut, which was ready in time for this year's rains. It will be a boon for the entire village as it can store over 6000 cubic metres, which will boost the groundwater level and make water available for agriculture and livestock."

Nathu Singh Solanki,
Secretary of Devgarh Mandariya Manch,
Solankiyo ka Gudha, Devgarh

CHANGE IN CARBON STOCK*



Community managed Unmanaged

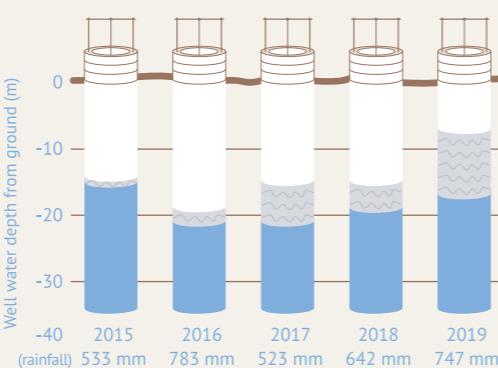
Key ecological parameters monitored annually across 33 sites since 2016 indicates a 45% increase in the standing biomass and carbon stock in common land under community governance.

*Carbon stock calculated as 45% of the above-ground biomass.

KACHOLIYA



WELL WATER MONITORING



Empty Post Monsoon Pre Monsoon

On average, 250 wells were monitored pre and post monsoons, since 2015. In areas where water conservation was undertaken, an overall increase in groundwater levels was observed, even in low-rainfall years.



741 NEW HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS organised through Direct Engagement, to bring **1,75,718 acres** of Commons under community governance.

1089 HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS organised through Prakriti Karyashala, to bring **2,18,069 acres** of Commons under community governance.

47 HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS organised through Partnerships, bringing **40,121 acres** under community governance.

30,271 ACRES OF COMMONS REVIVED through soil moisture conservation measures, and **12,343 acres** through revegetation measures.

283 WATER HARVESTING STRUCTURES CONSTRUCTED to augment water resources.

75 GRAM PANCHAYATS in Mandalgarh and Pratapgarh Blocks assisted in Gram Panchayat Development Planning (GDPD).

75,000 ACRES OF COMMONS MAPPED using the Common Land Mapping (CLM) tool.

9,894 GRAM PANCHAYATS RECEIVED A 'CALL TO ACTION' from Shamlat Abhiyan, the Campaign on Commons, to undertake resolutions in their Gram Sabha and take action for better management of Commons.

7,439 MARGINALISED HOUSEHOLDS SUPPORTED through farm-based livelihoods interventions.

Andhra Pradesh

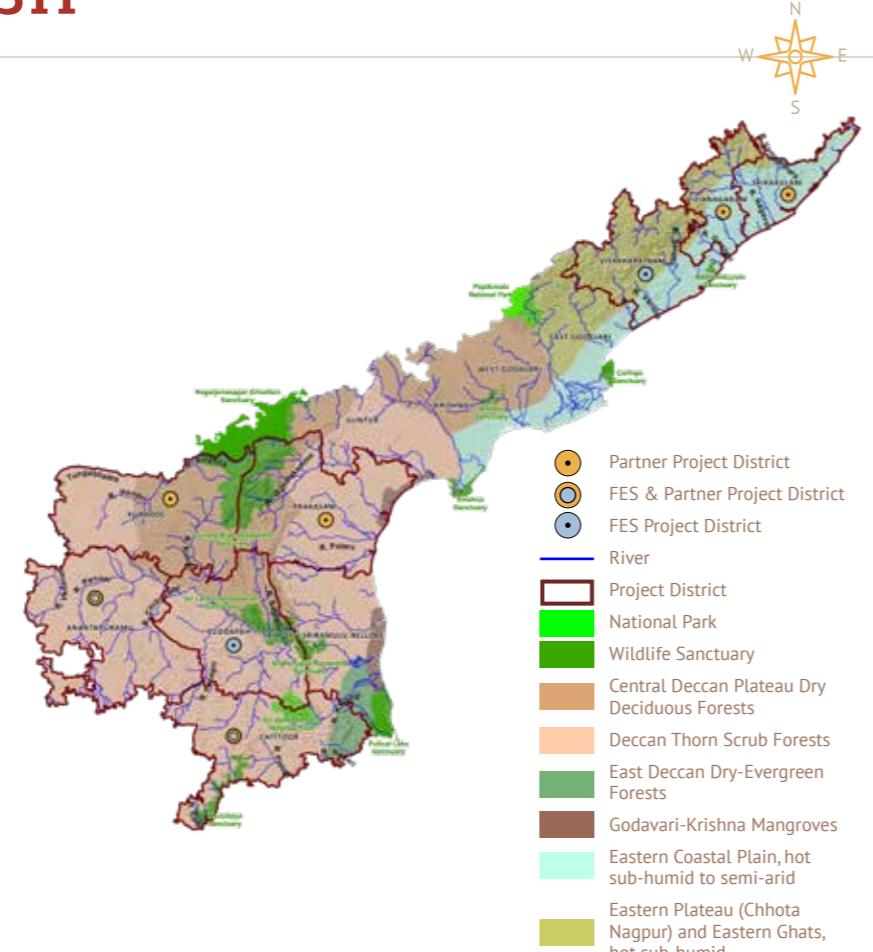
FES works in the rain-fed catchment areas of River Papagni in Chittoor and Anantapuramu districts, which lie at the trijunction of the Deccan Plateau and the Eastern and Western Ghats. Once known for its cascading irrigation tanks, this region is now prone to severe droughts and depleting water tables. An increase in cultivated areas, planting of water-intensive crops, escalating cultivation costs, and fluctuations in market price have led to distress migration. We also work in the tribal-dominated and forested uplands of the Machkund river basin in Visakhapatnam district.

Our efforts are directed at securing tenure over Commons and ecological restoration of the landscape and strengthening habitation-level institutions and their conglomerates. We also focus on the generational transfer of rich, local traditional knowledge, practice, and culture, connected to Commons, through wisdom walks.



PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

Punganur Mandala Vayalaga Rythula Samakhya and Palamaner Mandala Vayalaga Rythula Samakhya, two farmers' federations, collaborated with FES for the conservation and restoration of Commons. They worked with 268 Village Institutions in 66 Gram Panchayats to map around 28,540 acres of Commons. The restoration plans for these Commons have been prepared and submitted for implementation under MGNREGS.



IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:



4,601
HABITATION-LEVEL
INSTITUTIONS
STRENGTHENED

THROUGH DIRECT
ENGAGEMENT
THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS
& KARYASHALA



3,275
THOUSAND LIVES
IMPACTED

THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT	844	236	277
THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS & KARYASHALA	3757	3039	910



1,187
THOUSAND ACRES
OF COMMONS
SECURED

"Last year, we removed Bodha grass from some of our common land, which boosted the regeneration of rootstock of native species such as *Pongemina pinnata* and *Wrightia tinctoria*. Many of these species, which also serve as fodder, have increased in number and growth. This occurred because Bodha, which when dry, can stoke forest fires, was removed. We don't need to go far in search of fodder for our sheep and goats, and can return to our families early now."

B Bayya Reddy,
President,
Yerrasanaivaripalle TGCS, Chittoor



S Sudheer Kumar

CHANGE IN CARBON STOCK*



Community managed Unmanaged

Key ecological parameters monitored annually across 15 sites since 2016 indicates an 18% increase in the standing biomass and carbon stock in common land under community governance.

*Carbon stock calculated as 45% of the above-ground biomass.

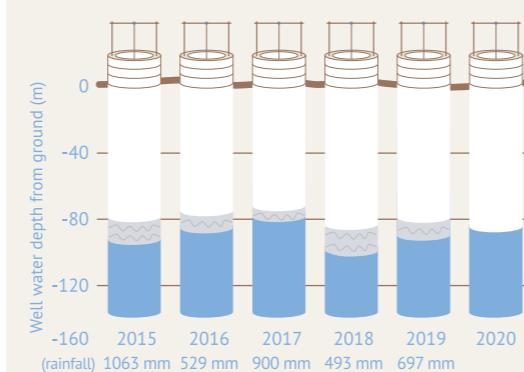
PENDERIVARIPALLE



AUG 2003

D Sunil

WELL WATER MONITORING



On average, 237 wells were monitored pre and post monsoons, since 2015. In areas where water conservation was undertaken, an overall increase in groundwater levels was observed, even in low-rainfall years.



JUN 2020

S Sudheer Kumar

28 NEW HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS organised through **Direct Engagement**, bringing **5,959 acres** of Commons under community governance.

768 HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS ORGANISED through **Prakriti Karyashala**, bringing **63,669 acres** of Commons under community governance.

862 HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS ORGANISED through **Partnerships**, bringing **1,83,708 acres** under community governance.

3,139 ACRES TREATED with soil and water conservation measures; **823 acres revegetated**; **34,500 saplings** of indigenous species planted.

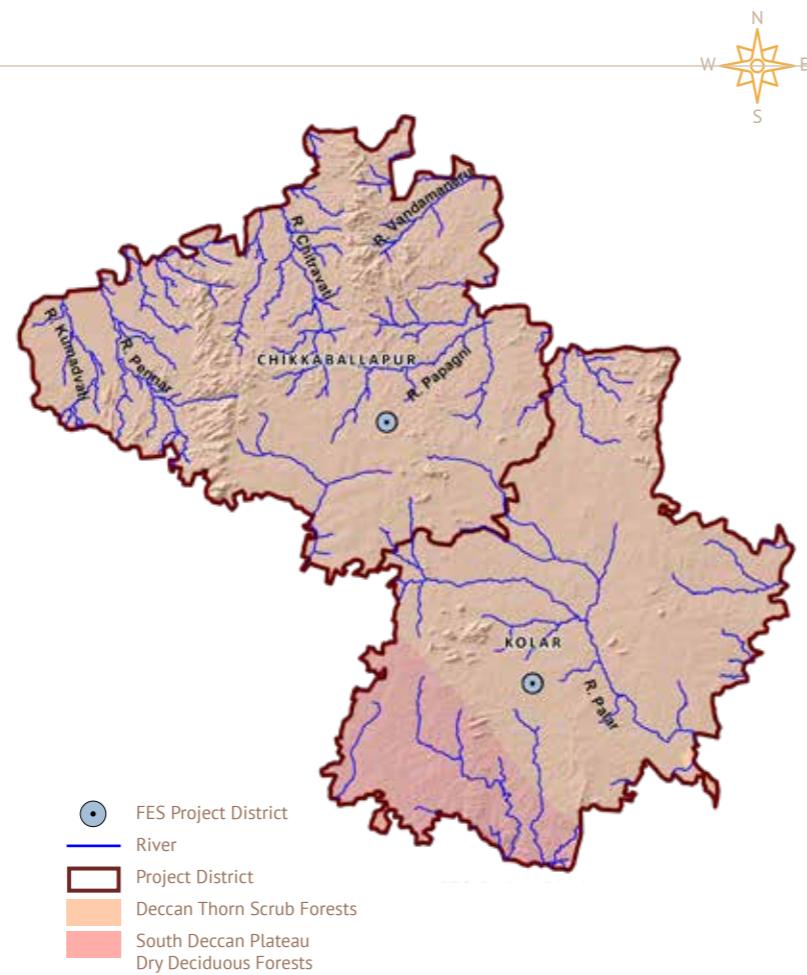
FOUR LOCAL FEDERATIONS SUPPORTED to engage with village institutions and other key stakeholders; one Multi Actor Platform (MAP) initiated in 1 Block.

7,108 HOUSEHOLDS SUPPORTED through agriculture and livestock-based interventions, and other income generation activities.

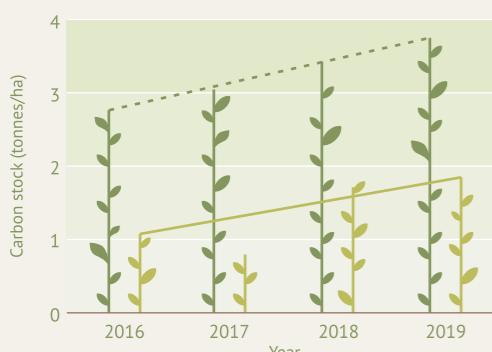
Karnataka

We work in Karnataka in the upper catchment of the River Papagni, covering three of its tributaries in the two districts of Kolar and Chikkaballapur. The region is characterised by hilly terrain with rocky boulders and sparse vegetation. Degraded forest patches and common pastures are a mix of dry-deciduous, tropical thorn and scrub forests, infested with invasive Lantana. In recent years, cultivation of water-intensive crops has resulted in unbridled groundwater extraction, and has depleted the water table to alarmingly low levels.

We work towards strengthening the Panchayat structure and their subcommittees to enable the restoration and governance of shared natural resources. We also promote sustainable agriculture practices that improve soil health, and encourage the adoption of diversified Natural Resource Management-linked livelihoods.



CHANGE IN CARBON STOCK*



Community managed Unmanaged

Key ecological parameters monitored annually across 13 sites since 2016 indicates a 36% increase in the standing biomass and carbon stock in common land under community governance.

*Carbon stock calculated as 45% of the above-ground biomass.

ENHANCING WATER SECURITY

The erosion of the traditional cascading tank system, which ensured water sustainability in low rainfall areas, has led to a severe water crisis in the region. To improve water availability by reviving these traditional systems and creating new storage structures, village communities across 600 villages came together to repair, restore and create 13 old tanks, 350 cattle ponds, and 47 check dams. A storage potential of 2,334 TCM means water security for household and livestock needs; communities do not have to buy tanker water any more.

IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:



993
HABITATION-LEVEL
INSTITUTIONS
STRENGTHENED



636
THOUSAND LIVES
IMPACTED



217
THOUSAND ACRES
OF COMMONS
SECURED

THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT

587 290 120

THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS & KARYASHALA

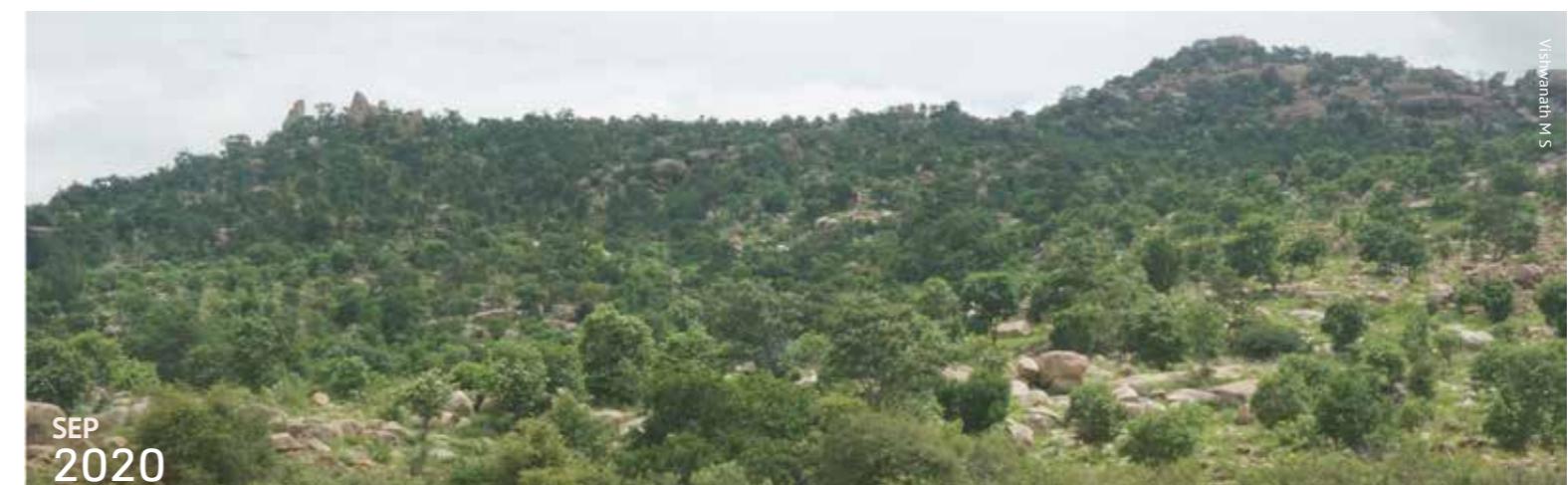
406 346 97



"Through the meetings, I realised that protecting our Commons will strengthen our livelihoods. We entered 268 acres of common land into the Panchayat Asset Register so that it is not diverted for any other use. The regenerated hillocks now provide fodder for our livestock. We have witnessed more wild animals like jackal, deer, rabbits, star tortoises, and birds on the Commons. We now understand that Commons will help our future generations, and we exist, because our Commons exist."

Kiran,
Balegowdanahalli,
Sidlaghatta

SIRAMPURA



44 NEW HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS organised through Direct Engagement, bringing **7,391 acres** of Commons under community governance.

289 HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS organised through Prakriti Karyashala, bringing **32,830 acres** of Commons under community governance.

1,416 ACRES OF COMMONS TREATED with soil and water conservation measures; **362 acres** revegetated; **75,000 saplings** of indigenous species planted.

TWO LOCAL FEDERATIONS SUPPORTED to engage with village institutions and other key stakeholders; one Multi Actor Platform (MAP) initiated in 1 Block. Four meetings/ events organised by federations.

4,686 HOUSEHOLDS SUPPORTED to improve livelihoods through agriculture and livestock-based interventions.

1,187 INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED to access social security schemes through the GEET application.

Odisha

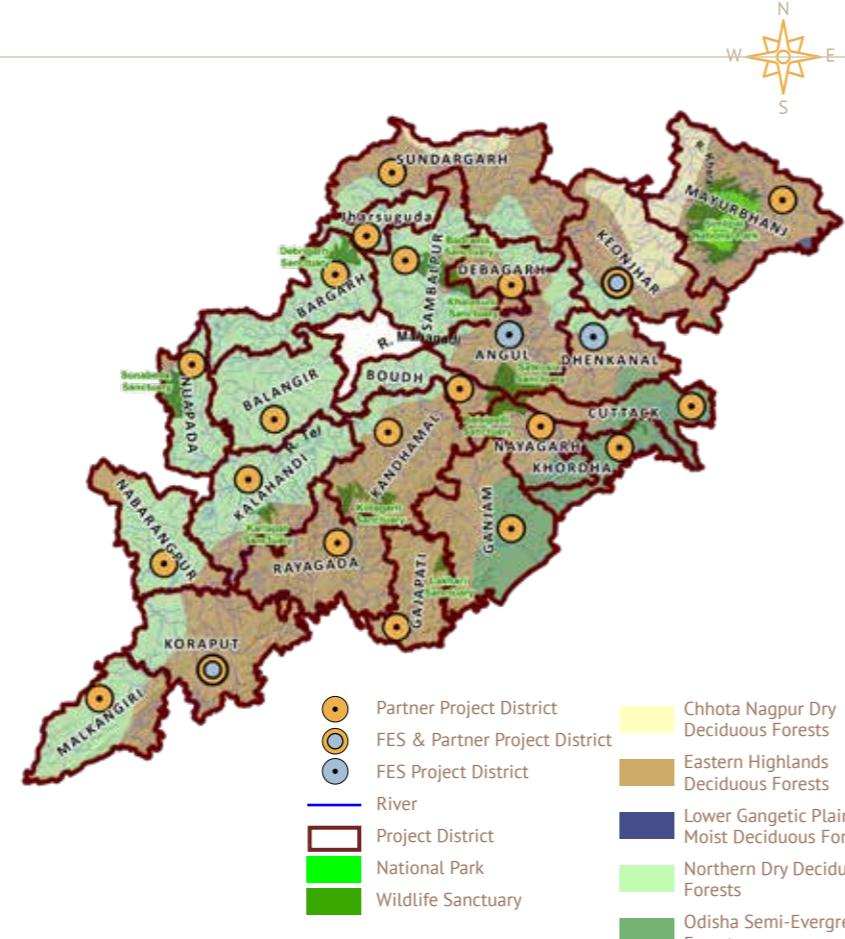
Our presence in Odisha is in the undulating central regions of Angul, Dhenkanal and Keonjhar, and in the Eastern Ghats' tribal-dominated district of Koraput. We work with rain-fed, agriculture-dependent, small and marginal farmers in Angul and Dhenkanal. In Koraput and Keonjhar, it is with tribal communities inhabiting the upper catchments of the Kolab and Baitarni River basins, respectively. Although rich in green cover, with rapid industrialisation, both regions have witnessed acute water scarcity and growing urban-rural economic disparity over the decades.

We work with local NGOs, forest protection networks and field teams across Odisha to secure Community Forest Rights (CFR) under the provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006. We also help build capacity of our partners and field teams to prepare post CFR management plans.



PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

Kuradiphasa is a small village in Bargarh district, Odisha, where communities are heavily dependent on forest produce for their livelihood and sustenance. With Manav Adhikar Seva Samiti's help, they filed CFR claims on 500 acres of forest in 2015-16, which were finally approved in 2018. Now, with the help of Odisha Livelihood Mission (OLM), they collect, process and market non-timber forest produce. This year, the community harvested and sold harra and honey, benefitting 67 households, mostly headed by women. 22 more villages in the block are planning similar interventions with OLM.



IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:



12,676
HABITATION-LEVEL
INSTITUTIONS
STRENGTHENED

THROUGH DIRECT
ENGAGEMENT

1641

THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

11035



5,272
THOUSAND LIVES
IMPACTED

880

4392



3,322
THOUSAND ACRES
OF COMMONS
SECURED

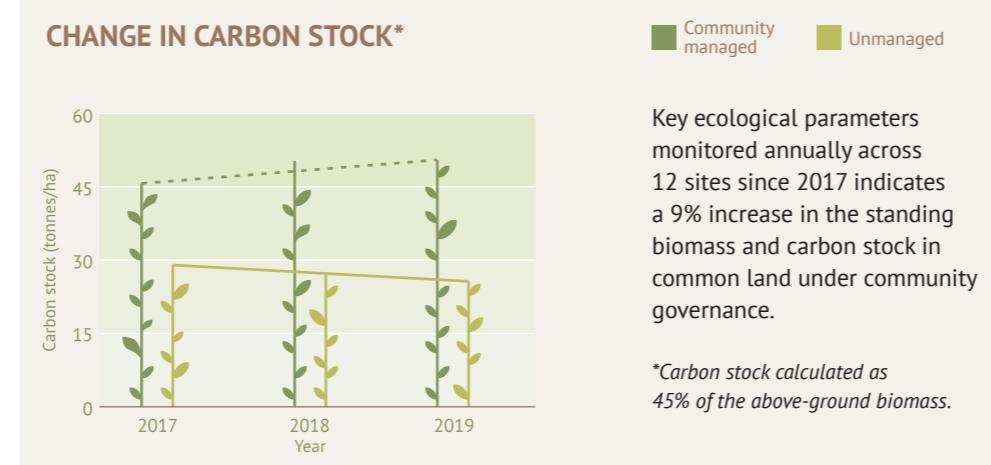
465

2857

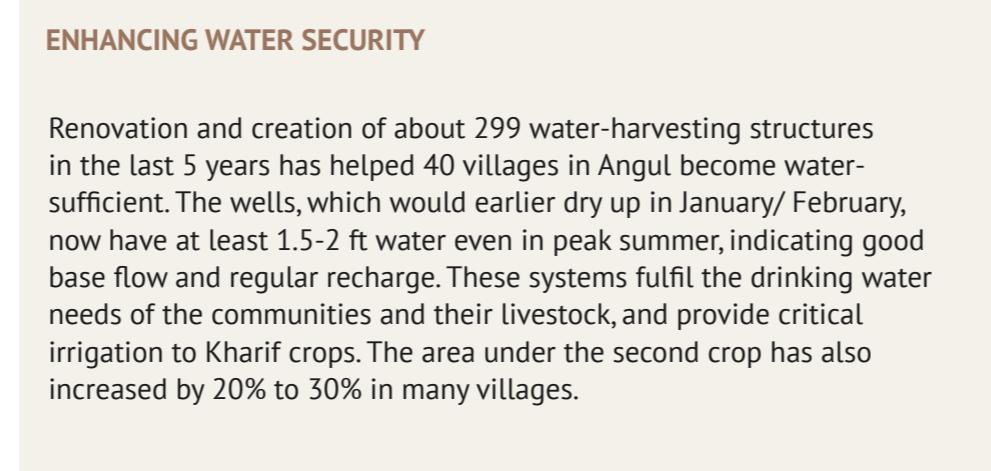


"Bamboo is one of the main sources of our livelihood. It used to be readily available, but due to erosion, its capacity to regenerate reduced. Our whole village worked to protect 191 acres of forest; we constructed half-moon and full-moon stone walls around 280+ bamboo clumps to reduce water runoff. In the last 2 years, 6-8 more shoots per plant have been appearing. This has really improved the forest's health and also our livelihoods."

Nikuri Nayak,
President,
Gedilimunda Watershed Development Committee,
Athamallik, Angul



Swapan Sarangi



Dawa Pemba Shepa

ENHANCING WATER SECURITY

Renovation and creation of about 299 water-harvesting structures in the last 5 years has helped 40 villages in Angul become water-sufficient. The wells, which would earlier dry up in January/ February, now have at least 1.5-2 ft water even in peak summer, indicating good base flow and regular recharge. These systems fulfil the drinking water needs of the communities and their livestock, and provide critical irrigation to Kharif crops. The area under the second crop has also increased by 20% to 30% in many villages.

400 HABITATIONS
filed CFR claims
through Direct
Engagement, covering
1,11,526 acres of forest
land.

3,720 HABITATIONS
filed CFR claims
through Partnerships,
covering 7,49,255 acres
of forest land.

**GRAM PANCHAYAT
DEVELOPMENT
PLAN (GPDP)
PREPARATIONS**
INITIATED in 21 Gram
Panchayats each, in
Dhenkanal and Keonjhar.

**142 HABITATIONS
ASSISTED** in preparing
MGNREGS plans in
2 Blocks of Koraput,
using CLART.

4,403 ACRES of
common and private
lands treated with soil
and water conservation
measures.

11,272 community
members, PRI members
and 814 Community
Resource Persons trained
on various themes.

**COMMON LAND
MAPPING
COMPLETED** in
90 villages of Angul
and 30 villages of
Keonjhar.

**8,555 HOUSEHOLDS
SUPPORTED** through
on-farm and off-farm
based livelihood
interventions.

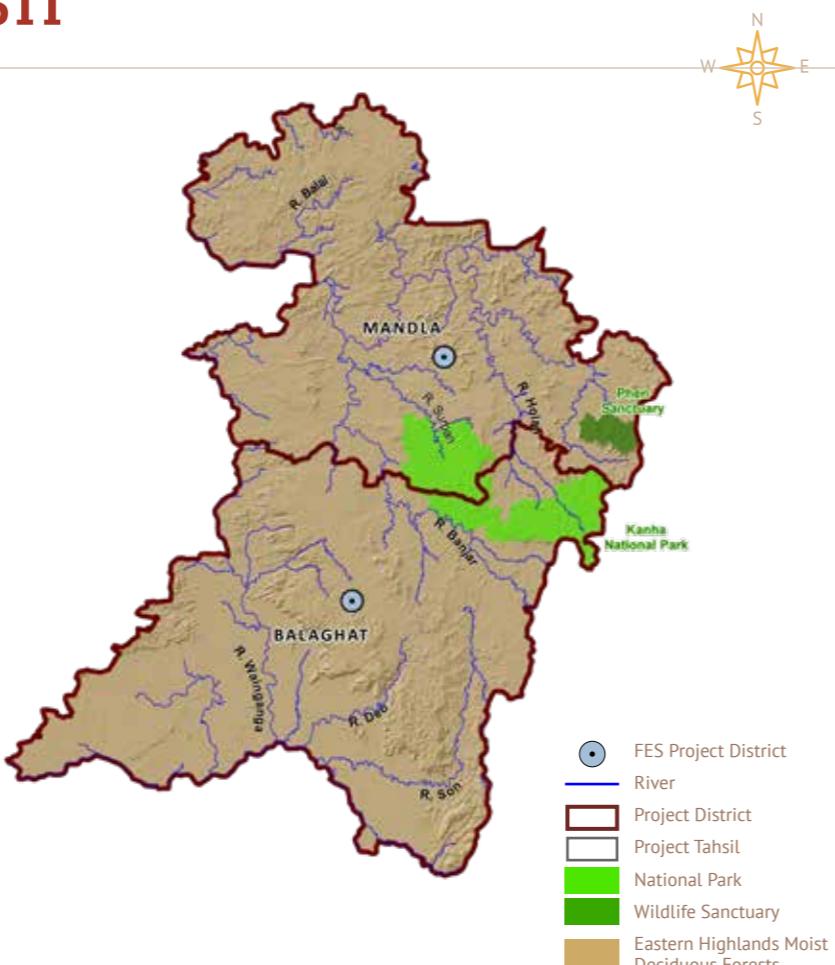
**3,099 HOUSEHOLDS
ENABLED** to avail
different social security
schemes through GEET.

**27 WOMEN
PRODUCER GROUPS
FORMED** with 3,277
women farmers in
Semiliguda and Pottangi.

Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh and the central Indian highlands are home to some of the most vulnerable tribal communities. Our presence in Mandla and Balaghat districts of the Mahakaushal region in Madhya Pradesh includes the biodiversity-rich zone of Kanha National Park. The region has highly degraded forests, heavily infested with invasive species, low farmland productivity, and distress migration of local communities.

To help improve vegetation cover and livelihood opportunities, we work with local communities, Panchayats, and government officials to improve governance of common lands and water bodies, promote agriculture and livestock-based livelihoods, and seek better access to various government programmes.



CHANGE IN CARBON STOCK*



Community managed Unmanaged

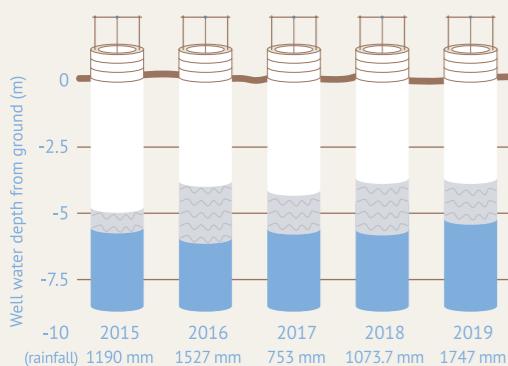
Key ecological parameters monitored annually across 15 sites, since 2016 indicate a 40% increase in the standing biomass and carbon stock in common land under community governance.

*Carbon stock calculated as 45% of the above-ground biomass.

MADHOPUR



WELL WATER MONITORING



On average, 366 wells were monitored pre and post monsoons, since 2015. In areas where water conservation was undertaken, an overall increase in groundwater levels was observed, even in low-rainfall years.

IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:

THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT



343

HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED



137

THOUSAND LIVES IMPACTED



122

THOUSAND ACRES OF COMMONS SECURED



"With the guidance of our Gram Paryavarn Samiti and Van Suraksha Samiti, we have protected and nurtured 17.29 acres of our common land by removing invasive species like Lantana, which has allowed the native Ladiya to regenerate. Today, they flourish and give us shade and fodder. We have imposed a community ban on the cutting and felling of trees, and formed rules and regulations to manage these lands. This has helped native species regenerate and we are very happy to see some trees grow to 20 feet."

23 HABITATIONS FILED CFR CLAIMS through Direct Engagement, covering 7,593 acres of forest land in Niwas and Bichhiya.

2,832 ACRES REGENERATED through soil and water conservation measures, eradication of lantana weed, and planting of 43,877 saplings of native trees.

BYLAWS IN PLACE in all project villages in Mandla; community engaged for better governance for 2,796 acres of Commons.

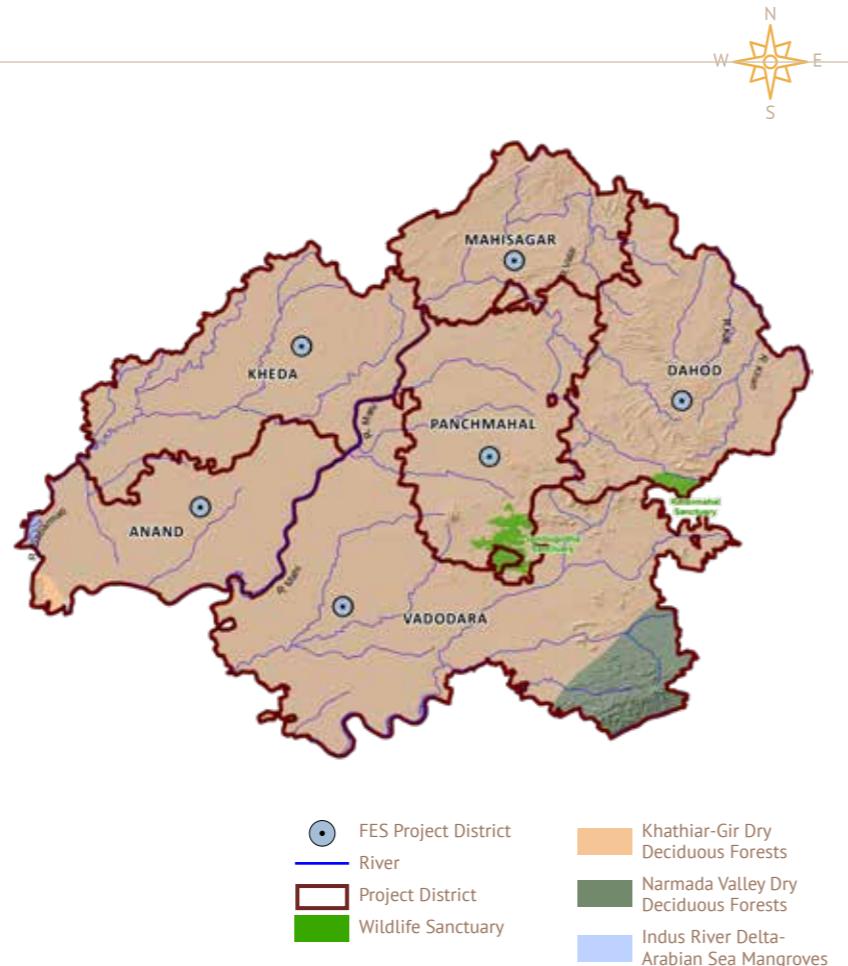
BLOCK-LEVEL FEDERATION in place in Bichhiya; Baihar and Niwas in process.

BASELINE SURVEY OF NARMADA RIVER in Mandla undertaken to assess water quality, and the impact of human and industrial pollution.

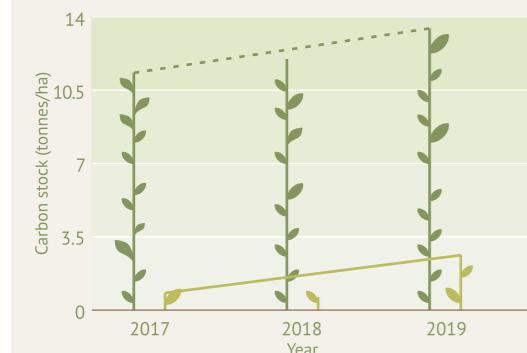
Gujarat

Spread across six districts of central Gujarat, ranging from the highly-eroded ravines along the banks of river Mahi and the saline mudflats of the Gulf of Khambat, to the ecologically-threatened wetlands of Anand and Kheda districts, FES also works in the denuded highlands of Mahisagar district, with a predominantly tribal population.

We encourage tribal communities to adopt improved and ecologically-sound agriculture practices to enhance livelihoods, and claim forest lands under the Community Forest Rights Act (CFR). We enable rural communities' undertaking preventive measures to reduce the spread of ravines to check large-scale degradation of Commons and farmland.



CHANGE IN CARBON STOCK*



Community managed Unmanaged

Key ecological parameters monitored annual across 7 sites since 2017 indicates a 19% increase in the standing biomass and carbon stock in common land under community governance.

*Carbon stock calculated as 45% of the above-ground biomass.



"Last year, I lost 6 goats to seasonal diseases. It set me back by Rs. 30,000. Others in the village also lost their animals. When our village institution organised animal health camps, I got all my goats vaccinated and, thanks to that, there has been no livestock death since. Their improved health has also increased the herd size, giving me better financial security."

Nayak Dasur Shanabhai,
Bachkariya village,
Kadana

IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:

THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT



685

HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED



416

THOUSAND LIVES IMPACTED



78

THOUSAND ACRES OF COMMONS SECURED

KHORWAD



58 HABITATIONS FILED CFR CLAIMS through Direct Engagement for 5,303 acres of forest lands; the process for another 1,000 acres is ongoing.

41 GRAM PANCHAYATS covering 66 villages assisted in preparation of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP).

1,466 ACRES of common and private land treated with soil and water conservation measures.

11,420 HOUSEHOLDS provided with knowledge support [Package of Practices (PoP), seed, etc.] in Kharif and Rabi seasons to adopt efficient practices suited to local agro-ecological conditions.

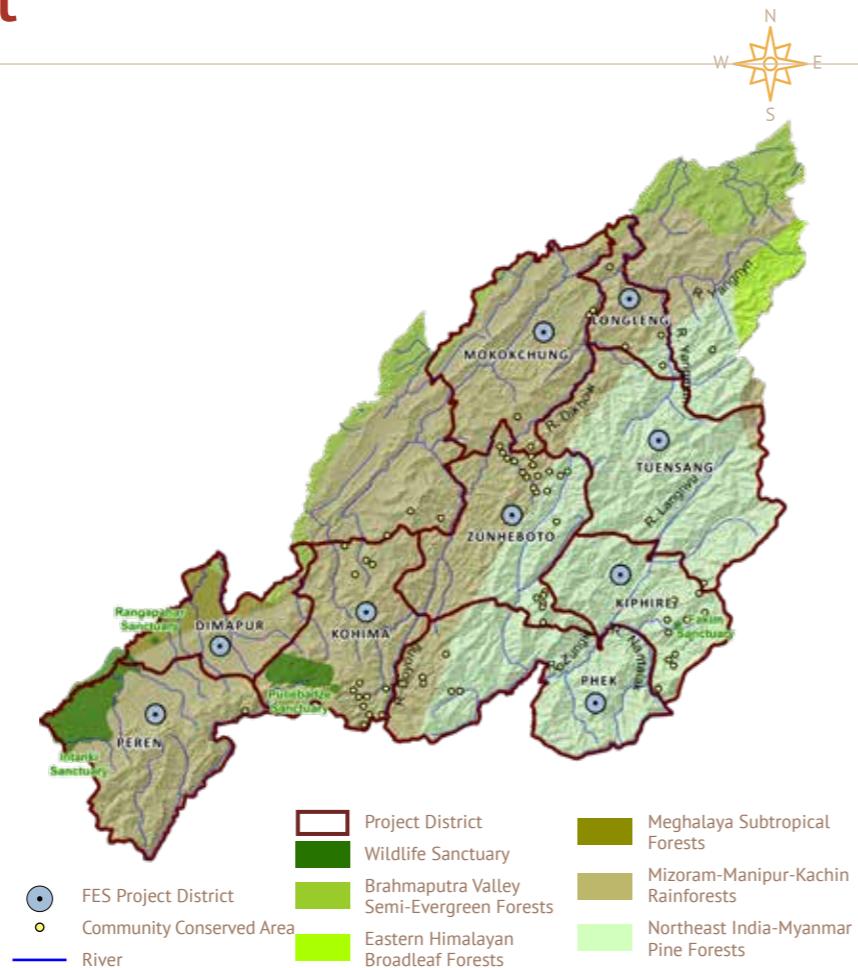
5,338 HOUSEHOLDS SUPPORTED through various Social Security Schemes.

8,300 HOUSEHOLDS provided with local and certified seeds of maize, gram and wheat.

The North-East

The region is characterised by unique climatic and topographic conditions and is home to India's largest number of threatened endemic flora and fauna. Even though hunting is completely banned within the Community Conserved Areas (CCAs), and some species are protected even outside the CCAs, the Chinese Pangolin, Blyth's Tragopan, Great Indian Hornbill and Western Hoolock Gibbon remain critically endangered.

We work with diverse ethnic groups across 9 districts in Nagaland. We support village and inter-village initiatives to conserve ecologically critical and bio-diverse areas, by providing context-specific information and aiding collective decision-making that engenders convergence of traditional wisdom with science to design effective conservation strategies. Our team has also initiated surveys on Water Commons for protection and better management of the catchment areas.



IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:

THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT



63

HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED



105

THOUSAND LIVES IMPACTED



92

THOUSAND ACRES OF COMMONS SECURED



"Mount Pauna Biodiversity Conservation Forum, besides addressing conservation issues, focuses on sensitising and bringing together communities for protection and conservation of Mt. Pauna-Dzulike-Khonoma Landscape, spanning 40 sq. km of forest area across 14 villages. In future, we are planning to involve more villages to make Peren a green district."

Mr. Lungshi Haikube,
Chairman, Mt Pauna Biodiversity
Conservation Forum, Peren



9 NEW HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS organised through Direct Engagement, to develop management plans covering **6,633 acres** of community forest land.

11 CCAS adjoining the Balpukam National Park in South Garo Hills engaged to form a landscape-level forum and prepare CCA management plans.

8 VILLAGES in one block in Karbi-Anglong district surveyed to understand the socio-ecological issues around Commons, with support from North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project (NERCOMP).

25 CCAS RESOLVED to protect **4 threatened species**: Blyth's Tragopan, Western Hoolock Gibbon, Great India Hornbill and Chinese Pangolin, in the village jurisdiction.

8 DISTRICT-LEVEL SEMINARS on species conservation organised in partnership with NCCAF and NEPED. Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra, an NGO with expertise on the Indian Pangolin, assisted a survey on the Chinese Pangolin at Khonoma-Dzulekie - Mt Pauna and recommended protection plans.

VARIOUS EXPERTS ENGAGED for work on conservation of Great Indian Hornbill, Blyth's Tragopan and Western Hoolock Gibbon.

Maharashtra

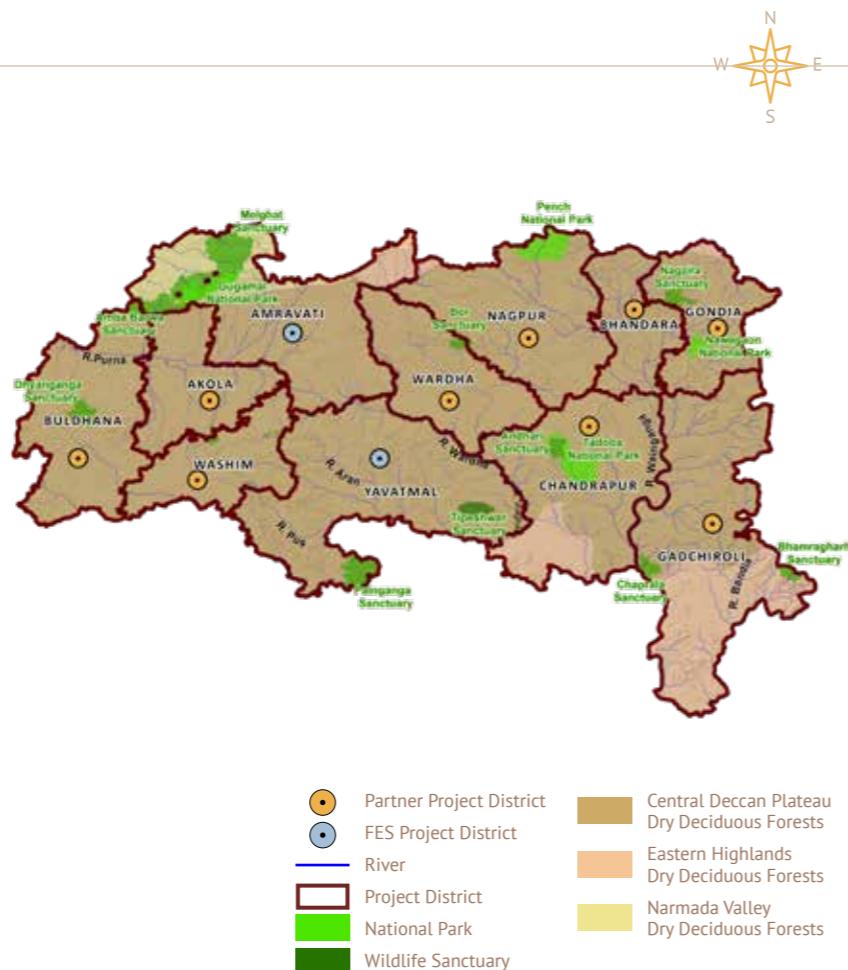
In Maharashtra, we are present in the Ghatanji taluka of Yavatmal district and Chandur Railway taluka of Amravati district in the Vidarbha region, an area characterised by severe agrarian distress. The terrain is predominantly undulating, with high rates of surface runoff. Excessive water extraction has reduced both surface and groundwater, thus leading to water scarcity. Though rich in forest and mineral wealth, the region's economy is mainly agricultural. Neglect of traditional agricultural practices, low level of crop diversification, a strong preference for high risk and high input cash crops such as cotton, and the rising cost of agricultural inputs, have all contributed to the region's agrarian distress.

We connect farming with the common pastures and forests as a viable, larger system, and work towards strengthening local governance for improved management of natural resources, as well as providing livelihood security.



PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

The MoU signed with the Maharashtra Government and several state departments has furthered the efforts towards Community Forest Rights in Vidarbha, river rejuvenation in Amravati and Yavatmal, development of Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) in Yavatmal, and strengthened livelihoods in Vidarbha through the Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission (MSRLM). 7.08 million people across 11 districts and 8,282 villages will benefit from these efforts, directly and indirectly.



IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:

THROUGH DIRECT ENGAGEMENT



127

HABITATION-LEVEL INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED



136

THOUSAND LIVES IMPACTED



65

THOUSAND ACRES OF COMMONS SECURED



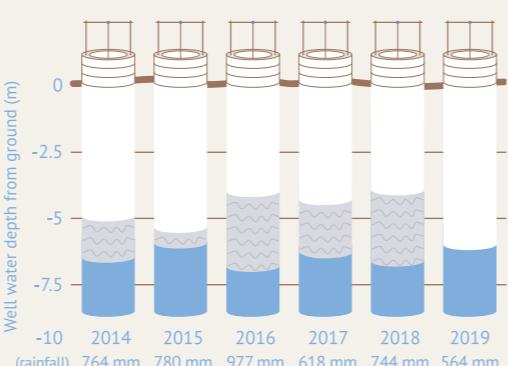
"Earlier, I was able to cultivate only 0.25 acres with flood irrigation. After attending the training on water budgeting and better agriculture practices, I now cultivate my entire 2 acres using sprinkler irrigation. I am able to grow more crops, and vegetables. This meets my family needs and I sell the surplus in the market. This has made my land healthier and I also get an additional income, which helps me better support my family."

Subash Sadhu Choudhry,
Ramnagar, Ghatanji Taluk, Yavatmal

Govind A. Pednekar

Ishwar T. Saigata

WELL WATER MONITORING



On average, 701 wells were monitored pre and post monsoons, since 2015. In areas where water conservation was undertaken, an overall increase in groundwater levels was observed, even in low-rainfall years.



SURVEY AND PLANNING INITIATED in 30 villages under the MoU with the Government to support GPDP and river rejuvenation along the river Khuni.

6 MULTI ACTOR PLATFORM (MAP) meetings facilitated, strengthening work along the river Waghari.

509 ACRES TREATED with soil and water conservation measures, creating a water storage potential of **28 TCM** and **85 acres** of Commons re-vegetated by planting local species.

972 PEOPLE including Community Resource Persons (CRPs), farmers, and village institution members trained in institution building, restoration, improved agriculture practices, and use of tools and technology.

1,848 FARMERS ASSISTED with agriculture intervention such as improved Package of Practices (PoP) for Cotton, Redgram, Soyabean, Gram and Wheat, covering **1,150 acres** of farmland; Crop Water Budgeting exercises conducted in **12 villages** to improve water governance practices for Rabi Season.

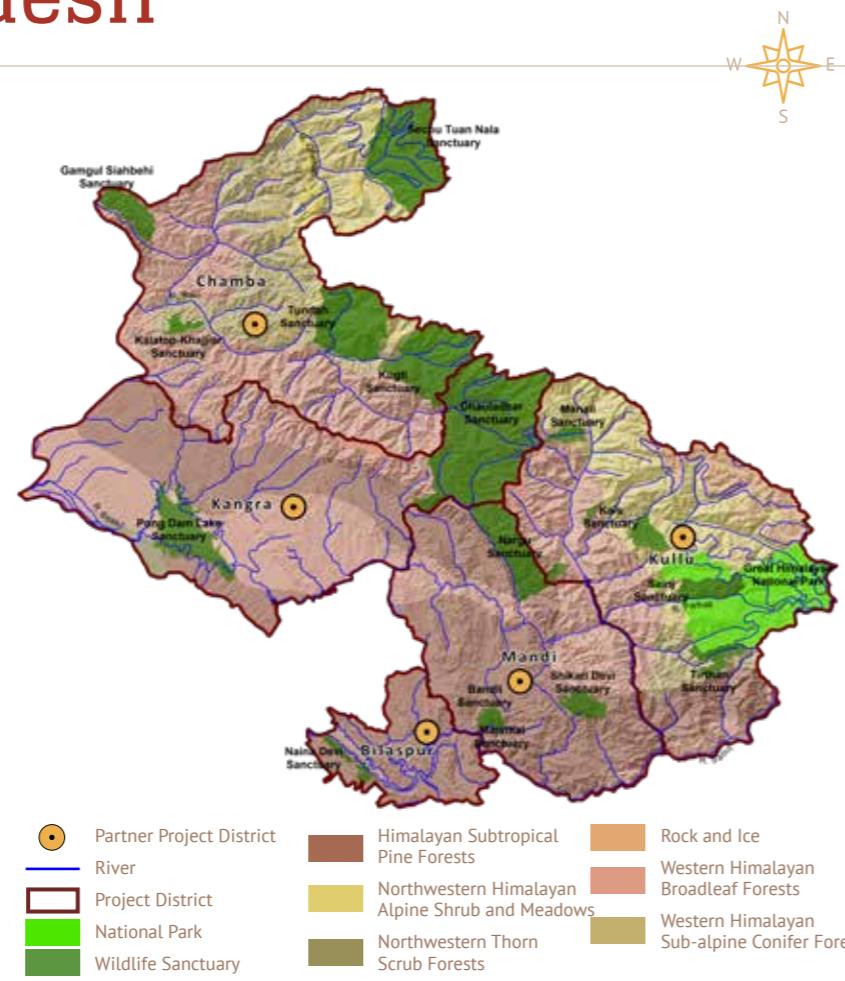
1,807 HOUSEHOLDS SUPPORTED to access social security schemes.

2 DIVISIONAL WORKSHOPS ORGANISED and **2 divisional Steering Committees created** under the MoU with the state government to facilitate CFR in **11 districts**.

Himachal Pradesh

Located in the western Himalayas, Himachal Pradesh spans 55,673 sq km, with an altitudinal range of 350-6975m above mean sea level. The topography is predominantly mountainous, with some narrow valleys, deep gorges and mountain passes. A third of the state is characterised by snow, glaciers and cold desert. 27% of the total geographical area has a recorded forest area of 37,033 sq km. Five National Parks, 28 Wildlife Sanctuaries and three Conservation Reserves account for 15%. 90% of the state's 6.8 million people live in rural areas and are heavily dependent on shared natural resources for sustenance.

FES partners with Environics Trust and a network of CBOs in 11 districts to assist rural communities secure tenure rights over forests under the provisions of Forest Rights Act, 2006.



PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

Environics Trust with Himalaya Niti Abhiyan (a consortium of CBOs) has worked in Himachal Pradesh since 2006. Their efforts have resulted in community rights claimed under CFR in 2,000 villages, bringing 2,47,195 acres of forestland under secure tenure across varied landscapes. Combining focused community interaction with techno-legal support has enabled communities to protect their rights, and ensure that there is no infringement of their Commons.



IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:

THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS



3,339
HABITATION-LEVEL
INSTITUTIONS
STRENGTHENED



235
THOUSAND LIVES
IMPACTED

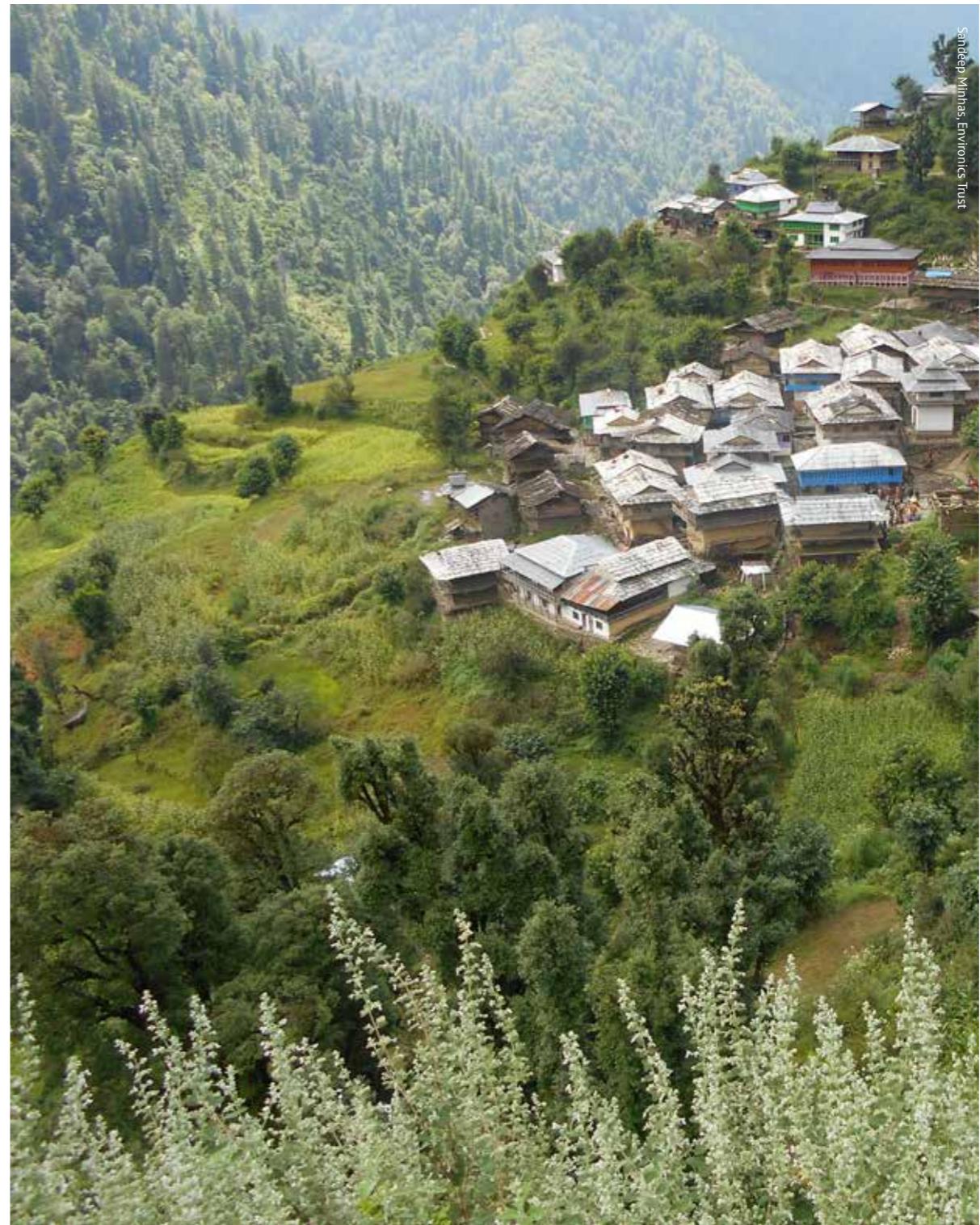


1,857
THOUSAND ACRES
OF COMMONS
SECURED

1,829 HABITATION-
LEVEL INSTITUTIONS
assisted to file CFR
claims through
Partnerships.

**CFR CLAIMS OF
439 HABITATIONS**
approved by the
authorities.

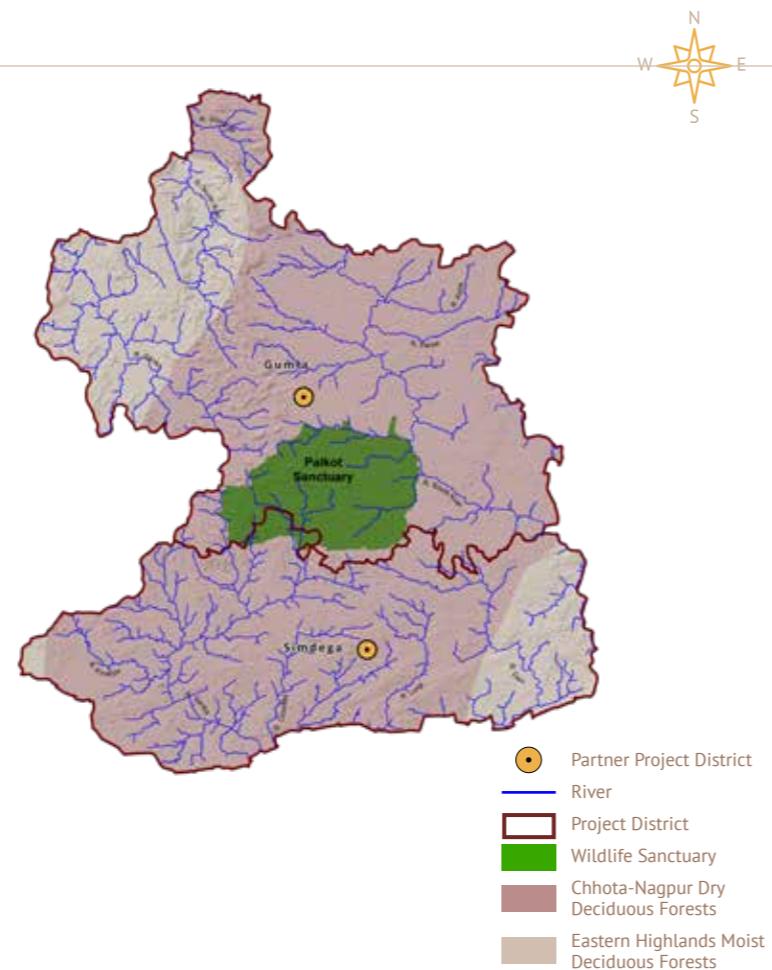
7,24,571 ACRES of
common land brought
under community
governance.



Jharkhand

Jharkhand occupies the northeastern part of the Deccan Plateau and covers 79,714 sq km. Chhotanagpur plateau, its most prominent physiographic feature, is actually a series of flat-topped plateaus, hills and valleys. The state is drained by three major river systems: Damodar, Subarnarekha and Brahmani. The total recorded forest area is 23,605 sq km, which is 29.61% of its geographical area. Both tropical dry-deciduous, and moist-deciduous forests vegetation is found. Indigenous tribal communities like Munda, Oraon, Ho, Santhal, Paharia, Chero, constitute 25% of the 27 million-strong population. The state's tenure regimes have historically recognised community tenure over common lands, including forests.

FES works with partner NGOs in eight districts to strengthen traditional, community-led conservation and management of forests, through the effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006.



IMPACT, AT A GLANCE:

THROUGH
PARTNERSHIPS



1021
HABITATION-LEVEL
INSTITUTIONS
STRENGTHENED



279
THOUSAND LIVES
IMPACTED



251
THOUSAND ACRES
OF COMMONS
SECURED

*The operations in the state were initiated in 2019-20.



PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

Chaingara village, with 344 households, applied for CFR over 450 acres of forests they traditionally protected, in 2015. The Institute of Community Forestry Governance mobilised the Gram Sabha and helped form a CFR management committee. It also helped prepare conservation and management plans, including rules for access and benefit-sharing. In 2019, Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam wanted to construct electricity transmission lines through the community forests area. Contracted workers, unaware of the Forest Rights Act, felled trees, which the Gram Sabha opposed. After negotiations, Rs 2.34 lakh compensation was paid to the Gram Sabha in 2020 by the Nigam for access to lay the transmission line inside the CFR area.



Strategic Action Areas

Girdhari Lal Verma



Shantanu Sinha Roy



DIRECT ENGAGEMENT

1,281 habitation-level institutions were reached, improving community governance of 3.8 lakh acres of Commons; 44,000 acres of Commons were treated under soil and water conservation, and 20,900 acres under revegetation measures.

Block mobilisation boosted rapid expansion in 20 blocks with support from the cadre, campaigns, and enabling orders from local governments.

Multi Actor Platform (MAP) processes were piloted across 10 blocks, culminating in templates design and a guide for the wider adoption of landscape conservation approaches.

Aligning the objective of conservation of shared natural resources in the Gram Panchayat Development Planning (GPDP), we supported 30 clusters (150 Gram Panchayats) across 7 states.

Composite Landscape Assessment and Restoration Tool (CLART) was used to develop restoration plans in 5 States; 1.06 lakh acres of common land was mapped through Common Land Mapping (CLM) tool, and GIS-Enabled Entitlement Tracking (GEET) is being used in 9 states to collect data on vulnerable groups to avail entitlements.

PRAKRITI KARYASHALA

59,890 people were trained through 3,017 programmes to claim and restore Commons governance across Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Karnataka, leading to the formation of 2,146 habitation-level institutions, and improved community governance of 3.1 lakh acres of Commons.

79 Master Trainers and 350 field trainers were engaged to provide capacity-building support to NGO and Government partners on claiming and restoring Commons.

In partnership with Wasteland and Pasture Land Development Board in Rajasthan, FES is training government functionaries to enable Gram Panchayats to form Pastureland Development Committees and potentially restore 8.8 million acres of pastures in 8 districts.

In partnership with the Odisha Livelihoods Mission, we are building capacities of 1,500+ front-line government functionaries in 5 districts with decision-making tools for water-use efficiency. This has the potential to scale up to 3,500 villages.

To further hone the capacities of Field Trainers and field functionaries, we initiated case-based learning through online Guided Mentoring sessions.



INDIA OBSERVATORY

The India Observatory website was launched at the GeoSmart India Conference 2019.

Van app, the name given to Integrated Forest Management Tools (IFMT) by USAID and MoEF under the Forest-PLUS 2.0 project, was upgraded to assist forest officials in the collection of primary data as per National Working Plan Code 2014 requirements, and to create working plans with the help of the new reports generated on the web portal. The tool has been adopted by 13 Forest Divisions.

In Karnataka, we executed an agreement with MGNREGA to integrate CLART to prepare soil and water conservation plans in all 29 districts. An MoU was also executed with the Watershed Development Department to integrate CLART in planning under MGNREGA, offering water data collection and crop water budgeting tools, as well as installing relevant sensors for better tracking of location-specific, water-related parameters.

India Observatory and tools were demonstrated to young probationary officers of the Indian Administrative Services at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA); a customised Data Collection Tool on the ODK platform was developed for LBSNAA.



PARTNERSHIPS

7,238 habitation-level institutions were reached through partner NGOs, improving community governance of 18.1 lakh acres of Commons.

We initiated partnerships with NGOs in Jharkhand to support implementation of Community Forest Rights in 16 districts, with the potential to bring 0.3 lakh acres of forestland under community governance.

An exchange programme for NGOs from Odisha to Rajasthan on best practices in planning and restoring Commons under Government programmes was facilitated. The Rajasthan NGOs gained from the experiences of the Odisha NGOs on Community Forest Rights.

A meeting of practitioners was convened in Maharashtra to understand the customary rights of village communities over their Commons (documented as Nistaar rights) and legal spaces.

An agreement was signed with the Karnataka State Government (cumulative 6 state governments or their departments) and 14 new NGO partners (cumulative 83 NGOs) for greater outreach, building a cumulative potential to impact 17.5 million acres of Commons.



COMMONS COLLABORATIVE

Senior fellowships and strategic partnerships were initiated to strengthen discourse and highlight the value of Commons in building climate resilience and meeting SDGs.

In partnership with different institutions (VAF, CoRe, CGIAR, IFPRI, TNC), we developed tools, methods and knowledge products such as People's Commons Register, Design Guide for Multi-Actor Platforms, framework to spatially map tenure, and social values associated with Commons, to support and strengthen field interventions.

A Policy Brief to mainstream and improve investment in Commons was submitted to the 15th Finance Commission. At the same time, interim announcements were made by the Commission for higher allocations to States with better forest cover.

We strengthened partnerships with key government institutions (NIRDPR, LBSNAA, SIRDs) to build a larger constituency for mainstream Commons in government programmes such as GPDP.

Strategic convening of ecosystem actors from government, civil society, media, donors and academia was organised to influence the larger ecosystem. Panel sessions were organised at IASC, INSEE and UNCCD on the Promise of Commons in arresting land degradation, mitigating and adapting to climate change and meeting the SDGs.



STUDIES AND DOCUMENTATION

Independent impact assessment in collaboration with IFPRI, ICRAF and University of Colorado, Boulder, was initiated in 288 villages in four states to strengthen the evidence base on the effectiveness and impact of FES' core model and the Promise of Commons initiative.

Annual socio-ecological monitoring across 180 common land sites and longitudinal monitoring of 3 watersheds were undertaken to build temporal data of changes in vegetation, local communities' dependence, and institutions around common lands.

Over a period of three years, more than 600 farmers in the water-stressed regions of Andhra Pradesh adopted water-saving irrigation practices and shifted to less water consuming crops, applying methods and tools such as Crop Water Budgeting and Experimental Games.

'Treading on Commons', a review of FES' research work over the past 20 years, was developed to better guide action research and highlight potential areas of learning under the 'Promise of Commons' initiative.

An evaluation study of more than 1,100 households indicated an increase in average annual income from INR 52,192 to INR 1,30,254 per household over five years. The increase in income can be attributed to enhanced resource availability and strong institutions.

Financial Highlights

The Foundation for Ecological Security (FES) is a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860, New Delhi. FES is also registered under Section 12A & 80G of the Income Tax Act of 1961, and the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) of 2010.

BALANCE SHEET YEAR 2019-2020

	SCH.	31 MARCH, 2020	31 MARCH, 2019
		₹	₹
SOURCES OF FUNDS			
Corpus Fund	2	26,39,17,906	24,99,76,437
Reserves and Surplus	3	7,67,72,669	7,20,55,261
Programme Funds	4	24,08,47,711	23,29,39,543
Current Liabilities and Provisions	5	2,48,06,638	2,04,72,713
TOTAL		60,63,44,924	57,54,43,954
APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
FIXED ASSETS			
Assets (Net Block)	6	6,56,74,104	6,14,35,871
CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS AND ADVANCES			
Cash and Bank Balances	7	51,75,74,061	48,98,14,985
Other Current Assets	8	37,74,617	43,60,118
Loans and Advances	9	1,93,22,142	1,98,32,980
TOTAL		60,63,44,924	57,54,43,954
Significant Accounting Policies	1		
Notes on Accounts	13		

As per report of even date

For Sharp & Tannan Associates
Chartered Accountants

Place: Vadodara
Date: June 25, 2020

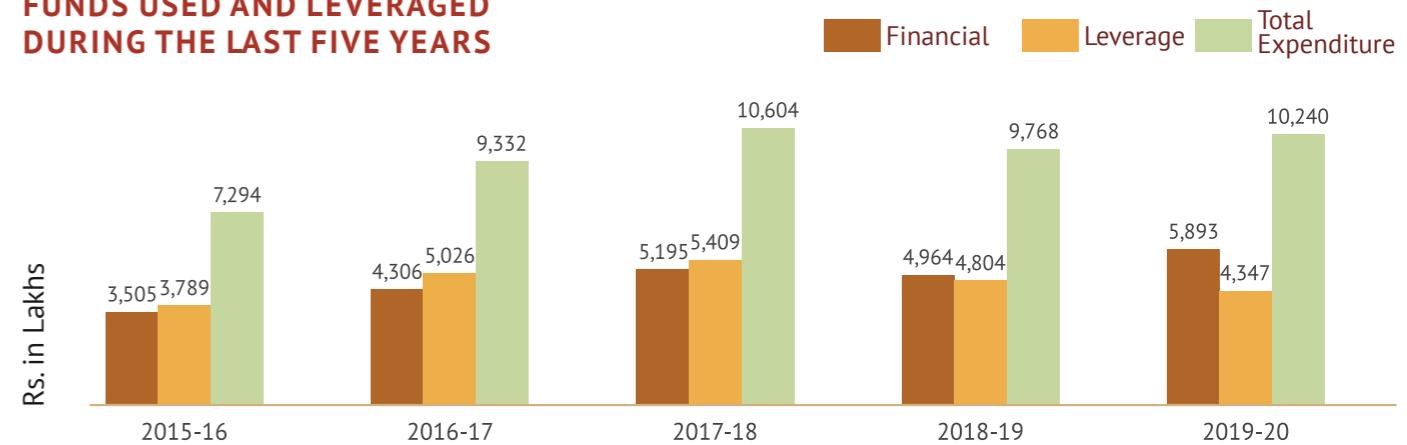
Pramod Bhise
Partner

Place: Anand
Date: June 25, 2020

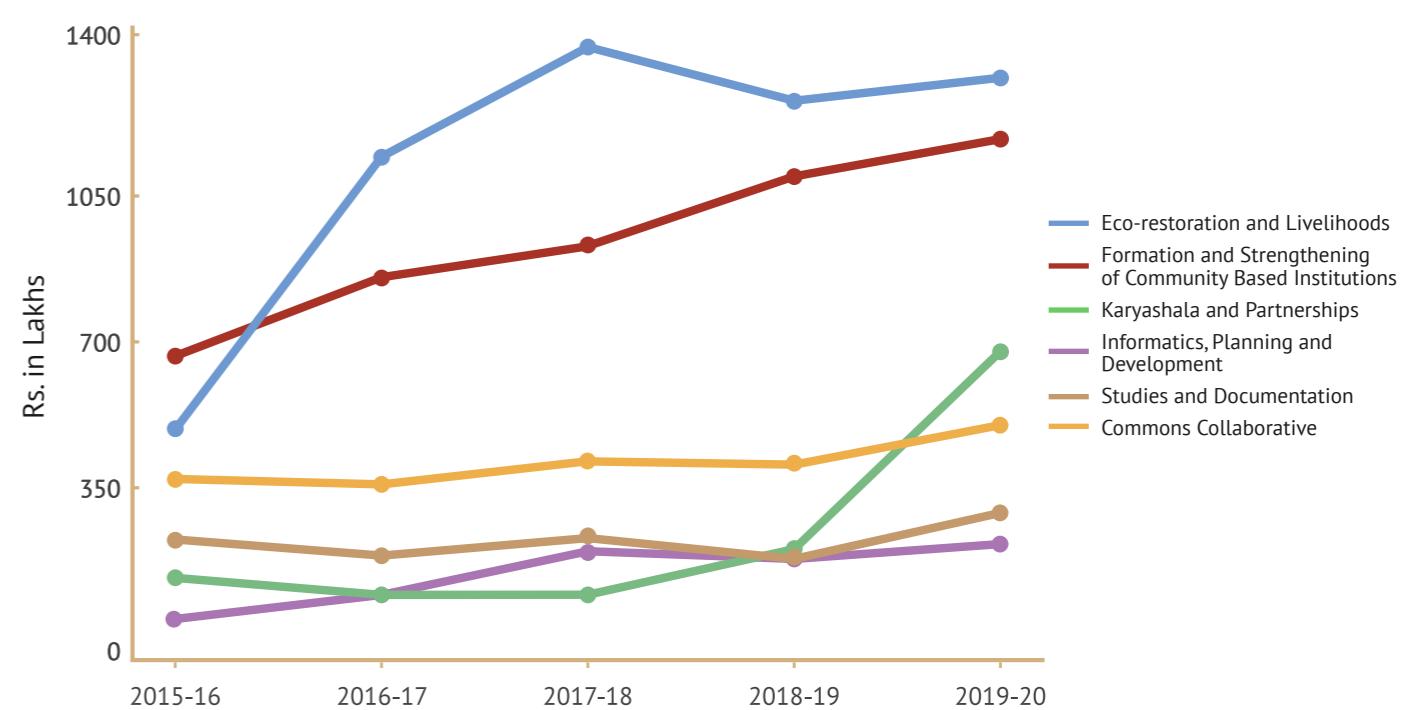
Usha Thorat
Chairman

Jagdeesh Rao
Executive Director

FUNDS USED AND LEVERAGED DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS



EXPENDITURE GRAPH



COVID-19: Our Response

The massive humanitarian crisis emerging from the Covid-19 pandemic led to an integrated response, which sought to provide immediate relief, and plans to address long-term needs.

The key action areas were:

PROVIDING IMMEDIATE RELIEF

With partner CSOs, this included sourcing and delivering dry ration kits, cooked meals and health kits, support in setting up Panchayat quarantine and response centres, spreading awareness, etc.

DEPLOYING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

In partnership with other CSOs, the Collaboration/COVID Action Support Group (CoAST India) was rolled out to help coordinate relief and rehabilitation operations. This included identifying and registering migrants for their safe transport, and providing immediate relief.

INFLUENCING PROGRAMMES AND POLICY

With other CSOs and coalitions like RCRC (Rapid Rural Community Response to Covid-19), we advocated for favourable policy and programmatic changes to improve the reach of MGNREGA and entitlement programmes, and easing implementation and payment processes for migrants and vulnerable households.



4,46,468

Members reached directly through awareness drives



49,241

Migrant workers connected with government agencies for support



2,304

Rural volunteers involved in relief/ awareness-related interventions



53,176

Vulnerable and migrant families reached through food kits



14,237

Vulnerable and migrant families reached through cooked meals



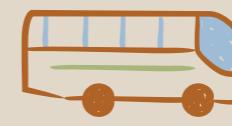
4,227

Farmers supported through sale of Rabi produce/ vegetables



5,150

PPE Kits provided to government officials



3,747

Migrant workers provided with transportation facilities



2,39,719

Masks, sanitisers and gloves provided

Our Partners and Collaborators

For FES, every connection and collaboration is synergistic. It is the gradual building of relationships and trust, reinforced by a passion and commitment to shared beliefs and a common cause.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS (STATE-WISE)

ANDHRA PRADESH

1. Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre (AFEC)
2. Adoni Area Rural Development Initiatives Programme
3. Anantha Paryawaran Parirakshana Samiti
4. Annadatha Mutually Aided Cooperative Society
5. Aranya Agriculture Alternatives
6. Awakening People's Action for Rural Development
7. Centre for People's Forestry
8. Centre for Sustainable Agriculture
9. Chaitanya Organization
10. Chaitanya Rural Development Organization
11. Council for Rural Enlightenment
12. Effort
13. Gandhian Organization for Rural Development
14. Gram Vikas
15. Grama Vikasa Samstha
16. Human and Natural Resources Development Society
17. International Animal and Birds Welfare Society
18. Janajaagruthi
19. Mahila Abhivruddhi Society
20. Nava Youth Association
21. Palamaner Mandala Vayalaga Rythula Samakhya
22. People's Activity and Rural Technology Nurturing Ecological Rejuvenation
23. Pragathi Society
24. Praja Pragathi Trust
25. Punganur Mandala Vayalaga Rythula Samakhya
26. Rashtriya Seva Samithi
27. Rayalaseema Harijana Girijana Backward Minorities Seva Samajam

28. Rural Environment and Development Society
29. Rural Integrated Development Society
30. Saha Jeevan Trust
31. Social Activities for Rural Development Society
32. Society for National Integration Through Rural Development
33. Sreekaram
34. Sri Parameswari Educational Society
35. PRARAMBHA

HIMACHAL PRADESH

1. Bhakhra Visthapit Sangh
2. Environics Trust
3. Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association
4. Gramin Kamgar Sangathan
5. Him Lok Jagriti Manch
6. Himalaya Bachao Samiti
7. Lok Kalyan Samiti
8. Luktantar
9. People for Himalayan Development
10. People Voice for Democratic Right
11. SAHARA
12. Save Lahaul
13. Swaraj
14. Tagore Welfare Society
15. Ujhi Ghati Sangharsh Samiti

JHARKHAND

1. Animation Rural Outreach Service Society
2. Institute of Community Forest Governance
3. Partnering Hope Into Action Foundation
4. Sharmjivi Mahila Samiti

KARNATAKA

1. Prarambha

ODISHA

1. Centre for Action and Rural Reconstruction
2. Centre for Regional Education, Forest and Tourism Development Agency
3. Committee for Legal Aid to Poor
4. Centre for Youth and Social Development
5. District Forest Forum
6. Gram Bharati
7. Institute of Women's Development
8. Jan Kalyan Society
9. Lok Vikas Parishad
10. Manav Adhikar Seva Samiti
11. Nayagarh Jungle Mahasangh
12. Nirman
13. Odisha Jungle Manch
14. Prakalpa
15. Peoples Organisation for Rural Education and Vocational Action, Research, Training, Health, Agriculture and Nature
16. Regional Center for Development Cooperation
17. Samonaya Trust
18. Seba Jagat
19. Self Employed Worker's Association Kendra
20. Seva Niketan
21. Sewa Bharati
22. SHAKTI
23. Women's Organisation for Socio-Cultural Awareness (WOSCA)
24. Youth for Action & Research

RAJASTHAN

1. Gram Vikas Nav Yuvak Mandal, Lapiroiya
2. Jan Chetna
3. Prakriti Foundation
4. Prayatna Samiti
5. Professional Assistance For Development Action
6. Self-Reliant Initiatives through Joint Action
7. Unnati

THE NORTH EAST

1. Nagaland Empowerment of People through Economic Development
2. Nagaland Community Conserved Areas Forum

KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS

1. Arch-Vahini
2. Arizona State University
3. Ashoka Trust For Research In Ecology And The Environment (ATREE)
4. Azim Premji University
5. Bioversity International
6. Boston College
7. Cadasta Foundation
8. Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)
9. Centre for Policy Research (CPR)
10. Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)
11. Collaboration of Resilient Ecosystems (CoRE)
12. Columbia University
13. Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
14. Developing Ecosystems for Systemic Transformation and Adaptation (DeSTA)

15. Forum for Law, Environment, Development and Governance (FLEDGE)
16. Geospatial Media & Communications
17. Goa University
18. India Biodiversity Portal (IBP)
19. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) – Tirupati
20. India Natural Resource Economics and Management Foundation (INREM)
21. Indian School of Business (ISB)
22. Institute of Economic Growth (IEG)
23. International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
24. International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
25. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
26. International Land Coalition (ILC)
27. IPE Global Limited (India)
28. Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
29. Kalpvriksh
30. Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA)
31. Landmark
32. National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR)
33. Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF)
34. PHIA Foundation
35. Radiant Earth Foundation
36. Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries (RIS)
37. Social Accountability Resource Unit (SARU)
38. South Indian Federation of Fisheries Societies (SIFFS)
39. Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS)
40. The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
41. The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
42. United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
43. United States Forest Service (USFS)
44. University of Colorado-Boulder
45. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
46. Vikasanvesh Foundation (VAF)
47. Washington University at St. Louis
48. Wildlife Institute of India (WII)
49. World Agroforestry (ICRAF)
50. World Resources Institute (WRI) -India

WE ARE MEMBERS OF:

- Future of Conservation in India Network
- Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE)
- Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCA) Consortium
- International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC)
- International Forestry Resources and Institutions (IFRI)
- International Land Coalition (ILC)
- International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE)
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- National Consortium on MGNREGA
- Rainfed Livestock Network (RLN)
- United Nations Economic and Social Council (UNECSOC) – Special Consultative Status

Our Funding Partners

*We are grateful for the support
of our funding partners:*

A Axis Bank Foundation
Axis Bank Limited
Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives Pvt Ltd,
ARD Inc

B Bajaj Auto Limited
Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation
Bioversity International
Boston College
BNYCRS Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy

C Centre for Microfinance (CmF)
Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives
(CInI)
Columbia University
Caring Friends

D Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

F Ford Foundation

G Grow-Trees.com

H HCL Foundation
Hindustan Unilever Foundation
HDFC Bank Ltd
HDB Financial Services Limited

I International Crops Research Institute
for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
International Food Policy Research Institute
(IFPRI)
International Land Coalition
ITC Ltd. (Mission Sunehra Kal)
ITC Rural Development Trust
International Rice Research Institute

M Mulago Foundation

N National Bank for Agriculture and Rural
Development (NABARD)

O Omidyar Network

P Programmes of various Government
departments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat,
Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan

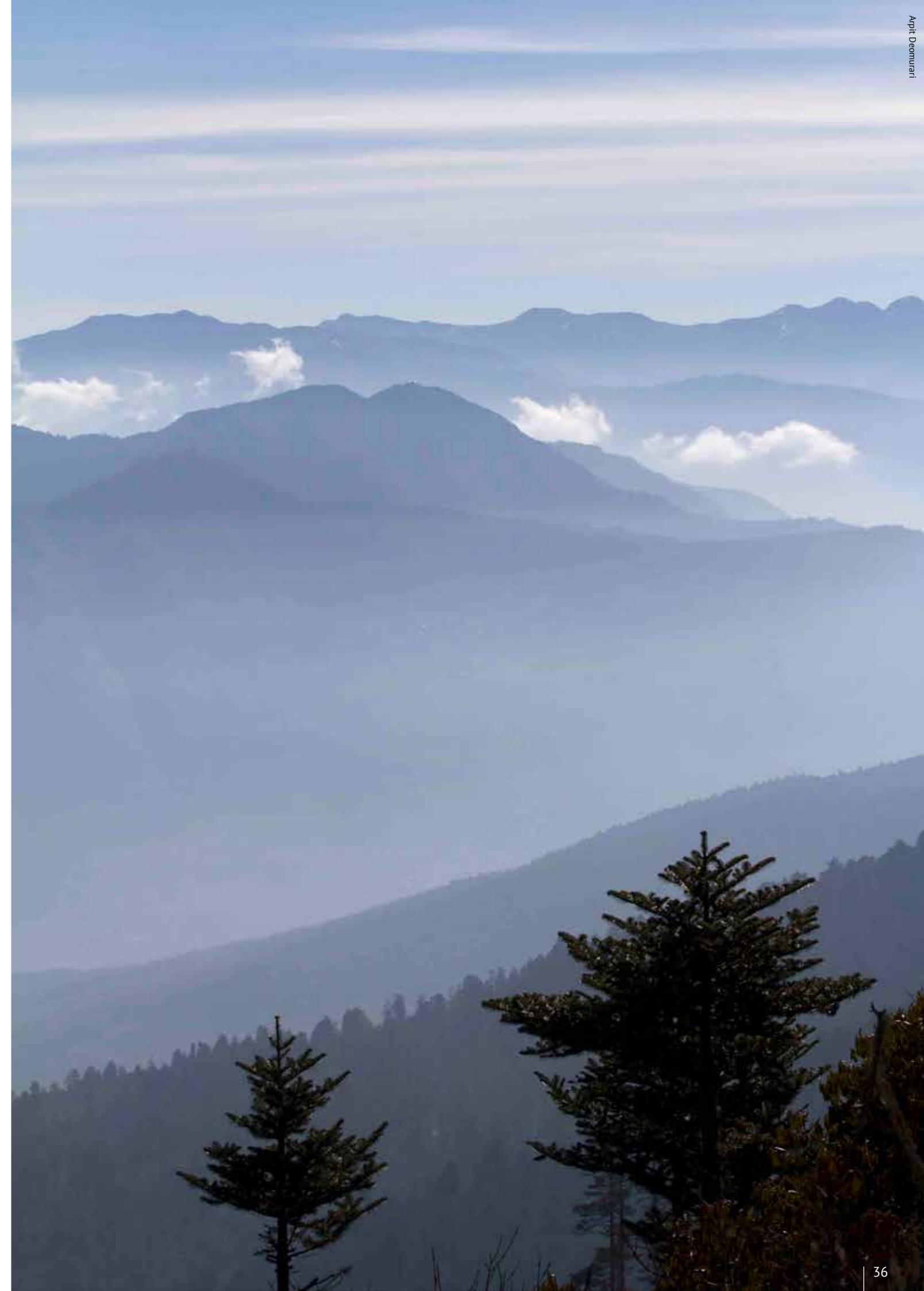
R Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Project
RBS Foundation India
RSF Social Finance
Rohini and Nilekani Philanthropies

S SayTrees Environmental Trust
Sir Dorabji Tata Trust & Allied Trusts
Skoll Foundation

T The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
The Duleep Mattha Nature Conservation Trust
The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI)
The Regents of the University of Michigan
The Habitats Trust
The Green Indian States Trust
The Lucille Foundation
The Nature Conservancy
The New Venture

U United Nations Development Programme
U.S. Forest Service - International Programs

W Washington University in St. Louis
Watershed Development Projects under
Integrated Watershed Management Programme
(IWMP) in Andhra Pradesh & Rajasthan



Our Team

If diversity and inclusion describes our team, then what defines us, irrespective of education, background or position, is our single-minded quest for ecological security. Every person here is agile and adaptable, and they are all here because they believe in a sustainable, equitable, empowered India.

COORDINATION OFFICE, ANAND, GUJARAT

Akash Bhardwaj
Alkesh Patel
Amit S Sindhwala
Anand S Biswas
Anil Mundhada
Anil Sarsavan
Anita Khristi
Apoorva C Bishwas
Ashok M Jani
Bhadra P Trivedi
Bhanwarlal Suthar
Bharatbhai M Patel
Brayesh K Dubey
Chetana Nand Jha
Chiranjit Guha
Dallubhai L Vasawa
Debkanya Dhar
Dinesh Reddy
Gagan Bhatia
Hemant K Patel
Himani Sharma
Himanshu V Rana
Ishan Agarwal
Jagdeesh Rao Puppala
Jay A Ka-Patel
Jayasree Sreenath
Julius Alois Parmar
Kalpesh Bhoi
Kiran Kumari
Kunal S Shah
Kunja Shrestha

Liya Bensy Thomas
Mahesh K Jadav
Manish M Parsania
Mayuri A Parekh
Minity Skaria
Mitesh M Tandel
Mohd. Rehan Moini
Mohita Ravi Bhatt
Neeraj Tripathi
Padma Ramanujam
Pratiti Priyadarshini
Pritesh S Panchal
Priyanka Upadhyay
Rahul Chaturvedi
Rajaram Gupta
Rajesh K Mittal
Rajesh Verma
Rajiv J Nanavati
Rama Ramnathan
Ranjit K Mohanty
Robin Mathew
Samir Uday Fanse
Sanjay Joshie
Sanjay P Parmar
Shashi Sudhir
Satish Macwan
Sham V Davande
Shivanyaa Rawat
Subrata K Singh
Sudhakar C
Sunilkumar J Parmar
Sushil Oraon
Sushmita Bose
Tanuj J Vaghela

Tenzin Chorran
Thomas George
Vishalkumar K Barot
Yogesh G Patel

FIELD TEAMS:

ANDHRA PRADESH

Ameer Basha Seikh
B Chengalva Prasad
E Sahadevan
K P Sree Ramulu
K Satya Babu
Kishan Antony
Manisudha K
M Laluprasad
P Devullu
P Gangi Reddy
Ralla Ram Prasad
S Sudheer Kumar
S Vijaya Sekhar
Subbireddy Gudla
Sanjay Joshie
Sanjay P Parmar
Shashi Sudhir
Satish Macwan
Sham V Davande
Shivanyaa Rawat
Subrata K Singh
Sudhakar C
Sunilkumar J Parmar
Sushil Oraon
Sushmita Bose
Tanuj J Vaghela

Bangar Shaheen Sha
Bitra Sada Siva
C S Saneesh
Dhanasekaren V
G Sankar
M Bhakthar Vali Sab
N Hemalatha Reddy
P Ubedulla Khan
Raksha Balakrishna
Ramesh Babu Bethi
R Pallavi Rajkumar

GUJARAT

Ankur C Bodalker
Ashok P Dangar
Baghabhai R Khant
Devabhai K Gambhalya
Dinkarbhai B Panchal
Divyang Prajapati
Karansinh S Bhuria
Manabhai Damor
Manish Pargi
Pratap Singh
Prites Kumar Baria
Sanjay Khandhar
Shamji K Dama
Suresh S Mahavar
Vikramsinh S Solanki
Vinaykumar S Khant

KARNATAKA

Avinash Chowdhary
C Narayanaswamy
C Sowbhagya
Chandrasekhar K
D R Suresh
G B Leelavathi
M Uthanna
M Pallavi Rajkumar

Mosin B Bajaru
Muniraja M
Nikhatparveen M Khatib
Noor Jan S
P Vijay Kumar
Raghavendra H G
Ramesha N
S G Gopi
S Venugopal
Sayyad Asia
Subramani P
Sunil Kumar V
Sunil Kumar VV
Vishwanatha M S
Y N Narshimaappa

MAHARASHTRA

Aditya S Samarth
Dinesh B Hundekar
Govind A Pednekar
Ishwar T Sargara
Khanjan Ravani
P Sreehari
Santosh N Pawar
Satyajit Jena
Vaishali S Sherekar
Vishal T Chavhan

THE NORTH-EAST

Binoy Chutia
Subin KS
Tapas Das
Yaranajit Deka

MADHYA PRADESH

Akshay A Mane
Alok Vishnoi
Amar Singh Kusare
Anoop Kumar Thakur
Dheeresh K Namdeo
Dhwani Sunil Lalai
Ganesh P Singroure
Jaya Nikita Minz
Kailash Sonwani
Kaleem Shah
Keertan Baghel
Manish Bhatt
Manohar Pawar
Mithun Bisen
Mohd. Ayub Khan
Nikam Nitish Balaso
Padma Uttam Uike
Pradyumna K Acharya
Rahul Dev Mahto
Rajesh Kumar Yadav
Rajiv Ranjan
Ramkumar Yadav
Satyasovan Das
Shivangi Anand
Simanta Mazumdar
Suhas K S
Sumit Kumar Patel
Swapnil Ganvir
Umesh Kartikey

ODISHA

Aachintya Damera
Abhishek Panda
Ajay Kumar Khosla
Ajaya Kumar Nayak
Anand Chandra Pati
Ashok Satpathy
Ashwini Pati
Barna Baibhaba Panda
Bibhuti Bhushan Das
Bijay Kumar Toppo
Bikash Das
Biranchi N Paikaray
Bulbuli Sahoo
Dawa Pemba Sherpa
Dhirendra K Sahoo
Dilip Kumar Champi
Dilip Kumar Khosla
Dron K Chandrakar
Dushasana Mahanta
Hrushikesh Mahapatra
K Murali Krishna
Kartik Chandra Prusty
Krushna Mohan Mishra
Krutitapa Acharya
Laxmidhar Pradhan
Lingaraj Mahakud
Mayadhar Mishra
Meena Das Mohapatra
Namita Das

Naresh C Pradhan
Niranjan Sahoo
Nirmalendu Jyotishi
Pradeep K Maharana
Pradip Kumar Mishra
Prativa Mohapatra
Raghuram Muthai
Rakesh Singh
Ranjan K Dhirsamant
Rashmi Ranjan Sahu
Sanjib Kumar Sahoo
Santosh Behera
Shusri Sangeeta Das
Sujit Kumar Satapathy
Suryasing Soren
Swapnasri Sarangi
Tapan Kumar Khosla
Trinath Guntha

RAJASTHAN

Akshay Kumar Sahu
Alka Tirkey
Aman Kumar Verma
Amit Chourey
Amit Sharma
Amrit Pal Singh Kalra
Arjun Ameta
Arvind Kumar Agarwal
Asha Cholaviya
Bandana Sambyal
Bhanwarlal Gujar
Bharat Singh Udawat
Chetan R Dubey
Debarupa Ghosh
Deblina Mazumdar
Devendra Kathat
Dibyendu Mondal
Dileep Singh Solanki
Dimpal Kumari
Gaurav Kumawat
Girdhari Lal Verma
Hariram Garasia
Harnath Singh Khadia
Heera Lal Seevna
Kailash Chandra Balai
Kana Ram Gujar
Kuldeep Singh Khadia
Kumar Rupam

Lakhan Singh Chouhan
Laxman N Cholaviya
Mahipalsinh B Sisodiya
Manoj Kumar Meena
Mayur Vaishnav
Mohd. Wassim Khan
Narayan S Chundawat
Narendra S Shaktawat
Pankaj Pancholi
Pankaj Singh Dangi
Parmeshwar L Regar
Prakash Sharma
Prince Waseem
Rahul Porwal
Rajendra Sharma
Rajesh Ranjeet Tete
Rajeshwar B Mahto
Rakesh Kumar Khati
Rameshbhai N Patel
Ramas Sharma
Ranjeet Lal Rebari
Ritesh Kumar Ojha
Roshan Rahul Dawale
Sanwar Lal Jat
Shambhu Lal Verma
Shantanu Sinha Roy
Shiv Lal Kumawat
Shreya Karmakar
Sohan Lal
Sunil A Shrikhande
Sunil Kumar
Suresh C Parashar
Treeza Naidu
Umesh Paliwal
Vishnubhai K Patel
Vivek Kumar

*As of 31st March 2020

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the Government of India, Department of Land Resources, Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development, and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi. We thank the state governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Odisha and Rajasthan without whose assistance and support, our efforts would not have been possible.

We also thank the National Dairy Development Board and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for nurturing and supporting our work for many years. We thank the TMG ThinkTank, International Forestry Resources and Institutions (IFRI), Ulster University, University of Montana, Indufor, Land Alliance, Forest-PLUS, Global Footprint Network, University of Queensland, Council for Social Development, Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan, Advanced Centre for Water Resources Development and Management, Dakshin Foundation, Watershed Organisation Trust, Revitalising Rainfed Agriculture, Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan, Anthra, Sahjeevan, Kanchi Kohli, Purnendu Kavoori, Sanjeev Phansalkar, Geetanjay Sahu, Amlendu Jyotishi, and Shalini Bhutani for collaborating with us on various initiatives.

We are indebted to Barbara Sargent, Blake Ratner, Chris Short, Gautam Yadama, Liz Alden Wily, Marco A. Janssen, Michael Taylor, Peter Hovmand, Ruth Meinzen-Dick, Satish Sharma, Ton Dietz, Tiffany Marie Knight, Ved Arya, Apoorva Oza, Kanchan Chopra, Jayesh Bhatia, Sreedhar, Rajiv Singh Thakur, Praveen Kumar, Thomas Falk, Wei Zhang, Steven Lawry, Karl Hughes, Frank Place, Marlene Elias, Hagar ElDidi, Stephan Dohrn, Arun Aggarwal, Kristen Anderson, Ashwini Chhatre, Binoy Acharya, Harini Nagendra, Milindo Chakrabarti, Lakshmi Lingam, N.C. Narayanan, N.D. Khurody, Mihir Mathur, Kabir Sharma, Smriti Das, S. Siva Raju, Rucha Godbole, Sushil Saigal, Pranab Choudhary, Rita Brara, Rucha Ghate, Sanjoy Patnaik, Fred Nelson, Stephanie Cohn Rupp, V.S. Prakash, Ellis Ballard, Kelsey Werner, Rajeswari Raina, Kamal Kishore, Bhavana Rao, K.N. Raja, Nitya Ghotge, Ravindra, Sisir Pradhan and Ilse Köhler-Rollefson for helping us in many ways. We are extremely thankful to G.B. Mukherji, Jugal Mohopatra, S.M. Vijayanand, Arun Maira, C.S. Rajan and Dr. T. Haque for their continued support and guidance.

We thank Spring Impact (formerly ICSF) for helping us with systemising the operations of the Karyashalas, Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF) and Indian Institute for Health Management Research (IIHMR)-Jaipur for the certificate course for tribal youth.

We offer our thanks to Survey of India, National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning-Nagpur, Forest Survey of India, Census of India, National Remote Sensing Agency-Hyderabad, and ESRI-New Delhi for providing data and technical assistance to our GIS Cell. We thank Panchayat and Rural Development Department Chhattisgarh, Government of Maharashtra, Vodafone Foundation, NASSCOM Foundation, and National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)-Hyderabad. We thank Alka Narang, Sushil Chaudhary and Shashi Sudhir of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-Delhi; N.N. Sinha, Paritosh Upadhyay and Brajesh Dash of the Government of Jharkhand. We thank Joint Secretary of MGNREGA, Aparajita Sarangi, Director of MGNREGA, Raghvendra Pratap Singh, Dr. W.R. Reddy, Director General, NIRD&PR, Commissioner of Panchayati

Raj Department of Chhattisgarh, Principal Secretary of Agriculture Department-Odisha, Director of Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department of Odisha, CEO of Odisha Livelihood Mission (OLM), CEO of Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Programme (APDMP), CEO of Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS), and State Forest Departments of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Telangana for supporting the application of various tools by India Observatory.

We thank GIZ for their support in developing tools and frameworks for better forest management. We thank Ashok Chandrashekhar, Juliana Kurmen and Brian Curci of IBM Global for their support in project management methodologies, Harekrishna Mishra from IRMA for leading the network and security committee, Aaron Addison from Kullu Solutions LLC, Sanjay Kumar, Geospatial Media and Communications, Dr. A.R. Dasgupta, Aswani Kumar Akella and Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati for their support in developing and promoting India Observatory. We appreciate Hitesh Bhat and K. Srinivas for making time for us, and Senthil Ganesh for facilitating training programmes on Team Building. We are also thankful to the Xavier Institute of Social Service-Ranchi, Tata-Dhan Academy-Madurai, TERI School of Advanced Studies, Shiv Nadar University, Institute of Rural Management-Anand, Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM) for fruitful associations.

In Rajasthan, we thank the Deputy Chairman, Chief Minister's Advisory Council, Advisor (Finance) to Chief Minister, Chief Secretary, Departments of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Finance and Revenue, Forest, Social Justice, Animal Husbandry, Watershed Directorate, Wasteland and Pasture Land Development Board, State Biodiversity Board of Government of Rajasthan, and Commissioner-MGNREGS. We thank NABARD Regional Office-Jaipur, Institute of Development Studies-Jaipur, Indira Gandhi Panchayati Raj Sansthan, RTI Manch, Jaipur, National Campaign for People's Right to Information-Jaipur, and Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation. We thank the District Administration, Zilla Parishad, Watershed, Forest, Agriculture, MGNREGS Departments and all Panchayat Samitis in Ajmer, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Jaipur, Pali, Pratapgarh, Rajsamand and Udaipur for their continuous support and collaboration. In Bhilwara, we thank the Milk Union Bhilwara Dairy, MGNREGS Department, Dryland Farming Research Station-Arjiya, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Government Departments, CUTS, Parivar Seva Sansthan, Mewar Seva Sansthan, Jal Dhara, Mr. Bajrang Lal Sharma, Mr. S.C. Mathur, Mr. Anil Tripathy and DDM-NABARD. In Udaipur, we acknowledge support from Rajasthan College of Agriculture, SRLM, Ajeevika Bureau, ARTH Sansthan College of Technology and Engineering of MPUAT, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, the DDM and Programme Management unit of IGWDP & NABARD, and Wildlife & Territorial Forest Division-Udaipur. In Pratapgarh, we thank the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Government departments of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Watershed, Prayas and SRIJAN. In Ajmer, we thank the Department of Watershed, Agriculture, MGNREGS, Animal Husbandry and Milk Union. In Pali, we acknowledge support of MGNREGS, Watershed Department and DDM-NABARD. In Rajsamand, we acknowledge support of MGNREGS & Watershed Department, SRLM, and Wildlife division. In Chittorgarh, we acknowledge support from DDM-NABARD and Wildlife division.

In Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, we thank the Department of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, Department of Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh; State Project Monitoring Unit (SPMU), APDMP; Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka; Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka Regional Offices of NABARD; and Avantika Bengaluru. We acknowledge the support of WASSAN, Centre for People's Forestry, Visakhapatnam and Sriakulam, Andhra Pradesh. We would like to thank Mahila Samkhya, Advanced Centre for Integrated Water Resources Management, Abdul Nazir Sab State Institute of Rural Development - Mysore, and Regional Fodder Station-Hesaraghatta-Bengaluru, Karnataka.

We thank the District Collectors and Administration of Anantapur, Chittoor, Guntur, Kurnool, Prakasam, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam and Y.S.R. Kadapa for their support. We acknowledge the support of Commissioner, MGNREGA, Commissioner, Watershed Development Department-Bengaluru and Deputy Commissioners and CEOs of Chikkaballapur and Kolar districts, and Kolar Milk Union.

In Odisha, we would like to thank the Departments of Panchayati Raj, Forest and Environment, Revenue and Disaster Management, Rural Development, Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Water Resources, and SC and ST Development Department, NABARD, OLM, SIRD, OTELP, Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, International Rice Research Institute, Central Horticultural Experiment Station, Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Xavier Institute of Management, SC and ST Research and Training Institute, KIIT School of Rural Management, Rangers' Training College-Angul, ATMA-Angul and Dhenkanal, Central University of Odisha, ITDA-Koraput and Keonjhar. We are also thankful to District Collectors and administration of Angul, Balangir, Bargarh, Boudh, Cuttack, Debagarh, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Kendujhar, Khordha, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nabarangpur, Nayagarh, Nuapada, Rayagada, Sambalpur and Sundargarh.

In Madhya Pradesh, we thank the Departments of Revenue and Agriculture, Panchayat and Rural Development, Animal Husbandry, Forest, and NABARD for their support. We acknowledge the support of APCCF and Director, Rural Development and PMKSY, Sh. J.S. Chauhan; CCF and Field Director, Kanha Tiger Reserve; Sh. Shahbaz Ahmed, Madhya Pradesh; Chief Wildlife Warden, PCCF, State Biodiversity Board, Council for Science and Technology, Commissioner-Land Records, Director Skill Development, M.D Civil Supplies; MGNREGS Parishad; Climate Change Cell of EPCO, Sufiyah Faruqui Wali, IAS, Sujan Singh Rawat, CEO Zila Panchayat Mandla, Janpad Panchayats of Bichiya, Niwas, Parawada and Baihar, Director, State Education Centre, Divisional Commissioners of Jabalpur and Narmadapuram division and District Collectors and administration of Mandla and Balaghat for their support. We also thank Centre for Rural Bio-Technology, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya-Jabalpur, Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Mandla, WWF India-Mandla, DISHA, NIRMAAN, PRADAN and NWCRYED, ASA, HARD, Reliance Foundation, Institute of Advanced Sustainability Studies-Germany, Columbia University-New York, and ICRISAT-India. We thank the Indian Institute for Forest Management, Bhopal, Indian Institute of Soil Sciences-Bhopal, State Forestry Research Institute, Tropical Forestry Research Institute, Biodiversity International-Delhi, Vikas Samvad-Bhopal, Eklavya-Bhopal, Freedom from Hunger-Delhi, and S.S. Rathor of the National Commission on Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes, Gol.

In Gujarat, we would like to express our thanks to NABARD, the Centre for Environment Education, UNNATI, ANANDI, Janvikas, Central Soil & Water Conservation and Research and Training Institute-Vasad, Anand Agriculture University, Vidyanagar Nature Conservancy, Gramin Vikas Trust-Dahod, N.M. Sadhguru Foundation-Dahod, VIKSAT, Gujarat Vidyapith, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vejalpur, Maize Research Station-Godhra, Centre of Excellence for Vegetables, Vadrad, National Seed Corporation-Godhra, Gujarat State Seed Certification Agency, Ahmedabad, Gujarat State Watershed Management Agency-Gandhinagar, Commissionerate of Rural Development-Government of Gujarat, State Institute of Rural Development, Gujarat Green Revolution Company Ltd, District Panchayats of Anand, Kheda, Vadodara and Mahisagar, District Watershed Development Unit, Anand and Kheda, Forest Division of Anand, Kheda and Mahisagar District, and Community Science Centre-Vadodara. We thank the District Collectors and administration of Anand, Dahod, Kheda, Mahisagar, Panchmahal and Vadodara for their support.

In the North-East, we thank the Government of Nagaland, Department of Forest and Environment-Nagaland, Village Councils of Nagaland and Meghalaya, Meghalaya Basin Development Authority, Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, Additional PCCF, Department of Environment and Forests-Government of Assam, NABARD-Nagaland, Nagaland State Biodiversity Board, Land and Water Resource Department-Nagaland, NERCORMP, TISS Guwahati, and WWF-Assam. We also thank Director, North Eastern Space Applications Centre-Shillong, Nagaland GIS & RS Centre, Department of Rural Development-Nagaland, Deputy Commissioner and Administration-Mokokchung District for their support to implement EPRIS, and Additional Secretary, Tribal Welfare Department-Government of Tripura for their support in our initiatives. We thank the District Collectors and administration of Dimapur, Kiphire, Kohima, Longleng, Mokokchung, Peren, Phek, Tuensang and Zunheboto for their support.

In Maharashtra, we would like to thank the Department of Employment Guarantee Scheme, Departments of Forest, Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Development-Government of Maharashtra, State Rural Livelihoods Mission, District Administration-Yavatmal, DILASA, AFARM, Rashikashraya, Vikas Ganga, GSMT, CTARA-IIT-Mumbai, Savitri Jyotiba Phule College of Social Work-Yavatmal, Paani Foundation, NAAM Foundation, Dilip Gode and Mohan Hirabai Hirala. We thank the District Collectors and administration of Akola, Amravati, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Nagpur, Wardha, Washim and Yavatmal for their support.

In Himachal Pradesh, we thank the District Collectors and administration of Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kullu and Mandi for their support. In Jharkhand, we thank the District Collectors and administration of Simdega and Gumla for their support.

We would also like to thank the village communities of project areas, families of the staff members, and many individuals and organisations who have been associated with us over the years and have provided encouragement and support to our endeavours, and whose names do not find mention here.

We are grateful to Mark Katzman, Nicolas Therin, Paul Matthew Nordmann and Arpit Deomurari for contributing their wonderful photographs.

Contact Us

COORDINATION OFFICE

Sanjay Joshie
Executive Director
ed@fes.org.in
Tel: 02692-261303 (O)
Fax: 02692-262087

Jagdeesh Rao
Anchor and Curator
Commons Collaborative and India Observatory
jagdeesh@fes.org.in
Tel: 02692-261402, 261238
Fax: 02692-262087

Field Operations
Dinesh Reddy/Chetan Jha
dinesh@fes.org.in; chetan@fes.org.in

India Observatory
Ashok Jani/Chiranjit Guha
ashok@fes.org.in; chiranjit@fes.org.in

POSTAL ADDRESS

Foundation for Ecological Security,
PB No. 29, Anand 388 001
Gujarat, India

Commons Collaborative
Rahul Chaturvedi
rahul@fes.org.in

Studies & Research
Pratiti Priyadarshini
pratiti@fes.org.in

Karyashala and Partnerships
Subrat Singh/Brajesh Dubey
subrat@fes.org.in; brajesh@fes.org.in

COURIER ADDRESS

Foundation for Ecological Security,
C/o Surabhi Regency, Jay Tower,
Amul Dairy Road,
Anand 388 001, Gujarat, India

NEW DELHI OFFICE

Contact: Ishan Agrawal / Shashi Sudhir
Tel: 011 - 26713525 (O)
IDA House, Sector - IV, R K Puram,
New Delhi 110 022
delhi.fes@ecologicalsecurity.org

REGIONAL OFFICES

Aravali Regional Office (West)
Contact: Shantanu Sinha Roy
T: 01482 - 264470 (O),
M: 09460376236
E: aravalicell.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

A-160, Near Subhash Nagar
Sr. Sec. Government School,
Subhash Nagar,
Bhilwara 311 001, Rajasthan.

Papagni Regional Office (South)
Contact: M Bhakthar Vali Sab
T: 08571 - 231014 (O),
M: 09440804865
E: papagnicell.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

16/620-B, 1st Cross,
Seshappathota,
Madanapalle 517 325,
Andhra Pradesh.

Regional Cell (East)
Contact: Meena Das Mohapatra
T: 0674 - 2554498 (O),
M: 09437232123 /
09437576223
E: rceast.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

1/1 Shreemaa Enclave,
Plot No. N-2/43, IRC Village,
P.O. Nayapalli,
Bhubaneswar 751 015,
Dist. Khordha, Odisha.

Regional Cell – North-East
Contact: Tapas Das
T: 0361 - 2669922 (O)
M: 07576032328
E: northeast.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

Flat No. B2, House No. 7,
Rupali Path, Zoo Road,
Guwahati 781 003,
Assam.

STATE TEAM OFFICES

ANDHRA PRADESH
Madanapalle
Contact: Shreerang Hegde
T: 08571 - 230300 (O)
M: 8790394988
E: madanapalle.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

16/620-B, 1st Cross,
Seshappathota,
Madanapalle 517 325

KARNATAKA
Chintamani
Contact: P Vijay Kumar
T: 08154 - 290690 (O)
M: 09449856526
E: chintamani.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

#1-2342, N.R. Extension,
Behind Sri Raghavendra
Swamy Temple,
Chintamani 563 125,
Dist. Chikkaballapur

GUJARAT
Santrampur
Contact: Vikramsinh S Solanki
T: 02675 - 221020 (O)
M: 09979916861
E: dahod.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

Juni Garadiya Ashram Shala,
Near Abhishek Petrol Pump,
Zalod Road, Santrampur,
Dist. Mahisagar 389 260

MAHARASHTRA
Yavatmal
Contact: P Sreehari
T: 07232 - 242015 (O)
M: 09403282926
E: yavatmal.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

Near Nanababa Math,
Thukodoji Chavk, Mahatmapule
Society, Sambhaji Nagar,
Yavatmal 445 001

MADHYA PRADESH
Mandla
Contact: Satyasovan Das
T: 07642 - 260218 (O)
M: 07894445651
E: mandla.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

Behind Sidh Motors, Mridu
Kishore Colony,
Mandla 481 661

ODISHA
Angul
Contact: Swapnasri Sarangi
T: 06764 - 230610 (O)
M: 09437030173
E: angul.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

5th Lane, Amalapada,
Angul 759 122

Korput
Contact: Bijay Kumar Toppo
T: 06852 - 250203 (O)
M: 09437496208
E: korput.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

Kanheiput,
Korput 764 020

RAJASTHAN
Bhilwara
Contact: Alka Tirkey
T: 01482 - 264470 (O)
M: 09829778705
E: bhilwara.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

A-160, Near Subhash Nagar
Sr. Sec. Government School,
Subhash Nagar,
Bhilwara 311 001

Udaipur
Contact: Rajeshwar Bahal
Mahto
T: 0294 - 2453419 (O)
M: 07987318194
E: udaipur.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

18, New Ahinsapuri, Opp. Jyoti
School, Fatehpura,
Udaipur 313 001

Pratapgarh
Contact: Mohd. Wassim Khan
T: 01478 - 221570 (O)
M: 07014106181
E: pratapgarh.fes@
ecologicalsecurity.org

C-15, Jawahar Nagar,
Opp. District Hospital,
Banswara Road,
Pratapgarh 312 605

FOLLOW US

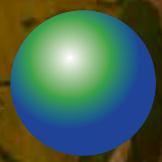
Foundation for Ecological Security (FES)

 /FESforCommons
 /ecologicalsecurity
 /FES_India
 /foundation-for-ecological-security-fes
 /FESforCommons

India Observatory (IO)

 /IndiaObservatory.IO
 /IOforCommons

www.fes.org.in



FES

FOUNDATION FOR ECOLOGICAL SECURITY