This is a story of a small marginal farmer who lives at Indraprastha village in Patharpratima block of South 24 Parganas, West Bengal. **Gouri Mondal** is now proud to call herself a successful integrated farmer. She has overcome the risk of crop failure. She has a family of four. Her husband is a carpenter and two sons are involved in studies. From the beginning she was involved in farming but, after DRCSC’s intervention she came to know about the concept of integrated farming system. She thereafter had gone through various trainings on IFS. She started to do farming in a much more organised manner and intensive way. She came to know about optimum utilization of space & natural resources & their inter-relationship. It was 2005 when a group was formed in her village, named “Suryakiran Mahila Dal”. She was then selected the group of that newly formed group. At present there are 13 members & the group’s current savings is Rs. 60,000/- which is very significant. As her village is situated near the Sunderban delta region the soil is saline. She owns total 4 bighas of land out of which 1.5 bighas is little far from her home. She also has a small homestead garden. She cultivates different types of vegetables throughout the year. She is able to consume fresh, poison free vegetables and able to sell the excess at the local market but at local price. She uses to go to the local market two days per week to sell her vegetables. There are some trees like subabul, coconut, guava, bamboo etc. around her farm. She cultivate paddy in kharif & rabi season. After consuming she sell paddy (roughly 4 bags of paddy in one season) and earn profit out of it. It’s a good example of generating marketplace surplus busting the myth of negative productivity of sustainable agriculture.

She is now not at all dependent on external market for her production. She learnt the techniques of organic farming and applying those techniques successfully. Her expense on chemical fertilizer & pesticides has reduced. She keeps vegetable seeds of local variety. Seeing at her success many farmers in her village shifted to organic farming. She introduces mixed cropping in her farm. As she is an integrated farmer so not only crop but also various types of plants, aquatic flora, fauna, animals, insects, worms are being utilized.
Environmental impact: Less/no use of chemical fertilizers & pesticides helps to retain soil's natural fertility. Helps to get fresh poison free crops & vegetables & thus reduce health hazards. Less emission of carbon from kitchen for using biogas.

Social impact: People are getting interest & gradually shifting to organic farming. IFS is replicating slowly but surely.

Economic Status:
By a cost-benefit analysis it is observed that the monthly income of a farmer from a farm including daily labour is approx 5,000/- which is more than a conventional farmer. The average monthly income is approx Rs.2,000/- for conventional farmer which is very less than an integrated farmer.
Hon’ble Agriculture minister Sri Purnendu Basu’s visit to DRCSC Office, Kolkata and in Purulia project area

The Agriculture Minister of West Bengal Sri Purnendu Bose visited DRCSC office at Bosepukur, Kasba, Kolkata on 14th August, 2014. Sri Ardhendu S Chatterjee of behalf of DRCSC presented the Organisation’s objective and overall activities across the districts of the State.

Sri Basu appreciated DRCSC’s efforts to come-up with the issues of small and marginal farmers. The presentation also attended by Mr. Mondal of BCKV, and Dr. Paritosh Bhattacharjee Ex-Director NCOF, Govt. of India.

Subsequently the minister along with the Sri Pradip Majumder, agriculture advisor to the chief minister, Sri Subrata Biswas, Secy Dept of Agriculture, Dr. Paritosh Bhattacharjee director of agriculture, Dr. M K Koley vice chancellor of BCKV and officials of the agriculture department of Purulia and Bankura visited some fields of DRCSC at village Brotor at Kasipur Block of Purulia district.

The Minister told the agricultural officers of the state and districts to take note of the model s practice by DRCSC and induct DRCSC in the agricultural planning process of the districts to be completed by September 2014.

A meeting was organized by Dept. of Agriculture at Community Hall of Sonathuli Panchayat. The Vice Chancellor of BCKV, Director of Agriculture and the Secy. Dept of Agriculture appreciated DRCSC’s efforts.

Glimpses of minister visit

Hon’ble Agriculture Minister visited DRCSC’s field area in Purulia district
DRCSC has organised a day-long festival on seed preservation at Sahid Surya Sen Bhavan, Jodhpur Park, Kolkata on August 30, 2014. It’s to create awareness, share knowledge on conservation practice of crop genetic resources and exchange traditional seeds to a wider audience. Events were, seminar and exposition. The seminar took place on sustainable agriculture, Seed Bill, GM crop menace and so on. There was a farmers’ ‘open floor’ too. The exposition comprising showcase on seed varieties, organic produce and delicacy, relevant literature and the rest.
Education Team Activities:

Community Sensitization Programme:
A programme was conducted to sensitize community people through different attractive methods on the aspects of Child Rights. To make this more effective we have used this media like puppetry, drama etc. Around 300 people we have reached through this programme.

Through CHILD LINE awareness there was an effort to dish out ideas on subjects like Child in Need, Care and Protection and Juvenile in Conflict vis-a-vis juridical issues by video screening.

classroom shades & colours

Students drawings in one corner of a classroom. Students illustrated different objects, contextual to their syllabi. It’s a part of developing child-friendly environ in schools.

psycho-social workshop & basic first aid

The main objective of the workshop was to discuss psychological problems common to school children. The workshop dealt with how teacher will identify those students and what will be the way-out to overcome the problem. The Basic First Aid training imparted in Project Field Facilitation Centers. The training to the Children’s Group and Community Action Group members.
Ensuring food and livelihood security of the rural poor through sustainable management of natural resources...

Current titles

Upcoming Events  STS Project

Workshop on mental health with community support group members on 18 & 25 Sept’14 at Tangra, Kolkata.

Community sensitization programme on Child Rights on 14 Sept’14 at Shuarmari, Tangra, Kolkata and on 21 Sept’14 at Rajabazar, Kolkata.