



*Reflexive relationship between theories and action*

Dear Reader!

Welcome to the first edition of 'Praxis - The Institute of Livelihood Research and Training (ILRT) Newsletter. The word 'Praxis' is the reflexive relationship between theories and action. This, in turn, aptly captures the spirit of ILRT as is also reflected in our vision - 'Theory and practice build on each other to promote dignified livelihoods for all'.

This first issue has been designed to bring awareness about ILRT to its Board members, the Basix SEG entities and to some extent, the faculty and staff of ILRT. Being an internal newsletter, it is an attempt to ensure that our internal community is aware of what is happening - successes, failures, lessons learnt thereof and plans ahead. It also serves the purpose of light reading and taking away the reader from the monotony of day to day work related stress.

Right now we plan to have quarterly issues but if there is sufficient interest we may want to increase the frequency of the publication. Your feedback, therefore, will be very important for us. Also being the first issue, it does not delve deeper into a particular theme as it needs to cover a vast range of things, HR included. From the next issues onwards, while keeping the variety of information, we may want to have one theme per issue as a focus with at least one detailed article of news item on the theme. We are also open to the idea of dedicating one or more pages for news items or contributions from other Basix SEG entities so do let us know if that interests you.

We look forward to hear from you on several things but most importantly your contributions to future newsletters are what we require most!

A Very Happy reading!

Dr. SS Tabrez Nasar  
Dean

## Knowledge Building (KB) and Knowledge Dissemination (KD)

### Writershop

#### Documentation process and some outputs

Capturing of the 'tacit' knowledge and converting this to 'instrumental' knowledge helps livelihood practitioners to learn and improve their work-approach so as to promote livelihoods effectively and efficiently. This knowledge can be made available through appropriate documentation and a 'writershop' - which is basically a workshop that writes with practitioners, is an established process.

#### Some of the Writershops include:

- Three Writershops for Bihar Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (BRLPS) to develop compendium of teaching cases

as Advance Training Module for Village Organizations (V.O.s), (2011-12), on Organizational Development aspects (2013), and on learning emanating from the functioning of Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) (2016);

- A Writershop organized for Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS)-2013-15: Capacity Building on Communication and Documentation to professionals of SRLM Jharkhand-2013-15;
- Writershop on Social Dimensions of Inland Fisheries for a project from Jamsetji Tata Trust-2015;
- Writershop on Agriculture Value Chain (AVC) for a project from Jamsetji Tata Trust-2015.

### Communication workshop

#### ToT on Effective Communication

To address the challenges faced by the Internal Community Resource Persons (iCRPs) of Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS), a training design on effective communication skills was developed. Three pilot trainings were organized for iCRPs in 2015 to test their effectiveness. ILRT then developed a module and a ToT was organized in August 2016 for the Nodal Persons of Knowledge Management (KM) at JSLPS.

#### Training Modules

- A Curriculum on Culture Based Inland Fisheries for Capacity Building of Livelihood Promoting Organizations;
- Curriculum Note: Planning for Dairy Based Livelihood Interventions;
- Training Module on Effective Communication for Capacity Building of Internal CRPs of JSLPS.



## Action Research Labs (AR Labs)

ILRT is implementing a Ford Foundation funded AR Labs project which aims to test out innovations and provide cutting edge solutions to livelihood issues faced by marginal groups. The action research is being carried out with communities such as the Chenchus in Andhra Pradesh, Musahars and Fisherfolk in Bihar, Lac cultivators in Jharkhand, Tribal and forest dwellers in Jharkhand and Odisha, and Small and Marginal farmers in Madhya Pradesh.

#### Some of the innovations being tested out include:

- impact of conscientization of marginal groups on development response by local governance institutions and development administration (Chenchus);
- identification of relevant socio-psychological approaches for improving self-worth of marginal groups (Musahars);
- impact of extension education and market interventions on livelihood status of lac cultivators;
- social approaches for strengthening adoption of agri-technologies by marginal groups;
- These action research projects have been carried out since 2014 and will end in the first quarter of 2017. The findings from the action research will feed into the Policy Briefs.



## Policy Advocacy

Basix SEG has been initiating numerous interventions with poor communities across the country around development needs. As part of the experience of working on the ground, various challenges are faced and innovations for overcoming these are attempted, and constraints related to policy aspects are often encountered. ILRT thus conducts research on these policy aspects and draws up policy lessons based on field experiences which are then taken up with policy makers for incorporation into an existing policy, or for developing a new policy.

ILRT is currently working with Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs), Inland Fishers, Tribal Farmers, FPOs, Mahadalits, and Women Farmers. The work is expected to provide key lessons for development interventions and policy dimensions required for bringing about sustainable change among these vulnerable social groups.

## Recognitions

### Empanelment and recognitions

ILRT is an academic and research organization registered as an independent not-for-profit Society in 2007.

#### Recognized as...

- Scientific and Industrial Research organization (SIRO) for Social Sciences by Department of Scientific and Industrial Research;
- 'Capacity Building Agency' for National Rural Livelihood Mission, Ministry of Rural Development;
- Empaneled with National CSR Hub promoted by Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai;
- Resource Organisation for Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) to extend mentoring support to the Resource Institutions (Farmers Producer Organizations-FPO promoting agencies) across the country;
- Resource Organisation for Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) for capacity building and accompaniment support for enterprise identification and promotion in Meghalaya State;
- Centre of Excellence (CoE) for an IFAD funded regional training network (RTN) on Value Chains and Market Systems Development in Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.

## Internship

JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization) has been entrusted by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) with the "Global Internship Program", which dispatches young human resources to governmental organizations and private companies in developing countries, together with the Overseas Human Resources and Industry Development Association (HIDA). The program aims at enhancing business skills, improving the ability to respond to different cultures and building local networks through practical experience at their host organizations. JETRO has been associated with ILRT for the past three years.

#### Presently three interns are undergoing their internship for a period of 4-6 months.

- Mr. Jun Ebihara is working with Mr. A Satheesh on "Micro insurance" and is based in Hyderabad.
- Mr. Takehiro Nakamura is working with Mr. Sanjeev Kumar on "Integrating Japanese Business for Social Development in India: Livelihood Promotion through Indo-Japan Collaboration" and is based in Delhi.
- Mr. Takemoto Ryosuke is working with Mr. T Navin on "Integrating Japanese Business for Social Development in India: Livelihood promotion through Indo-Japan collaboration" and is based in Hyderabad.

## Training capabilities

### Capacities of ILRT as a training institution

- As a praxis<sup>1</sup> institution, ILRT works on knowledge building and knowledge dissemination. Training modules are developed by the core faculty and is run through a 'Faculty Development Program', where inputs on how to improve the modules are provided.

#### Some of the training programs organized by ILRT for external stakeholders are:

- Fundamentals of Livelihood Promotion- five days of training, including one day for field work to understand application of the tools;
- Training on "Integrating Agri-Value Chain and Farmers Producer Organizations;
- Training on Entrepreneurial Business Planning: To capacitate the business development facilitators who in turn can mentor rural entrepreneurs;
- Training of Livelihood Managers of Managerial Decision Making Skills (through case teaching methodology);
- Training on inland fisheries, NTFP and Dairy based livelihoods;
- Training of Trainers (ToT) on Effective Communication Skills for capacity building of Internal Community Resource Persons (iCRPs);

<sup>1</sup>. Praxis is defined as an accepted practice or custom, or an idea translated into action, or something in reality rather than something in theory.

## Fast facts...

### ILRT...

- has trained over 20,000 Practitioners in Livelihood Promotion;
- developed 200 + case studies;
- undertook 40 + research studies;
- engaged with 70 + accompaniment support Programs;
- Published 35+ papers;
- conducted over 21 writeshops
- organized dozen Livelihood Learning Groups

## Extended Faculty Group (EFG)

Along with core faculty members, ILRT adopted the concept of Extended Faculty Group (EFG) to enhance its thematic strengths and outreach. The EFG is a group of over 50 thematic experts, either freelancers or associated with any organization, acting as part time faculty members and are involved in research, training and consultancy for livelihood promotion across the country. Similar to the core faculty members, the EFG are involved in different faculty development programmes (FDPs) and thereby in knowledge building and dissemination activities done by ILRT in different parts of the country as per their expertise and understanding of the local area and language.

## The Human Resources

### ILRT Faculty and Staff

**Dr. S S Tabrez Nasar**, Dean, has over three decades of experience in the development sector with exposure and experience on a wide range of themes and geographies - Fisheries, Ag & NRM, developing and implementing training courses, entrepreneurship development and managing 'communications and publications'.

**Dr. Shashidharan Enarth**, Senior Advisor - Faculty Development & Institutional Linkages, has over two decades of experience in the development sector that spread across three NGOs - LOCOST, AKRSP and DSC. He promoted holistic health and natural resources development programs.

**Mr. Ramakrishna K**, Deputy Dean, Ph.D., has over 32 years of experience in Banking, Entrepreneurship Development, Academia and Training & Development.

**Mr. Sanjeev Kumar**, Associate Vice President (Policy Advocacy), an alumnus of IRMA, has worked as an implementer with grassroots cooperatives, NGOs and government in rural initiatives related to commodities, poverty alleviation and capacity building.

**Dr. Rajendra Singh Gautam**, Associate Dean, has over a decade's experience in the development sector and academia. He is involved in research, training and consultancy related to livelihood promotion.

**Avinash Kumar**, Regional Coordinator and Lead Faculty (Eastern Region), has over 14 years of experience in the development sector that includes working with NGOs, CSR, the microfinance sector, Natural Resource Management and livelihood promotion.

**Dr. G.A. Swamy**, Regional Coordinator and Lead Faculty (Southern Region), has over 13 years of experience in the sectors related to tribal development, microfinance, disaster management, institution building and livelihood promotion.

**Mr. T. Navin**, Lead Faculty (Research Support), is a Post Graduate from Hyderabad Central University (HCU) and M.Phil in Political Science from JNU. His key skills are in the area of research and analytics, project conceptualization, knowledge building and process documentation.

**Mr. Shashank Singh**, Senior Faculty, M.Tech (Agriculture), has developed projects on organic farming, and GIS modeling at Marathwada Institute of Technology, Bulandshahr. His core working area is watershed modeling, GIS & remote sensing and application of hydrological techniques for anthropogenic use.

**Ms. Sonakshi Anand**, Faculty, is a development professional who had her post-graduation in development from Azim Premji University with specialisation in gender and livelihoods. Among other things, responsible for Digital Learning project.

**Ms. Wanda Mary Lamare**, Assistant Manager, has a Masters in Rural Development with specialization in Women Studies. Her key areas of interest include Training, Women Empowerment and Gender issues, Livelihood Development and Environment.

**Ms. Mayanka Singh Nongpiur**, Assistant Manager, M.Sc. in Public Management and Policy from Erasmus University, Netherlands, has worked with Asia Society, a global non-profit organization. She has a keen interest in Public Policy research.

**Mr. Ananda Barua**, Field Research Associate, PGD in Environment, has over 14 years' experience in teaching and promotion of medicinal and aromatic plants and traditional health practice system in Meghalaya. His areas of interest include livelihood promotion, entrepreneurship development, photo documentation etc.

**Ms. Praveena K**, Faculty Associate, MCA, MBA, has over 11 years of experience in teaching, layout and design of reference material and marketing tools. Presently she is leading ILRT's drive to convert various modules into e-courses.

**Mr. Sainath M**, Faculty Associate, MBA, has over 11 years of experience in Data Processing, Program Coordination, Facilitation and Content Development in respect of National and International programs.

**Mr. Sreenivasulu T**, Senior Manager, Accounts & MIS, a post graduate in Commerce and a proud recipient of Chairman's Award during 2009, has around 20 years' experience in Finance and MIS. He is well-versed in dealing with financial requirements of both domestic and international donor agencies.

**Mr. Venu Gopal B**, Manager, MA (Economics), has over 25 years of experience in academic and administrative functions. Besides taking care of logistics of both national and international training programs of B-A-LAMP, he extends support during the exposure/field visits of the trainee-participants.

**Ms. B. Anitha**, Senior Executive, MA (Public Administration), has over 19 years of experience in administration and secretarial work. In addition to administrative and logistical functions, she also plays a key role in streamlining program and consulting work of the ILRT.

**Mr. Raj Kumar Prajapati**, Executive (Accounts & Program), M.Com with specialization in Finance, has over five years of experience in accounts.

**Ms. Habina**, Field Executive, Post Graduate in Anthropology with a specialization in Cultural Anthropology, and responsible for administration and field work.

**Mr. Rajababu**, Sr. Executive IT, MBA., Diploma in Multimedia Animations with specialization in 3D animation, playing an important role in the development of e-learning portal and IT and Designing functions of Basix SEG.

### Board of Governors

**Dr Dilip Kumar** is the Chairman, with over three decades' experience in fisheries and aquaculture, is the retired Vice-Chancellor of Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai. He has worked extensively with ICAR, FAO, UNDP, IFAD, UNOPS, and NACA in India, South and Southeast Asian countries and East African countries in various capacities.

**Mr Sattaiah D**, MBA, CEO & MD of Basix Social Enterprise Group (SEG), has nearly three decades' experience in the development sector in a wide range of works that includes his leadership role with Bhartiya Samruddhi Finance Ltd., a flagship company of Basix SEG and Head-HR at various stages.

**Mr Biswajit Sen** has a PGP from IIMA and has been working in community-based rural development projects for the last 32 years in various NGOs, bilateral and multilateral agencies including as Consultant for national and international development agencies such as Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC); UNICEF, World Bank and MacArthur Foundation.

**Mr Bankim Chandra Nigam**, Director, is a retired Indian Forest Service (IFS) Officer of 1980 batch and was the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) of Gov. of Jharkhand and as the special secretary in the departments of Welfare, Water Resources, Forests and Environment and Managing Director of Jharkhand State Scheduled Castes Development Corporation (JSSCDC).

**Mr. Girish Godbole**, Director, Masters in Social Work, has been a development professional for the last 30 years. He had worked with L&T, PRADAN and Save the Children Fund, Canada.

**Dr. Venkatesh Tagat**, Director, is from Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi. He retired as the Chief General Manager, Business Initiatives Department, NABARD, Mumbai.

**Prof. K.V. Raju**, Director, has about ten years of field experience in Development Cooperation, followed by 20 years of academic engagement. Currently he is the Director of Development Management Institute (DMI), Patna.

**Ms. Seemantinee Khot**, Director, Head of Suzlon Foundation and Global Head, CSR-Suzlon Group of Companies, has over three decades of experience in the development sector, 20 years of direct implementation with NGOs, 5 years of Bilateral Aid and UN and 6 years of CSR with Suzlon.

**Dr. K. Seeta Prabhu**, Permanent Invitee to the Board and a leading exponent of the human development approach, is currently Tata Chair Professor at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai and is also Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister's Rural Development Fellows Scheme of the MoRD, Government of India.

## Obituary:

Mr. Radha Krishna Singh S, who worked as a Consultant with our Chiguru project and was based at Lammasingi, Andhra Pradesh, left us for his heavenly abode on Monday, the 21st of November. He is survived by his wife and school-going daughter. RK Singh, as we fondly call him, has been associated with various Basix SEG group entities for over 13 years now. We deeply mourn his demise and pray for the peace of his soul and that the Almighty gives strength to the bereaved family.

# Project updates

## Developing Digital Learning Materials for Livelihoods – Supported by TheTata Trusts

Given the large numbers and the geographical spread of livelihood promotion professionals, it was felt that there is a need to use training methods and materials that go beyond the traditional method of training. The new method of training proposed by ILRT include a package of ten digital tools such as games, videos, e-learning courses and GIS Map maker would be developed for livelihood promotion professionals as well for communities of poor households.

### The Ten Digital Tools

Three Games	Three Videos	Three E-Learning Modules
1. Krishilakshmi (Game on Crop Insurance)	1. Crop Insurance	1.Resource Book on Livelihoods
2. Pashu Palan	2. Promotion of Piggery Enterprises	2.Evolutionary model for FPOs
3. Water & Sanitation	3. Sanitation as a business	3.Economics of Non-farm activities

One GIS Map maker for FPOs to plan supply chain

### The ten tools developed under this project are: GIS Applications for Farmer Producer Company

Geographic Information System (GIS) is the latest scientific tool to turn spatial data into actionable intelligence on demand. GIS helps for better understanding spatial information and to make decisions whenever and wherever the need occurs. Basix SEG had recently collaborated with the world’s largest GIS firm Esri, to develop a GIS based tool that can work on mobiles and tablets, to capture data that can be directly sent to an online GIS server powered by ArcGIS Online, a product of Esri. The mobile app was developed in August, 2016 to capture information and spatial location for Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) promoted by Basix. The app was then used for pilot testing for the project Developing Digital Learning, supported by the Tata Trust. The results of the app will be superimposed with other GIS layers on ArcGIS Online to provide spatial query and planning solution for FPOs. This GIS information would be used in better planning, monitoring, managing and evaluation of resources of FPOs.



Potters from Larnai Village, Thadlaskein Block, West Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya

## Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA)

The Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) is engaging the services of ILRT to strengthen the Entrepreneurship Facilitation Centres (EFC) for Enterprise Development in Meghalaya. ILRT’s engagement with the EFCs aims at addressing the capacity gaps of the EFC personnel such as the Enterprise Resource Persons (ERPs) mainly with regard to knowledge and skills, and on functional areas required for services offered by the EFCs. Following the successful completion of the Phase I project which involved providing capacity building to ERPs in eight blocks in Meghalaya, ILRT was then requested to provide capacity building to eight Local NGOs of Meghalaya who were identified to work as partners with the MBDA for outreach activities in the field level, under the Phase II project. The project is currently in Phase III where capacity building is being provided by ILRT to ERPs in all the 39 Blocks of Meghalaya.

### The major components of the MBDA project are:

- Customised training programmes for ERPs and Local NGOs on Livelihood Promotion and Entrepreneurship modules called Fundamentals of Livelihood Promotion (FLP), Achievement Motivation, Training Methodologies, and Entrepreneurial Business Planning.
- Psychometric Analysis tool called Focused Behavioural Event Interview (FBEI) which aims at identifying potential entrepreneurs;
- Conducted six sub-sector studies on: Areca Nut, Bay Leaf, Piggery, Poultry, Orange and Cashew Nut.
- Exposure visits for ERPs and key NGO staff members to micro-enterprise promoting organisations
- Accompaniment Support Visits with NGOs post completion of trainings .



Primary Producers from Amlarem, Meghalaya carrying Oranges to the Weekly Market

# Take a break...

## Interesting facts

*Did you know that you could use your toothpaste to do the following:*

- **Polish silverware, silver, or gold.** Toothpaste will shine up silver and gold. Rinse thoroughly.
- **Clean small plastic ware such as switches.** Squeeze toothpaste on a damp cloth. Rub the plastic well, wipe dry, and buff with a soft, dry cloth.
- **Remove ink spots from cloth.** Squeeze toothpaste on spot, scrub, and rinse thoroughly.
- **Dry up acne pimples.** Dab Colgate on pimples as you would use Clearasil.
- **Remove crayon from walls.** Brush the marks with toothpaste on an old toothbrush.
- **Remove scratches on glassware.** Polish with a dollop of toothpaste.
- **Remove grime from CDs.** CDs that do not read well and need to be cleaned, can be washed with toothpaste and under running tap water. Rinse and pat dry with a dry piece of cotton cloth.
- **Deodorize smelly hands.** Squeeze an inch of toothpaste into your palm and wash hands under running water.

*So what is the magic trick? Well, Fluoride is one of the best and safest cleaning agents hence even used for brushing teeth.*

## Useful links

*Here are some useful and interesting sites for the development sector:*

- **Directory of Development Organizations:** This 2011 Directory of development organizations, listing 70,000 development organizations across the globe, has been prepared to facilitate international cooperation and knowledge sharing in development work, both among civil society organizations, academic and research institutions, governments and the private sector. <http://www.devdir.org/>
- **RainbowAgri-** A mobile app that connects local buyers and sellers. <http://www.rainbowagri.com/>
- **Rice Doctor-** A diagnostic tool to help identify rice crop problems and the available solutions. <http://www.knowledgebank.irri.org/decision-tools/rice-doctor>
- **mPower Social-** A mobile app that provides veterinary advice for cattle owners. <https://www.mpower-social.com/>
- **AgriVi-** A mobile app that helps farmers improve their production and increase productivity. <http://www.agrivi.com/>
- **Jayalaxmi Agro Tech-** An organisation which has developed various crop specific mobile applications on agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry. <http://www.jayalaxmiagrotech.com/>
- **The aAQUA eAgriService:** A problem-solving interactive website dedicated to finding solutions to agri-related problems faced by Indian farmers. <https://aaqua.persistent.co.in/aaqua/forum/index>

## Quote corner...

Poverty is not only about a shortage of money. It is about rights and relationships; about how people are treated and how they regard themselves; about powerlessness, exclusion and loss of dignity. Yet the lack of an adequate income is at its heart.

*-Mahatma Gandhi*

God doesn't require us to succeed; he only requires that you try.

*-Mother Teresa*

Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new.

*-Albert Einstein*

Each time a person stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, these ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

*-Robert F Kennedy*

## Project updates

### Fisheries Project

The three year project 'Livelihood Promotion for Small Fish Producers in West Bengal and Northern Bihar' was implemented by ILRT with the partnership of Basix Krishi under the grants of Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT). After a number visits to West Bengal and North Bihar, suitable areas were selected based on the analysis of demand and supply chain, and five production units were established in West Bengal (Naihati, Kaliaganj, Birbhum) and Northern Bihar (Kaluahi and Rajen).

#### The Objectives of the project are to:

- improve quality seed availability to fish farmers of Bihar and West Bengal;
- establish 100 seed nursing and nursery cultivation and distribution entrepreneurs;
- support livelihoods of more than 6000 small and marginal fish producers;
- provide awareness and training on sustainable aquaculture to at least 1000 small and marginal farmers;
- improve women's participation in fish production through training and capacity building;
- develop improved understanding of the markets through study and pilot market intervention so as to facilitate better price to the farmers; and
- Accompaniment, evaluation, documentation and dissemination of this action research project from the point of view of lessons for wider replication.

### Human Resource Capacity Building for Livelihood Promotion (HRCBLP)

ILRT has been implementing a project namely 'Human Resource Capacity Building for Livelihood Promotion' since 1st October 2013 with the support of Jamsetji Tata Trust. The broad objective of the project is 'to contribute to the capacity enhancement of the institutions and practitioners engaged in promotion of sustainable livelihoods of fishers, tribes and other forest-dwellers, small and marginal farming communities'. The project primarily focuses on Indian states include Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and North East.

The project focuses on three thematic areas such as (i) Fisheries based livelihoods with reference to inland fishers (ii) Forest based livelihoods with reference to tribal communities (iii) Off-farm based livelihoods with reference to value chains. The



project is going to end by December 2016 and has significant achievements in terms of building and dissemination of systematic knowledge on livelihood promotion.

### Livelihood Promotion for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)

Sightsavers, a UK based international NGO, is involved in health and rights related issues of visually impaired, blind and other PwDs in India since 1996 and has been working on socio-economic inclusion since 2015. A tripartite partnership has been formed among Sightsavers, its partner NGOs and ILRT to promote the livelihoods of PwDs, especially the visually impaired, in eight states, namely Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha.

ILRT, designed a comprehensive programme for PwDs where Livelihood Mapping Study of project districts were conducted to identify suitable livelihood opportunities for them. This was followed by capacity building and mentoring support to partner NGOs on:

- a. livelihood promotion;
- b. formation and management of SHGs of PwDs;
- c. micro-enterprise development; and
- d. business development planning of micro-enterprises of PwDs and field level mentoring and accompaniment support in carrying out these activities.



Focus Group Discussion with Persons with Disabilities

### CHIGURU: An action research Initiative

In October 2014, a strong tropical cyclone "Hudhud" caused for severe damage in Eastern India as crops such as coffee and turmeric were washed out, and the longstanding big trees such as tamarind, mango, and jackfruit were uprooted. This thus seriously affected the livelihoods of tribes in the region. As a response to the disaster, ILRT has launched an action research project namely "CHIGURU" (Cyclone Hudhud Impacted Girijan, Urban, and Rural Livelihood Restoration Programme) with the larger aim of reviving and strengthening the livelihoods of tribes through institution and convergence building. The project covers all Hudhud affected families in 29 tribal villages of Lammasingi panchayat of Chintapalli Mandal, Visakhapatnam district, Andhra Pradesh. ILRT's support to the tribal communities can be broadly divided into two categories:

- (a) Restoration support; and
- (b) Long term value chain interventions.



## Publications and Modules

### Publications

#### About the Resource Book, 4th Edition

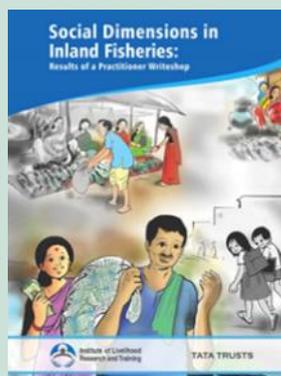
The Fourth Edition of the Resource Book for Livelihood Promotion was released in June, 2014. The authors of the book are Dr. Sankar Datta, Ms. Rama Kandarpa and Mr. Vijay Mahajan. This book describes both the conceptual as well as practical approaches and provides a more improved understanding of livelihoods under various lenses such as social, cultural and political analysis. It has accounted for various concerns of earlier approaches that fail to address such analyses and

has included a new set of suitable instruments/tools to account for the same.

#### Social Dimensions in Inland Fisheries: Results of a Practitioner Writeshop

A resource book on 'Social Dimensions in Inland Fisheries: Results of Practitioner Writeshop' has recently been published by ILRT. The four sections of the book include Generic Issues in Inland Fisheries; Social and Economic Dimensions of Smallholder Fishers in Inland Water Bodies; Extension Strategies; and Indigenous Knowledge in Inland Fisheries - covering 14 articles and cases, delve into the social dimensions with the technical backdrop of fisheries.

This compilation of field derived experiences resulted from a participatory workshop conducted in March 2015 in Kolkata and was represented by about 25 practitioners from various parts of India.



### Modules

#### Fundamentals of Livelihood Promotion (FLP):

This course aims at building a perspective on the concept of livelihood and livelihood promotion processes applicable across different socio-political and economic conditions. It will also help participants customize project interventions to fit local conditions including resource availability and constraints, the political economy of the region, sector and location. This program also focuses on the design of livelihood interventions aligning with large programs of the Government.

#### Entrepreneurial Business Planning (EBP):

This module is designed in such a way that it involves the Cognitive (conceptual and therefore the presentations), Affective (emotional and therefore the case studies) and Conative (action and therefore the exercises) aspects of human emotions and therefore much more effective as opposed to usual training methodologies. The training also includes 'Talk by an entrepreneur' sessions, where successful entrepreneurs from across Meghalaya are invited to speak about their enterprise, their journey of success and the difficulties faced.

#### Focused Behavioural Event Interview (FBEI):

ILRT has helped build the capacity of the MBDA officials to identify the Entrepreneurial Competencies of an Entrepreneur through the Focused Behavioural Event Interview (FBEI). Since the programme in Meghalaya is demand driven, it enabled the NGO and MBDA staff to use this tool to identify the entrepreneurial competencies (socio-economic and psychological) of an entrepreneur registered in the EFCs for promoting any sustainable enterprise.

#### Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP):

The training module on 'NTFPs based Livelihood Promotion for the Tribal and other Forest Dwelling Communities' aims to develop the capacity of practitioners on developing community based NTFP value chains so as to enhance large number of forest based livelihoods. The module covers various important aspects such as understanding linkages between NTFPs and tribal livelihoods, NTFPs based value chain analysis and development, sustainable harvesting and management of different NTFPs, value addition, role of technology in NTFPs processing, certification, micro-enterprise and cluster development, market linkage building and marketing of NTFPs, business planning of NTFPs enterprises, policy and legal aspects related to NTFPs based livelihood promotion, etc.

### Basix Academy for Livelihoods and Micro-enterprise Promotion (B-A-LAMP)

Microfinance and Livelihood promotion is an innovative process and requires a capable and stable workforce to manage operations. To build the capacity of individuals and institutions over a period of time and to address the issue, BASIX launched "BASIX Academy for Livelihoods Microfinance Practice" (B-A-LAMP) in 2007 and is now known as Basix Academy for Livelihoods and Micro-enterprise Promotion.

B-A-LAMP has conducted 131 programmes catering close to 3,000 professionals out of which 82 are international programmes benefitting over 1300 professionals from 199 organizations of 28 countries and 49 national programs with more than 1,500 professionals from various fields across India.



APRACA delegation on a visit to Mulukanoor women dairy cooperative

## Upcoming trainings...

### Training Programs and Calendar

What?	When?	Where?
Fundamentals of Livelihood Promotion	December 12-16, 2016 April 25-29, 2017	Hyderabad Bhopal
Entrepreneurial Business Planning	February 21-25, 2017 March 6-10, 2017	Shillong Hyderabad
Integrating Value Chains into Farmer Producer Organisations	February 07-11, 2017 March 3rd Week 2017	Ranchi Hyderabad
Strategic Business Planning for Farmers' Producer Organizations (FPOs)	January 09-12, 2017	Bhopal
NTPF-based Livelihood Promotion	May 09-13, 2017	Bhopal
Surveys – for Baseline and mid-term or end-term Evaluations	February 01-03, 2017	Hyderabad

#### NTPF-based Livelihood Promotion

This program 'NTPFs based Livelihood Promotion' aims at building perspectives on important aspects related to NTPFs, their linkages with livelihoods of forest dwelling communities and need for value chain intervention in NTPF sector. This program will help the participants to enhance their knowledge and skills in sustainable collection processes of NTPFs, prioritization processes, production of NTPFs including MAPs through various models, value addition and product development, use of technology in NTPFs, certification, branding and packaging, marketing planning, NTPFs based business development planning, managing NTPF enterprises and value chains, legal and policy aspects of NTPFs based livelihood promotion, etc.

#### Strategic Business Planning for Farmers' Producer Organizations (FPOs)

The proposed training program aims at 1) to sensitize and orient the development professionals on the need for strategic business planning at FPO level so as to access mainstream finance, 2) to enhance their understanding on agri-business, its different dimensions and dynamics and various components of a Business Plan, 3) to educate on the prerequisites for initiating the process of developing a Business Plan, 4) develop skills on developing strategic business plan viz. a) developing assumptions based on the baseline data, b) preparing different sub-plans such as governance plan, human resource plan, production plan, input supply plan, procurement plan, processing plan, extension-services plan, marketing plan, financial plan, etc. and 5) to help the professionals to understand the facilitation process and the basic qualities that they should have while facilitating the BP development with the concerned FPOs.

#### Pedagogy and medium of instruction

The programs will use multiple methodologies of learning, including interactive lecture, case discussions, group work, audio-visual presentations, and simulation exercises. For example, the *Entrepreneurial Business Planning* program will use multiple methodologies of learning. The suggested design is important from the point of view of the **Cognitive** (conceptual and therefore the *presentations*): **Affective** (emotional and therefore the *case studies*); and **Conative** (action and therefore the *exercises*).

The medium of instruction will be in English and depending on the program location, the secondary language for instruction would be the local language such as Hindi, Bengali, Telugu etc. .

#### Program Fee

All programs are fully residential in nature. The fee for (i) *five* day program is **Rs. 25,000 + Service tax**; (ii) *four* day program is **Rs. 20,000 + Service tax**; and (iii) *three* day program is **Rs. 15,000 + Service tax** as applicable. This includes course fee, training material, accommodation (on a twin-sharing basis) and boarding. The travel costs to and from the venue, however, has to be borne by the participant.

Interested? Please contact us at [training@ilrtindia.org](mailto:training@ilrtindia.org)

#### Fundamentals of Livelihood Promotion (FLP)

The program aims at building a perspective on the concept of livelihood and livelihood promotion processes applicable across different socio-political and economic conditions. It will help participants appreciate the interconnectedness of multiple disciplines that converge to make livelihood promotion effective. It will provide a hands-on experience of applying new tools to understand the socio political aspects and economic wellbeing. It will also help participants customize project interventions to fit local conditions including resource availability and constraints, the political economy of the region, sector and location. This program also focuses on the design of livelihood interventions aligning with large programs of the Government.

#### Surveys – for Baseline and mid-term or end-term Evaluations

Evaluations of Development interventions are important to understand the effectiveness and impact of a Program. An important part of this evaluation is the survey based research. A scientifically designed survey assists in making right assessment of a program. This training helps trainees to: a) understand the theory and practice of evaluations; b) constructing a theory of change; c) developing checklist and indicators for designing a survey tool; d) good practices to be adopted in designing a tool, testing it and administering it. The training will help to develop skills in designing a survey methodology and survey based research tools.

#### Integrating Value Chains into Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)

Integrating Value Chains into FPOs program aims at building perspectives on important aspects of promoting and sustaining FPOs and introducing value chain activities. It will help the participants to enhance their awareness and skills to enable the FPOs to actively engage with value chain activities. The course can become a platform for the participants to reflect and share the difficulties experienced in promoting vibrant farmer producer organizations and to find out solutions thereof.

#### Entrepreneurial Business Planning (EBP)

EBP program focuses on entrepreneurship promotion and how to prepare a feasible Business Plan. The course also focuses on bringing real life entrepreneurs/ aspiring entrepreneurs to the classroom to help them prepare a need based business plan for bank linkages. This program also provides an opportunity for participants to learn from each other.

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