

**Proceedings of 2nd District Level steering committee meeting in Bankura
on "Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Increasing Resilience of Small and
Marginal Farmers in Bankura and Purulia district"**

Date: 1.12.15

Venue: District Magistrate office, Bankura

Under the chairmanship of Mrs Moumita Godra, DM, Bankura, second steering committee meeting on "Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Increasing Resilience of Small and Marginal Farmers in Bankura and Purulia district" of climate change Adaptation programme in Bankura district was held at the chamber of District Magistrate, Bankura on 1st December, 2015.

The meeting was initiated by welcoming all participants by the convener of the meeting Mr Sujit Kumar Mitra, programme co-ordinator; DRCSC and informed the house about the progress made during the last three months.

Briefing the objective, goal, relevance of the programme, Mr Mitra in his PPT narrated the strategy, planning and activities undertaken so far in Bankura district with vivid description about the progress made in areas of GIS time series mapping, PRA as part of village level micro planning process, dissemination of weather based crop advisory in local language, soil water conservation method, plantation, integrated farms, nutrition garden as part of technology transfer, promotion of strategic crop, Organic farming, developing micro irrigation facilities, introduction of climate resilient crops, various climate techniques and practices, introduction of soil water conservation techniques, aquaculture, small animals and birds rearing, appropriate energy efficient technologies.

It was assured that, the process of sending mobile messages in local language will be initiated in the month of December as this can be hugely beneficial due to shown mismatch between government weather forecast and local weather station data proving the importance of decentralized local weather forecast. Case studies were also presented substantiating the fact that farmers are reaping the dividend of area specific weather forecast.

On the queries of District Magistrate, regarding noticeable change in the area of intervention; Mr Mitra informed that various drought resistant crops like Ceylon spinach, indigenous varieties of paddy are proved to be more climate resilient and farmers who cultivated those are reaping dividend of that in the drought situation.

On quarry of Mr Malay Kumar Majhi, DHO regarding what purpose drought resistant crop can serve in terms of commercial value, Mr Mitra informed drought resistant crops can play vital role in terms of food security though it may not have higher market value.

Realizing the utility of Casava, a drought tolerant crop as explained by Mr Mitra, DM wanted to know from concerned person of Horticulture department if cassava can be cultivated in govt farm on trial basis.

On quarry of DM, regarding suitable selection of pulses, Mr Mitra informed Maghi Mug and pigeon pea are some of the legumes DRCSC is promoting in these dry situations.

Regarding initiation of low cost water filter, Mr Mitra informed the house that the process of finalizing most useful model is being explored based on the experts recommendation.

Mr Mitra, sought help of department regarding vaccination of livestock, an important component of sustainable agriculture through diversification of source of income.

Mr Nimai Chandra Halder, PD (DRDC) wanted to know the planning and strategy of formation of beneficiary groups under the project. In this context, general Manager of Nabard, Dr D Das clarified Nabard farmers groups can be formed with the members of ten to twenty members. ADM (development) Mrs Aditi Dasgupta suggested, under the project, capacity build up can be done with the existing group also.

On quarries of District Magistrate regarding promotion of vertiver, Mr Mitra informed though vertiver is useful plants but it require uprooting, as a result, it expedite the process of soil erosion. Instead, Cetrampilan or lemon grass is recommended to get same result with no adverse impact like soil erosion.

Mrs Dasgupta, ADM (development) wanted to know if DRCSC can provide seed of Ceylon spinach in greater number for the promotion of drought tolerant crop among the farmers of Bankura. Mr Mitra informed, DRCSC can provide some seeds of Ceylon spinach for seed preservation and multiplication to make it available among greater number of farmers in coming days.

On quarries of Mr Sujit Mitra regarding govt strategy in crop selection in this drought situations, Murari Mohan Barkandaj, Dy DA (WBP), Bankura informed there is no plan for rabi crop and govt is planning for seed replacement of short duration varieties in pre kharif.

Regarding earth work for creation of water harvesting structures, ADM proposed convergence with NREGS.


Showing interest of step pond structure, a model DRCSC is promoting for better use of soil and water, DM asked DRCSC to place a proposal of estimation of step pond.

Understanding the utility of rain water harvesting structure in every household, ADM (development) asked DRCSC for proposal development regarding low cost rain water harvesting structure.

General Manager, ~~NABARD~~, Dr D Das urged all stakeholders to work in close coordination to make India's first Adaptation fund supported project on climate change a grand success to set an example for others.

DDM, ~~NABARD~~, Mr S Bhattacharjee, talked about sustainability of the project beyond project duration and importance of people's ownership ensuring its success.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the all participating members by the convener of the meeting MrMitra.

 29/5/16

Signature
(District Magistat
&
Ex officio Chairman
District Level Steering Committee)

 20/4/2016

Sujit Kumar Mitra
(Project Coordinator & Convenor)

