

REVIEW : 2014 - 15



Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation

www.grassrootsindia.com

About Us

The Pan Himalayan **Grassroots** Development Foundation is established as a non-profit voluntary organization under the Societies Registration Act (1860) at the office of the Registrar of Societies, Delhi since November 1992.

The primary aim of Grassroots is to initiate peoples action at the grassroots for restoration of ecological security in languishing river basins through holistic mountain development programs, in order to improve the quality of life.

Broadly, **Grassroots** works to:

- Promote self-reliant local community organizations and assist them in the preparation and implementation of natural resources management plans, keeping in view the gender issues
- Research, promote and propagate ideas and choices regarding sustainable development in cross cutting sectors like drinking water, environmental sanitation, renewable energy, catchment area treatment, rainwater harvesting, land use and animal husbandry
- Collaborate with other voluntary organizations regarding the potential for spearheading the concept of holistic mountain development and the role of appropriate technologies in improving the quality of life of communities, here and now, and thereby enabling a long term engagement in natural resources management
- Promote livelihoods improvement efforts and micro enterprises in order to add value to local produce and thereby enable marginalized families to supplement incomes in a sustainable fashion
- Initiate appropriate capacity building exercises for community organizations, self-help groups, voluntary organizations and other change makers
- Develop and maintain data bases for holistic mountain development in order to make relevant information available to policy makers, development institutions, community organizations and the media
- And, encourage the formation of relevant multi stakeholder platforms to bring forth change and development at the grassroots.

Our Strategy

Over the past twenty two years, Grassroots has been able to evolve a holistic intervention strategy which channels resources - managerial, technical and financial - directly to people and associations of the communities, working at the village/river basin level.

The emphasis is on self-help participation and the belief that average villagers have the desire, the right and the capability to promote their own welfare and prosperity and to participate in decisions that affect their lives.

Grassroots continues to be a lean and independent organization, which reaches out to far-flung micro watersheds in the central and western Himalaya through Outreach Program Offices located in the states of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. The composite spearhead team comprises of fifteen professionals-in-development, almost all of whom are from the rural areas of the Himalaya.

Over the years, Grassroots has been able to initiate programs on improving the quality of life of mountain communities through sustainable community development strategies, training and technology transfer, micro enterprises and marketing by strengthening the capacity of Community Based Organizations and creation of new forms of organizations such as *Barefoot Engineers Guild* and Federation of Self help Groups.

During the period under review, workshops with stakeholders in other parts of the Indian Himalayan Region has led to initiation of a dialogue with :

- Meghalaya Basin Development Authority with the idea of consolidating sustainable development processes to benefit small farmers in the Garo, Khasi and Jainti Hills.
- Ministry of Rural Development, Government of Bhutan regarding scaling-up the spread of biogas technology in Bhutan with a more robust model.
- Women's Coops in Central Asia and other regions regarding establishment of a viable network for sustainable marketing of handicrafts through the Mountain Partnership Network promoted by Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

At the end of the period under review, Grassroots continued to forge partnerships to spread the benefits of holistic mountain development strategies to communities in more than 700 villages, spread over 27 Blocks in 12 Districts in the states of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.



Outreach Program-Districts in Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand

Grassroots continues to consolidate outreach programs in the following cross-cutting sectors in order to accelerate some critical **Millennium Development Goals** based on the principles of ecology, economics and equity through capacity building of people at various levels:

Community Managed Drinking Water Systems
Ecological Security
Upland Irrigation & Farming Systems
Renewable Energy
Livelihoods & Food Security

Ecological Security

The Gagas river originates in the sacred forests of Pandokholi in Almora district, of the Kumaon Himalaya in the state of Uttarakhand. The river is largely defined through the flow of over fourteen major streams or gadheras on both banks, and flows for about 50 kms prior to merging with Ramganga (West) river. Gagas river basin is spread over 500 square kms with a population of over 120,000 in 370 villages.



The loss or lack of title to environmental assets in this river basin is viewed as an essential component of poverty, leading to the conclusion that environmental conservation is actually a necessary fundamental to poverty alleviation.

This approach has forged a coalition of interest between communities in selected *gadheras* of the river basin to share lessons regarding ecological restoration which leads to fulfilling the millennium development goals in the following manner:

- Providing a fresh vegetal cover on degraded commons and renewal of traditional methods for soil and moisture conservation
- Swift spread of appropriate technologies in cross cutting sectors like drinking water, environmental sanitation, renewable energy and rainwater harvesting
- Improving food security and livelihoods through land-use optimization and establishment of market linkages directly between producer-farmers and consumers

During the year, ten village nurseries located across the river basin raised close to 150,000 mature saplings of over twenty species of native trees and shrubs, along

with selected fruit tree saplings. Communities organized as *Gadhera Bachao Samities* (CBOs) were motivated to plant-out 134,000 saplings of forest species on degraded village commons across four *gadheras* and other parts of the basin.

Alongside, farmers were also motivated to plant and protect around 9,000 fruit tree saplings which would provide nutrition as well incomes in the near future.

These community based organizations have been encouraged to create *gram kosh* of more than Rs. 20.00 lakhs and even more significantly share the cost of infrastructure development to the tune of Rs. 20.00 lakhs. During the period under review, several CBOs utilized a portion of the gram josh for procurement of community assets, viz., utensils, furniture and individual household water filters, pressure cookers and solar lanterns.

The challenge ahead is for communities to consolidate the maintenance of silvicultural operations for close to one million saplings raised and planted-out on village commons.

Trees Planted-Out in various Gadheras

Sr	Region	Villages	Forest	Fruits	Total
1.	Dusad (350 hec)	12	50,804	618	51,422
2.	Malyagad (300 hec)	17	46,114	2,017	48,131
3.	Kanari (90 hec)	6	18,180	439	18,619
4.	Riskan (120 hec)	4	9,035	1,285	10,320
5.	Headwaters(10 hec)	5	8,980	1,952	10,932
6.	H.P. & Others(30 hec)	45	932	2,644	3,576
<hr/>					
Total	900 hectares	94	134,045	8,955	143,000

The tradition of locating and maintaining *khals* is being revived for the past few years in the river basin and during the year, the following villages participated in promoting soil and moisture conservation through *khals*.

<u>Gadhera</u>	<u>Villages</u>	<u>Khals</u>
Dusad	7	500
Kanari	2	150
Malyagad	7	250
3 Gadheras	16	900

Alongside, maintenance activities (including planting-out saplings) continued on 50 check walls constructed, over the years, in strategic locations in 10 villages to prevent soil erosion as well as lead to conservation of water resources.

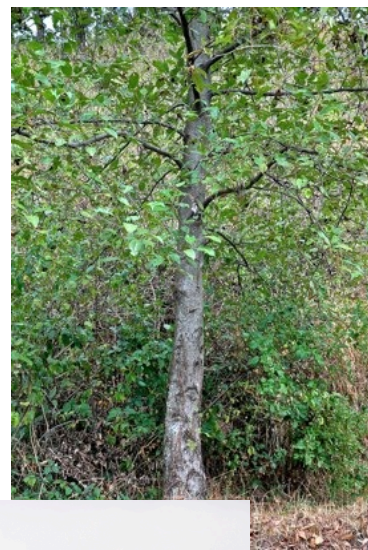
Planting-out saplings and protection of commons through ‘social fencing’ has evolved as a feasible way-forward for conservation of biodiversity in the various *gadheras*. This is notwithstanding the annual hazard of fire on the commons due to the menace of dry pine needles. To minimize the annual loss in village commons due to such forest-fires, especially to the young broad leaved saplings, Grassroots assisted communities to forge a partnership with a private sector firm for removal of dry pine needles during the previous year. (This partnership was brought together by the Forest Department, Government of Uttarakhand.)

Unfortunately, the experience of the communities has been very poor with this private sector operator as the contract has been breached regarding payments to women for head loading pine needles from distant common lands up to the road head. With the result that communities are once more left in the lurch, to protect new forests from the ravages of pine forest fires, as in the past. There has been no improvement in this sectoral management even though it has been a declared objective of the state government for the past few years.

Just as previous years, participatory exercises were conducted in several villages to monitor the growth of community-managed forests. Alongside, during the winter season, hundreds of women from SHGs were encouraged to practice basic silvicultural operations on the commons, viz., manuring, de-weeding, manuring, pruning.

These pictures are in villages of Dusad *gadhera* wherein efforts of the community have led to growth of fresh vegetal cover on degraded commons. The idea is to enable and sustain the momentum amongst communities in Gagas river basin to plant-out close to one million saplings of native species by the Monsoon of 2016 in order to accelerate as well as consolidate the process of renewing the hydrology within the various *gadheras* and thereby the river basin.





It is realized that human development is about much more than rise and fall of national incomes. It is about quality of life, the level of human well-being and access to basic social services. The pressures on natural resources and the repercussions of their degradation on low income livelihoods have become a source of increasing concern

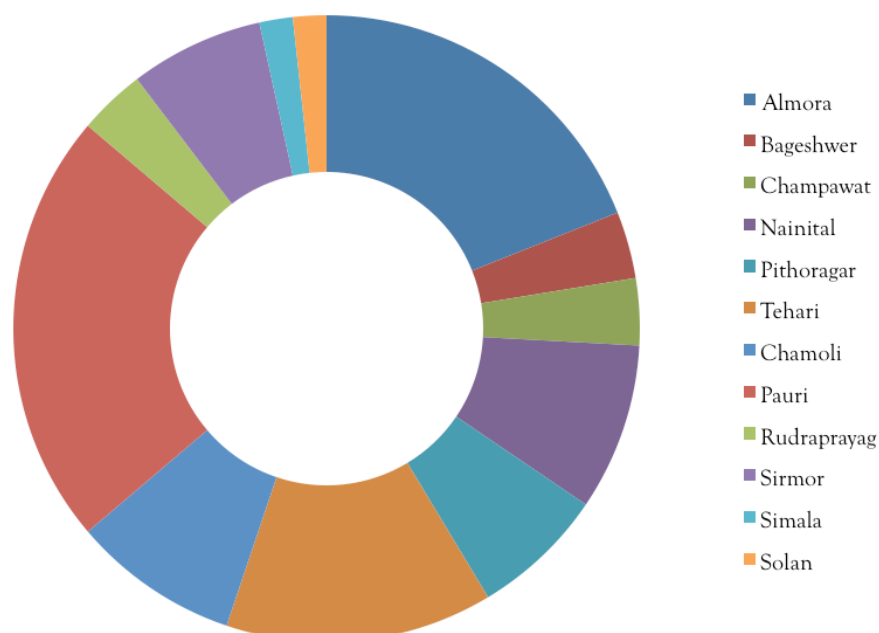
Community-Managed Drinking Water Systems

Significant denudation of vegetal cover in immediate catchment areas has resulted in poor recharge of primary water resources and along with increasing population, it is a common story to hear most communities say that springs have been slowly, but steadily, drying-up.

With the slow destruction of the forest resources, the first physical casualty amongst the three water resources felt by the community are the primary water resources – naulas. Appraisals conducted by Grassroots reveals that in seventy villages on either banks of Gagas River in Almora District of Uttarakhand, only about 56% of the naulas are functional as the ecological status of the fragile catchment areas are not conducive for allowing infiltration of rain water to recharge the water sources. Furthermore, only 23% of the functional water sources provide water for the entire year which adds to the drudgery of women and children who now have to travel longer distances to meet the daily water requirements.

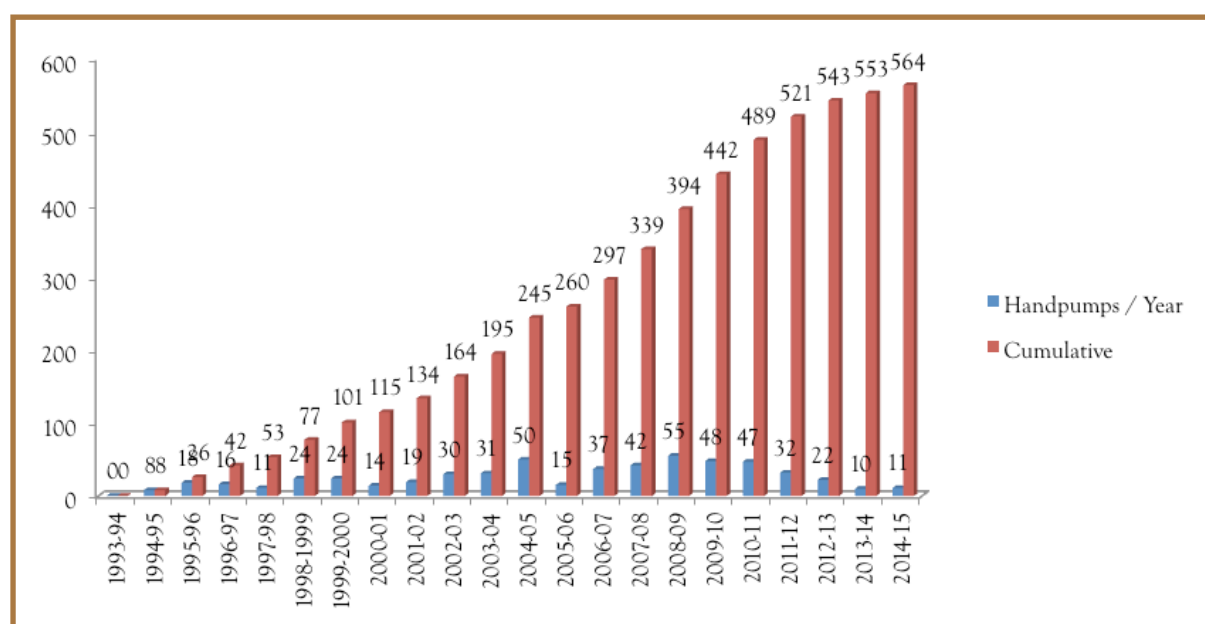
Under these circumstances Grassroots has found it relevant to introduce an appropriate technology application in the form of an Infiltration Well, which is based on the primary water resource of the village. These “wells” act as a protected intake structure for subterranean water capillaries, and then fitted with a hand pump or submersible pump, to enable the drawing of water.

Spread of Infiltration Well Technology



These interventions have not only provided access to enhanced quantities of safe drinking water, but communities have also been empowered to operate and maintain such facilities without dependence on external agencies. Monitoring of water quality is also being done through trained local youth equipped with simple field kits. This has certainly led to enhancing awareness regarding water borne diseases and as a result more and more households are investing in water filters as a measure for ensuring water quality at the household level.

During the period under review, Grassroots continued to spearhead this action item in order to provide easier access to enhanced quantities of safe drinking water, through cost as well as responsibility sharing mechanisms between communities and *barefoot engineers* of the Guild.



All together 11 more Infiltration Wells were installed in Gagas river basin, Almora district of Uttarakhand. Based on the response of communities, it is envisaged that similar benefits of community-managed drinking water programs would be extended to other selected villages in the next year.

Just as other years, Grassroots continued with capacity building exercises in *gram panchayats* regarding the need to be careful about adopting appropriate measures to safeguard drinking water sources. For this purpose, Water Quality workshops were organized in 50 *panchayats* benefiting 470 villages during the period under review.



Over the last two decades Grassroots has been able to reach the benefits of this appropriate technology application to 574 hamlets spread over 368 villages in 58 blocks of 12 districts in the states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

On a typical day these infiltration wells provide 2.70 million liters of safe drinking water to over 20,000 households with over one lakh people or 27 liters per capita.

This has resulted in improved hygiene as well as time saving in terms of fetching water. Impact studies reveal that women feel a greater sense of independence and comfort; plus they have more time to spend with children.

Renewable Energy

Grassroots has been involved with promoting biogas technology as a green cooking energy option amongst rural communities for over two decades in the Indian Himalayan Region. Almost 3,000 households benefit in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh through operation and maintenance of biogas units, which provides 3-4 hours of cooking gas daily besides significant quantity of slurry, which is used as organic compost for terrace farming.

This has not only arrested the pace of environmental degradation by reducing the biotic pressure on scarce forest resources in a significant manner but also reduced the drudgery of women head loading firewood from distant forests.

The renewable energy program was slowed down during the year under review as Grassroots is convinced about replacing the conventional masonry model of the biogas digester with the more robust FRP digester demonstrated during the previous year. To this affect, Grassroots continued to monitor the performance of

the new model of biogas digesters and encouraged large number of farmers to learn about the new model through inter-basin cross-visits and workshops.



It is clear that the new pre-fabricated FRP model is the preferred option not just at the level of the *barefoot engineers* but more importantly in the perception of the farmers - the demand for the conventional model has slipped down remarkably after the demonstration of the newer and more robust model.

In the immediate future, Grassroots proposes to visit Biogas Institute of Ministry of Agriculture (BIOMA), P.R. China at chengdu and select 350 more prefabricated digesters, either hand-made or through hydraulic pressure mould technology. It is envisaged that BIOMA would play a lead role in assisting Grassroots with technology transfer and training so that within a year after the import of the proposed consignment of digesters, it is feasible to start the manufacturing process of similar digesters within the Indian Himalayan Region.

The success of the such a process would imply installation of thousand plus biogas digesters each year as compared to the track record of 250 digesters each year. Ultimately, over a period of twenty years, Grassroots proposes to spread the benefit of this appropriate technology across the Indian Himalaya so that at least one hundred thousand households benefit from this clean green technology. And, thereby impact upon the reduction of the brown cloud over fragile mountain ecosystems.



At least 5,000 metric tonnes (which is about 500 truckloads) of firewood consumption has been reduced per year, at an average of 5 kilograms per household per day. Additionally, not only have mountain homes become smoke-free but more than 6,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per annum have been reduced in the atmosphere @ 2.5 metric tonnes per biogas unit.

Livelihoods & Food Security

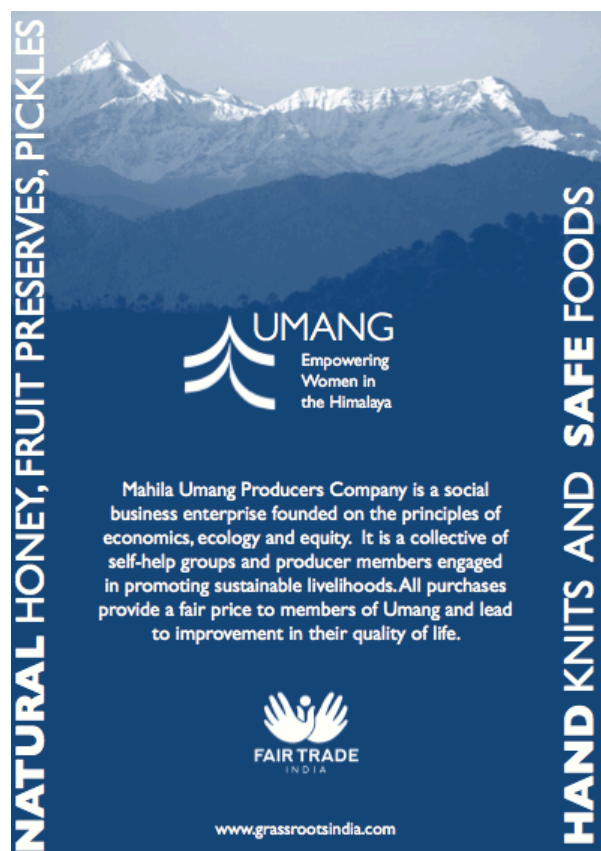


In fragile ecosystems in the Himalaya, forests play a pivotal role in supporting mountain farming systems. The degradation of such essential support systems has affected traditional food security and enhanced risk to human health. To find a fresh balance in the quality of lives for such marginalized farming communities, Grassroots has been involved with creating a platform for establishment of pro-poor business ventures, with women as the primary stakeholder.

Along with spearheading eco-restoration efforts in Gagas river basin, Grassroots has been involved in consolidating a network of over 3,000 women (belonging to over 200 SHGs) who are involved with various viable livelihoods improvement activities, which provide small yet significant incomes on a sustainable basis through establishment of micro enterprises.

This operation is managed by a nascent community-owned organization promoted by Grassroots called Mahila Umang Producers Company, which has almost 150 Self Help Groups as institutional share holders. It is envisaged that over the next few years, all SHGs would be able to participate as institutional share holders of Umang.

All products of the network are marketed under the brand name *Kumaoni* and *HimKhadya* and it is Umang's belief that those who purchase these products are directly assisting resource poor households through 'trade and not aid'. The turnover during the year under review has been over Rs. 155.00 lakhs and a total of 1,427 women shareholders benefited from this venture.



However, the most significant aspect of these local efforts in promoting the spirit of enterprise is a concern of the *institutional framework at the grassroots*: each and every business activity be directly controlled by the producer-group, all assets be owned by them and all are equal shareholders of the business.



This arrangement ought to be also operated in a manner whereby the greatest portion of the consumer's rupee reaches the producer-groups.

In view of this, as well as future plans for further growth, Grassroots facilitated the process of obtaining registration of Umang as a Fair Trade organization.

The institutional structure at the grassroots is an inverted pyramid with over 200 SHGs who are being enabled to join the federation -

Umang - as share holders and thereby participate in the process of change and development.

Upland Irrigation & Optimization of Farming Systems

During the year, the idea of increasing on-farm incomes through micro irrigation systems was further extended to two more villages, benefiting a total of over 400 small farmers in eight villages with 12.00 hectares. This amounts to 600 *nails* of consolidated irrigated land, which is viewed as a highly significant feature in upland farming systems.

The idea is to enable farmers to protect the entire irrigated area and evolve a cropping pattern which would fetch greater returns, ecologically as well as economically. Alongside, an element of agroforestry in terms of planting both timber as well as fruit trees in appropriate areas within the plots, has also been adopted by the farmer-groups.

The potential to scale-up this action item is immense and several communities have observed the changes being brought about due to land consolidation as well as raising farm outputs and thereby ensuring better food security.



It is significant to mention that water resources which apparently looked very meagre and insignificant were enhanced through construction of deep infiltration wells as protected intake structures. The overflow from the wells was carried unto the storage tanks through underground pipes, which ensured minimal water losses as well as maintenance-free service for years ahead.

Grassroots has been involved with pioneering upland irrigation systems in this manner for over ten years but there has been almost no impact on changing government policies which still insist upon capital-expensive pumping systems from tertiary water sources along with open concrete channels. The fact that choice of appropriate technology is an enabling factor for community management does not seem to be within the purview of policy makers/planners.

Value Added Crops

While traditional crops are being promoted, especially for marketing as Safe Foods to urban clientele and thereby enhance farm incomes, it has also been found to be essential to introduce new value added crops which fit into the traditional cropping cycle.

As reported earlier Chamomile and Strawberry were two such crops introduced in the river basin about four years ago. The former has established itself as an easy crop and hundreds of small farmers are able to grow it and earn handsome incomes each year. During the period under review, over Rs. 4.00 lakhs was earned by 300 small farmers through cultivation of chamomile tea.

Production of chamomile could be increased to over 1,000 kgs per season but the challenge is to locate and secure markets for the chamomile crop. Introduction of chamomile tea bags and small sachets has increased the sale in urban markets but much more needs to be done. Dialogue is ongoing with Tata Global Tea for bulk sales and samples have been sent for quality tests.

Alongside, strawberry trials were also introduced with selected farmers in several villages in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. It is encouraging to note that farmers earned about Rs.1.00 lakh through sale of 1,000 kgs of fresh strawberries. Further value addition has also been done through production of almost 4,000 bottles of strawberry jam, which has been accepted very well by urban consumers.

It is envisaged that in the future, larger number of farmers would be encouraged to adopt strawberry cultivation as a regular value added crop and thereby enhance on-farm incomes.

Fresh Initiatives

Along with promotion of organic farming systems, the utility of bio-pesticides has been demonstrated during the year under review. This has been possible through field trials of a lead-farmer over a period of five years mainly to protect fruit trees and vegetable cultivation from attack by pests.

PGS Groups have been encouraged to produce small batches of bio-pesticide and use a spray machine to protect pomegranate and other trees during the flowering, budding and fruit setting periods. Results have been encouraging and it is envisaged that more comprehensive bio-pesticide packages would be introduced to improve farming systems.



It is well known that prime agricultural land is turning fallow for several reasons, viz., low returns and migration, non-availability of bullocks, etcetera. After the successful introduction of hand-held power tillers in the Gagas valley ten years ago (there are over 50 tillers now) similar tillers has been demonstrated to PGS Groups in the uplands. It is envisaged that such tillers could be owned by local entrepreneurs and farmers could utilize the services through hourly payment for ploughing their fields, instead of leaving it fallow for shortage of bullocks.

Participatory Guarantee System Organic Council

Grassroots, along with five other voluntary organizations, had decided to put together a new agency which would enable small farmers to participate in the organic farming movement without dependency on external third party certification - an alien and frightfully expensive mechanism. This idea has now

been registered as an independent pan Indian voluntary organization, Participatory Guarantee System Organic Council (PGSOC) at Goa.

Over 40 self help groups in Gagas river basin, comprising of almost 500 small and marginal women-farmers, had pledged to continue with traditional organic farming practices unto March 2014. During the period under review, community resource persons encouraged similar group formation amongst another 500 small farmers to adopt the principles of PGS.



At the end of March 2015, there are 90 PGS Groups comprising of almost 1,000 small and marginal farmers, largely in Dusad and Malyagad regions of Gagas river basin.

A system has been put in place for optimization of farming systems with a mix of traditional as well as cash crops along with upland irrigation facilities wherever feasible.

These groups have been empowered to aggregate and transport farm produce to Umang for further cleaning, sorting, value addition, packaging and marketing as a branded PGS certified product for urban consumers. This supply chain is leading to enhancing farm incomes in a sustainable manner and it is envisaged that over the next year, Grassroots would support the formation of more PGS groups in the Gagas river basin and elsewhere.

Conservation & Promotion of Bamboo Species

While bamboo seedlings are being raised across the river basin in almost all the nurseries there are two nurseries had been set up to exclusively raise bamboo saplings. The idea is to harness suitable experience in raising bamboo seedlings specifically with the idea of assisting traditional bamboo-growers/craftspersons to have greater access to bamboo groves as well as markets for bamboo products, so that livelihoods of these marginalized households could be improved in a sustainable fashion.

During the period under review, almost 150 families in 20 villages have participated in this initiative of improving livelihoods options through planting-out 25,000 saplings of bamboo spp. over 30 hectares of common/private lands. Dialogue with these communities is leading to formation of CBOs which would

plant-out bamboo saplings on both private as well as common lands, with the idea of increasing the total number of bamboo clumps which would be available for utilizing in livelihoods improvement efforts in the future.



The idea is to assist such communities with training and marketing facilities to fabricate utilitarian products based on the fresh stock of bamboo plants. This way the tradition of fabricating baskets for local consumption by farmers would continue and simultaneously a new range of products could also be brought into the market, especially through sale-counters of Umang as well as other

appropriate outlets, so that household incomes rise in a sustainable manner.



Towards this end, two sessions of bamboo handicraft training was conducted for a small group who are keen to explore this avenue as a sustainable income generating activity. These pictures show some of the items being fabricated on a regular basis over the past year. The skill set could be further enhanced in future for production of other utilitarian items with a potential market.

Walnut Growers Coops

Five groups of walnut growers have formed CBOs in order to aggregate and market walnuts in a more equitable manner as compared to the traditional method of depending upon middlemen.



The walnuts are being shelled by hand and immediately vacuum packed to retain quality and prevent degeneration in taste. The vacuum packed walnuts are then being marketed as small gift boxes as shown in the picture (left) - this item has gained immense popularity amongst consumers across the country.

During the period under review the economics of walnut growers coops was documented rigorously to gauge the potential of scaling-up similar ventures with larger numbers of walnut growers. Almost one million pieces of walnuts were aggregated, stored, cracked, vacuum packed and sold within a period of six months after harvest. The entire value chain shows immense potential: procurement, processing, packaging, marketing ratios is in the range of 1:3.

Based on this experience it is now envisaged that the network of walnut growers would be further enlarged so as to benefit about 1,000 growers during 2015-16.

In conclusion it may be within the limits of prudence to mention that various action items in this sectoral intervention regarding livelihoods improvement have led farmers to not only increase incomes, but more importantly consolidate a position in the growing market for safe foods from the Himalaya.

During the year under review, the status of revenue generation by the nascent producers company amounted to Rs. 156.50 lakhs, details of which are as follows:

Hand-Knitted Products	Rs. 69 lakhs
Fruit Preserves & Pickles	Rs. 25 lakhs
Natural Honey	Rs. 12.50 lakhs
HimKhadya Safe Foods	Rs. 50 lakhs



The Umang flagship showroom in Naini Village outside Ranikhet town, fetched 18 percent of the total sales - Rs.28.60 lakhs. Along with two other existing showrooms, during the year, a fourth showroom was established. The idea is to increase Umang's share of such direct-marketing to at least 50 percent of the total annual sales - so that between

four showrooms, Umang would be able to fetch the maximum share of the consumers money back to the homes of the women members of self help groups.



The challenge for Grassroots is to build upon the capacity of shareholders at all levels, from that of the producer-members in the various verticals of the business - hand-knits, fruit processing, bee-keepers and farmers - as well as the producer-

members selected as the Board of Governors and the Team Members of the organization.

Grassroots Leadership Initiative

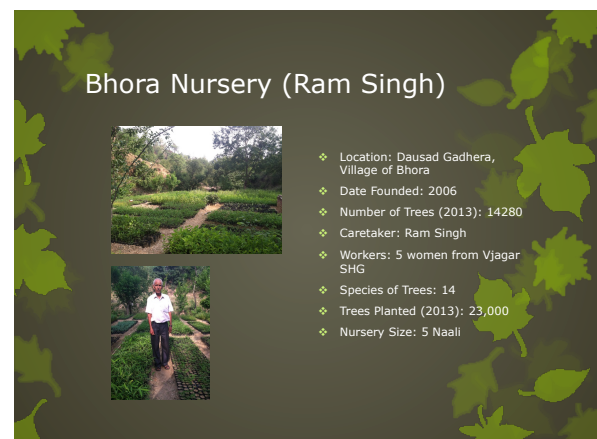
As always, Grassroots encouraged visits of student-groups, farmers, policy makers and development-professionals to experience and understand issues related to sustainable development of mountain ecosystems, based on outreach programs in Gagas river basin.



Most of these guests have been subscribers to the concept of HomeStays - which basically means that board/lodge is organized in the homes of local farmers and payments are shared with the community.

The Lakeside School students, as usual, enjoyed the HomeStays and side by side, in small groups undertook field studies to understand specific components of the holistic development program. One such example is shown below, which had to

do with documenting the village nursery program in the river basin which has been providing almost a million saplings of various native species of trees to communities involved with restoration of degraded commons. These young minds learn the simple ways of communities bear unusual responsibilities such as raising saplings which would normally be the task of the state forest department. At the same time Grassroots is able to gather objective feedback about field activities.



Don Bosco School of Social Work, Assam
Delhi School of Social Work, Delhi
Nature Conservation Foundation/Snow Leopard Trust,
Spiti, Himachal Pradesh
Various Universities of France
NGOs of Uttarakhand
Lakeside School, USA



Group from Spiti, Himachal Pradesh

Similarly, in order to build upon the capacity of emerging leaders in various CBOs associated with Grassroots, customized programs were evolved in consultation with grassroots development organizations with proven track record. A group of ten change makers travelled to Dharni Producers Company promoted by Timbaktu Collective in Andhra Pradesh and Keystone Foundation in the Nilgiri Hills of Tamil Nadu.

During the period under review Grassroots participated in a conference Energy 4 All at Bhutan and presented field experiences regarding biogas technology and the way forward for scaling-up the spread through adoption of a more robust prefabricated model. Similarly, International Center for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu invited Grassroots to visit Meghalaya for a study tour to gauge the potential to develop viable business enterprises on behalf of small farmers engaged with the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority.

Summary of Financials for the Year 2014-2015 (Rs.)

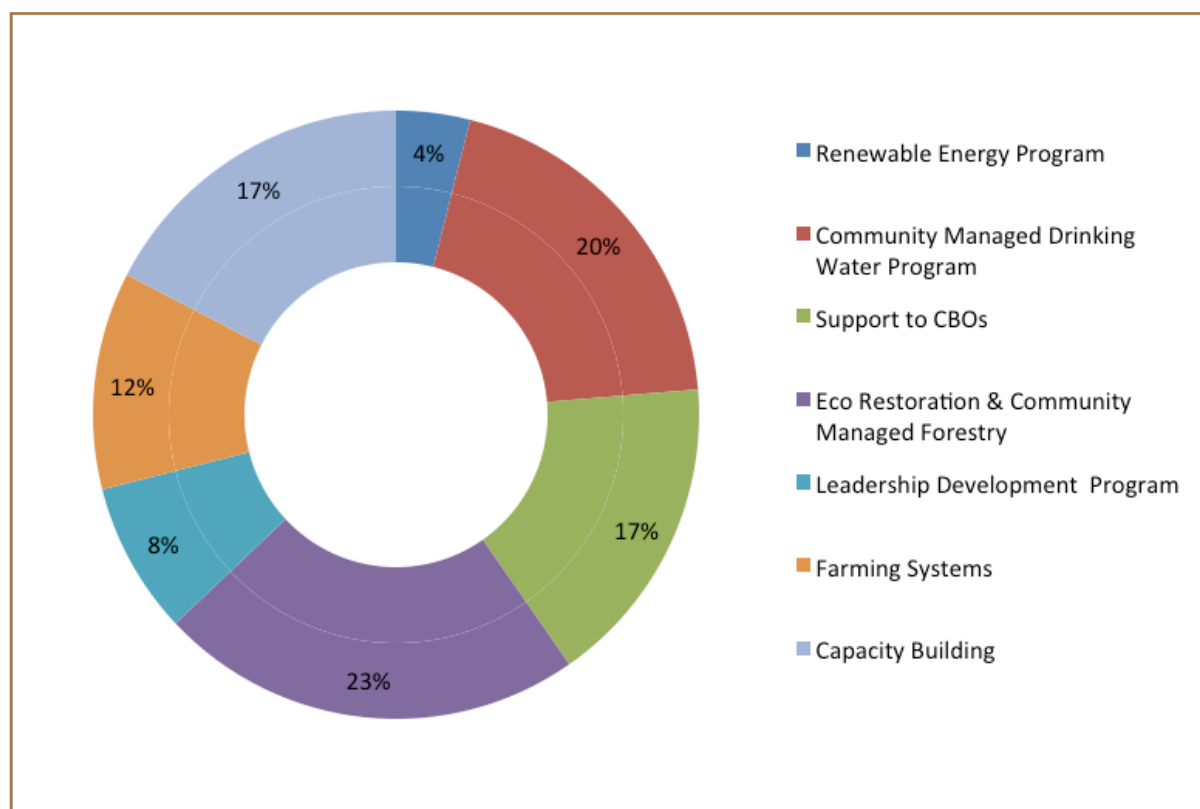
	2014 - 2015	2013 - 2014
GRANT AND INCOMES FOR THE YEAR		
Indian Institutions	207,84,000	227,71,270
International Organizations	9,00,791	9,77,030
Government - Central & State	2,23,272	16,30,847
Community Contributions	5,15,331	4,62,573
Program Support	2,45,379	2,45,380
Donations	3,00,000	95,309
Bank Interest	11,85,152	7,61,032
Total Income	241,53,925	274,32,537
TOTAL EXPENDITURE DURING THE YEAR		
Renewable Energy Program	3,69,495	26,20,540
Community Managed Drinking Water Program	18,54,279	16,40,699
Livelihoods Program	15,65,928	24,49,803
Eco Restoration & Community Managed Forestry	21,25,084	30,97,650
Leadership Initiative Program	7,59,894	8,27,030
Farming Systems	10,89,229	
Upland Irrigation	Rs 6,00,150	8,71,509

Nuts & Bamboo Orchards	Rs 1,37,641	2,78,305
Seeds & Other inputs	Rs 3,51,438	1,71,103
Capacity Building of Grassroots Team	2,36,393	75,891
Capacity Building of CBOs	7,00,746	6,20,787
Workshops/Seminars/Study Tours	6,95,368	3,98,842
Salary	54,55,277	50,30,934
Travel	8,84,926	6,60,338
Administrative Expenses	8,15,433	7,75,856
Audit & Legal Fee	2,01,709	1,07,782
Capital Expenses	3,60,467	1,02,092
Depreciation	2,25,888	2,43,941
Total Expenditure	173,40,116	199,73,102

ABSTRACT OF BALANCE SHEET

LIABILITIES	2014 - 2015	2013 - 2014
Life Membership Fund	90,902	90,902
Reserve and Surplus	59,85,690	36,58,592
Accumulated Fund	70,25,000	33,50,000
Designated Fund Pending Utilisation	201,09,506	189,57,772
Total	332,11,098	260,57,266

ASSETS	2014 - 2015	2013 - 2014
Fixed Assets	22,31,019	22,96,795
Fixed Deposits	180,23,423	167,56,939
Cash and Bank Balance	115,28,460	56,70,684
Loan and Advance	14,28,196	12,58,771
Expenditure Pending Recovery	-	74,077
Total	332,11,098	260,57,266



Utilization of Outreach Program Funds

Council of Governors

Mrs H Bedi : Chairperson
Mr Deep Joshi Mrs Sumita Ghosh
Mrs Annie Sinha Mr Joydeep Gupta Dr Amitava Mitra

The Council of Governors and the Executive Officers of Grassroots would like to acknowledge the assistance received from the following organizations during the year under review:

Bajaj Electricals, Mumbai
Government of Uttarakhand
Jamsetji Tata Trust, Mumbai
Lakeside School, Seattle, USA
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Khadi & Village Industries Commission
Sumant Moolgaokar Development Foundation, Pune
&
Friends of Grassroots!



The financial records of Grassroots are a matter of public record
and as such are available

Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation
Post Bag # 3, Ranikhet 263 645, Almora District, Uttarakhand, India
Mobiles: +91 98111 77546 & +91 94120 93286
E: kpaul@grassrootsindia.com W: www.grassrootsindia.com

BHUTAN VISIT 2014



**Ecology
Economics
Equity**



HOLISTIC MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT



Grassroots aims to initiate peoples action at the grassroots for restoration of ecological security in languishing river basins through holistic mountain development programmes in order to improve the quality of life.

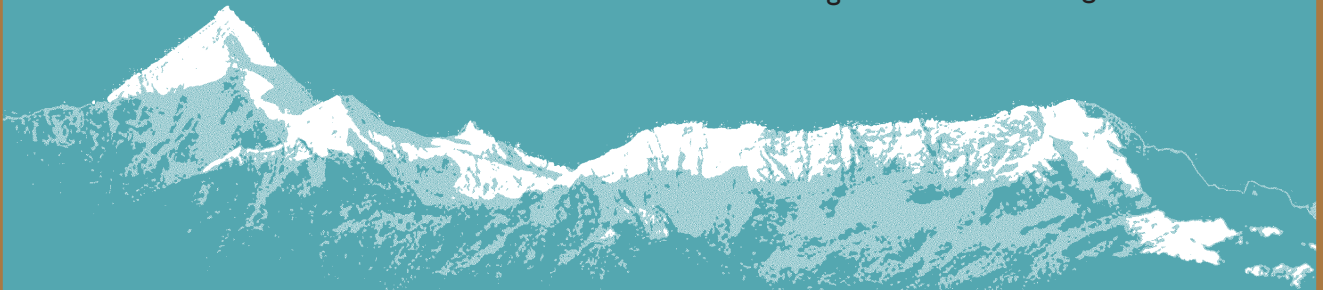
The emphasis is on self-help participation and the belief that communities have the desire, the right and the capability to promote their own welfare and prosperity and to participate in decisions that affect their lives.

PROGRAMMES

- Renewable Energy
- Water and Sanitation
- Community Forestry
- Farming Systems
- Livelihoods
- Research and Documentation
- Climate change adaptation
- Rainwater Harvesting

STRATEGY

- Capacity building
- Empowerment
- Cost sharing
- Self help groups
- Partnerships
- Leadership
- Formation of local organisations



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