

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT: APRIL - JUNE 2015



THE PARTNERSHIP

UMED – Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission has partnered with BAIF and MITTRA to leverage their knowledge and experience in creating sustainable rural livelihoods. The partnership covers two districts and now completes its first quarter. Presented below are the key activities carried out in Palghar district.

COVERAGE (Palghar district)

No	Particulars	Year 1	Details
1	Number of districts	1	Palghar
2	Number of blocks	3	Jawhar, Talasari, Palghar
3	Number of villages	28	
4	Number of SHGs	200	
5	Number of families	2000	
6	Number of village organizations (VO)	20	

HIGHLIGHTS (KEY ACTIVITIES)

- **Kharif planning**

Data collection on the major existing livelihood activities was carried out. It included major crops like paddy, proso millet, floriculture and vegetables like bitter gourd, okra and cucumber. It also included goat rearing and poultry.

No	Activity	Demand (No of farmers)	Demand
1	Paddy	2615	
2	Proso millet	47	41.64 (acres)
3	Vegetables	996	190.76 (acres)
4	Flouriculture	120	21514 (cuttings)
5	Goat rearing	61	209 (animals)
6	Poultry	226	5997 (birds)

Next plan for Kharif includes collective procurement, exposure visits, field level trainings and demonstrations, estimate marketable surplus and prepare market plan.

- **Selection and training of livelihood CRPs**

The livelihood CRP, one per village and a member from SHGs, is envisioned to be the para community



professional for promoting and disseminating livelihood activities in her own village. 34 livelihood CRPs were short listed from 29 villages in 3 blocks of Palghar district. Out of those, 29 livelihood CRPs were selected and trained on key livelihood activities. The 4 day training program had three major components – first, capacity building of CRPs, second, livelihood activities and third exposure visit. The various sessions on livelihood activities included package of practices (POP) for crops paddy and floriculture, vegetables like bitter gourd, Okra and

chilly, finger and proso millets conducted by experts from BAIF and MITTRA. Also the sessions on goat rearing and poultry were conducted.

- **Exposure visits / demonstrations / hands on training**



The newly recruited livelihood CRPs were taken to exposure at the Agriculture service centre in Shahapur for collective purchasing. The centre is run by local SHG members. 20 hands on training sessions were conducted for SRI and vegetable cultivation and 469 members attended these trainings in different villages. The demonstrations included nursery raised bed preparation for SRI cultivation and layouts for vegetable cultivation.

- **Looking forward**

UMED envisions a community led model and so plans to recruit, train and empower a cadre of community para professionals who will take forward the livelihood activities ahead in an independent and sustained way. Hence, the livelihood CRPs will be trained continuously on field and in classroom. Initially, they will be assisted and guided by BAIF-MITTRA-UMED staff to promote and disseminate livelihood activities.