

Annual Report

2006-07

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Development Research Communication and Services Centre

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DRCSC is a non-government development organization working in 12 districts of West Bengal and other states. Our major concern is food and livelihood security of the rural poor through sustainable management of natural resources on the basis of principles and actions, that are environment friendly, economically appropriate, socially just and developed by mutual cooperation.

Areas of Involvement

1. Enhancing production of food, fodder, fuel etc through training, demonstrations and collaborative field trials on sustainable utilisation of natural resources.
2. Assisting rural communities, especially social exclusion groups to conserve and regenerate common property resources like grazing lands, ponds & wetlands, roadside & canal bank/riverbank areas, permanent fallows etc. through group based management.
3. Enabling school teachers and educational workers to promote environmental awareness and activity based participatory learning among children and adolescents and to take up agro based enterprises.
4. Arranging and supporting documentation of overall developmental issues, rights, indigenous technologies & knowledge especially in the areas of food production & processing, seed selection & storage, nutrition & health care, water harvesting & storage etc.
5. Assisting and capacitating small organisations to develop and maintain libraries, documentation centres, seed centres & nurseries, revolving funds, grain banks, bio-labs, publication design & production units etc. and also to develop food security & environmental protection related projects.





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Our society has completed 25 years of work, this is both time for celebration and for reflection : 'India' has made much progress but 'Bharat' is often left behind.

In our search for sustainable development; development that meets the need of all but especially basic needs of the poor & marginalised; development that ensures equitable sharing of vital resources and development that minimises or even reverses environmental degradation; we design & implement various projects & programmes.

Highlights of these are presented here.

Improvement of **Food & Livelihood security through sustainable resources management** is one of our key objectives.



Our previous projects, SAN & PATHEYA were merged together & 'Sustainable Food & Livelihood Security Network project' supported by Christian Aid, was launched in October 2006 for a period of 3 years. This project operates through a network of NGOs & CBOs, most of which are now clustered into ARTCs (Area Resource & Training Centre), who are served by Zonal Resource & Training Centres of (ZRTCs).

These Centres provide trainings to farmers, supply seeds & bio-inputs if needed & provides informational services & technical Inputs. About 8 NGOs & 3 ZRTCs and 15 ARTCs provide support to around 200 villages with one or more groups, spread in 9 districts of West Bengal.



During the last year about 120 training sessions were organised and more than 1000

collaborative field trials were conducted on farmers' fields. About 50 intergroup exchange visits & study tours could also be organised.

Focus of these trials have been on introducing cropping systems & farming practices that increase food supply, extend growing season, conserve soil & water and generate additional employment.

Mutual cooperation groups have been created and trained to save money, operate own bank account, create revolving funds/seed banks, improve disaster preparedness by creating grain banks, harvesting & storing rainwater, planting strategic crops (mainly roots & tubers) designing fodder & fuelwood plantation etc. Many groups/subgroups have also strengthened or initiated income generation activities, after learning/improving their skills.



In collaboration with Panchayats, several groups have taken up tree plantation, improved water & sanitation etc.

To improve Food & Livelihood Security few micro projects were taken up to upscale previously tested technologies. From January 2007 3 new groups with 25 to 30 families each have come together to take up collective water harvesting & farm improvement projects in Puruliya District. The support for this project is provided by Karl Kubel Foundation of Germany. These projects have been appreciated by the Panchayats and in some cases supplementary work was done through NREGS funds. The groups started last year have made good progress and contributed more resources than expected, by raising & selling tree seedlings etc. Revolving seed banks have also been created by 2 groups.



Our training division, which is funded through local donations, fees etc. have made good progress. We have organised skill trainings, conducted PRAs, provided technical advice, designed printed & audio visual materials for more than 30 clients during the year. Study tours for out of state & out of country groups of farmers, development workers etc. were also organised 6 times during the year.

Several trainings were organised in Shyamnagar & Bolpur training Centre & the training centre construction in Jhargram will be completed soon.

Another broad area of work in **environmental education** among middle-school & high school age children. Our projects aim at involving children in improving their environment through survey & action research.

The project ENRE (Ecology and Natural Resource Education) has now been extended to over 50 ecogroups and reach out to more than 750 children. This year the groups have done biodiversity survey of 20 villages and handed over the report to Gram Unnayan Samity & Panchayat.

The work with urban children now involves about 10 schools, where curriculum based activity oriented evs teaching learning mode are tried out. These activities are supported by the Indienhilfe group of Germany, Shapla Neer of Japan, Aeon Foundation, Japan.



For Non-school going children, part time nature study centres are run in about 20 areas. 12 of these groups are active and have taken up tree planting, waste based craft production, making palm juice, vermicomposting etc. which has improved their skills and generated income for their groups. We see more possibilities of developing income generation & other activities in future.

In some of our biodiversity documentation activities we have worked with other NGOs & resource centres & had received support from the Global Green Grants foundation based in Colorado, USA. Biodiversity register has been made in -- villages.

BIOMART, a bio input production and selling shops has been established in 8 location by rural unemployed youth, supported by DST, Government of India.

Supporting the creation & operation of 5 Multi purpose Education centres which involves pre-school children, their mothers and sisters in Birbhum & Bankura district, mainly among ST communities. These works are supported by Ms Chiba & Aomori Bengal Association Japan, Affair Foundation Japan, WE 21 group Japan. Technical & Material support has been given by several Individuals & students of Aomori University, Mutsu Technical School etc.

We have been extending support to the Chetla Centre of Swanirvar for vocational education among slum children. Shapla Neer of Japan supported this initiative. Funds from sale of 'Missing Peace' book was also used for this centre. Some of the book proceeds were also shared with SILENCE, IPER, ANKURKALA; NGOs who facilitated study visit by TV stars from Japan, who came with Shapla Neer representatives.

We have published a set of posters, calender and film on 'Social Insects' with support from NCSTC, DST. Our environment education booklets have been reviewed by several magazines in India & abroad. We have collaborated with several initiatives organised by other NGOs of West Bengal & India in the field of environmental education & non formal / experiential education.

Apart from environment education booklets we also have a wide range of **publications** published by our centre.

This year also various publications, mainly in local language, published. We feel the need to consolidate our activities in this area as the need is enormous and resources can also be mobilised with some effort.





We have tried to capacitate grassroot organisation in documentation and information processing, 12 **peoples information centres** has started functioning, now, we have students/researchers in the form of library, meeting, seminars, newsletters etc. The centre has taken several initiatives to increase

cooperative activities with other Resource Centres in West Bengal through a forum ADDA.

There was a continuous effort from our resource centre to establish linkages between various networks like WBSHGPF, WBEN, RTI network etc.

‘Sanbad Parisheba’ - is an unique information service from our resource centre which provides newscipping on development issues to grassroot newspapers. 250 newspapers are in thios network.

Creating opinion in favour of Sustainable Development models is another major concern of DRCSC. Towards this we undertake several activities. Some of the main initiatives are

- **All India Coordinated project on BIOFARM**
with support from DST, Govt of India, documents the cost benefit of Integrated Farming System both in economic & ecological terms throughout the length and breadth of the country involving 17 organisations in 14 states.





- The centre has developed **booklets on organic crop production** in association with FAO & NCOF, New Delhi on organic practices of paddy, sesame, brinjal and taro. Four leaflets in local language were also brought out on the organic practices of same four crops.



DRCS has also assisted **LIVING FARM**, a group in Orissa to promote Ecological Farming through trainings, publications etc. The work there is being supported through training assignments & grants from CONCERN, IGSSS, MCC etc. Several resource centres such as RCDC, SAMBHAV etc. have closely cooperated with us.



We participated and collaborated in local, state and national level fair / exhibition / seminars / workshops which includes Book Fair, Balvividha'06, Asian Biodiversity Convention, National Technology Congress, Biodiversity festival etc.

We are grateful to all our donors, collaborators, supporters & well wishers.



Receipt & Payment Accounts (Consolidated)
For the period 01.04.2006 - 31.03.2007

Receipts	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Payments	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)
To Opening Balance			By Expenses during this year		
Cash in Hand (as certified)	1,636.23		" Sustainable Agricultural Network (SAN)	2,665.70	3,112,208.88
FCRA A/C	1,029.47				
General Fund - Domestic			" Food Security Programme from the North of West Bengal (Patheya)		1,139,331.95
Cash at Bank	3,435,949.51		" West Bengal Flood Emergency Relief		40,944.00
FCRA A/C	2,839,944.78		" Sustainable Food and Livelihood Security Project (SFLSP)		3,994,875.45
General Fund - Domestic			" Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MED)		90,038.00
Fixed Deposit with SBI, Dhakuria			" Capacity Building Support to NGO, (Micro Finance)	48,365.00	240,646.50
" Promotion of Food & Livelihood Security through Sustainable Resource Management Network in West Bengal (SAN)					
Interest received from Fixed Deposit			" Multipurpose Education Centre Madhavpur, Bankura in West Bengal (Sarbangin Unnayan O Sikha Kendra)		
" Food Security Programme from the North of West Bengal (Patheya)			" Multipurpose Education Centre, Sarbanandapur, Birbhum WB	1,912,580.00	98,415.00
Sale of Borjora Land	1,850,000.00		" Improvement of Facilities at Two MPEC Centres in Bankura & Birbhum District West Bengal	2,000,001.06	44,500.00
Interest received from Fixed Deposit	62,580.00		" Tree Nursery		18,750.00
" Sustainable Food and Livelihood Security Project (SFLSP)			" Ecology & Natural Resource Education Network (ENREN)		263,174.00
Grant received from Christian Aid, London UK					277,190.50
" Capacity Building Support to NGO, (Micro Finance)			" Balance b/d	21,180,152.55	9,320,074.28
Grant received from CARE India, WB	262,122.00				
Less: Refund to CARE, INC.	21,475.50				
" Balance b/d					

Receipts	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Payments	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)
To Balance c/d		21,180,152.55	By Balance c/d		9,320,074.28
" <u>Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MED)</u> Interest received from Fixed Deposit			" Supplementary Support to ENRE		184,667.50
" <u>Multipurpose Education Centre</u> <u>Madhavpur, Bankura in West Bengal</u> <u>(Sarbangan Unnayan O Sikha Kendra)</u> Grant received from Individual (Takako Chiba, Japan)	158,709.00	2,993.00	" A Study on Introduction of Fodder Cultivation & Developing of Model Balance Animal Feed Production Practice in Tribal Villages of Kashipur Block in Purulia		
Interest received from Fixed Deposit	599.00		" Livelihood Impacts of Participatory Forest Management Implementation Strategies in India		24,383.50
" <u>Ecology & Natural Resource</u> <u>Education Network (ENREN)</u> Grant received from Indien Hilfe, Germany		159,308.00	" Organic Food Production through Training		48,693.50
" <u>Multipurpose Education Centre,</u> <u>Sarbanandapur, Birbhum, WB</u> Grant received from Individual (Takako Chiba, Japan)		300,000.00	" Development Fund (Foreign)		109,516.50
" Improvement of Facilities at <u>Two MPEC Centre in Bankura</u> <u>& Birbhum District West Bengal</u> Grant received from Aomori Bengal Association, Japan		40,000.00	" Multipurpose Education Centre (3 New Centres)		91,992.50
" <u>Development Fund (Cost recovery)</u> <u>(Foreign)</u> Received from various Internal funds		18,750.00	" Documentation of Local Seed Varities of Vegetables & Various Methods of Seed Extraction and Storage as Practiced by Tribal People in Bisoi Block of Mayurbhanj District in Orissa		227,130.50
" <u>Multipurpose Education Centre</u> <u>(3 New Centres)</u> Grant received from We 21, Japan		279,147.42	" Orissa Organic Farming Network (OOFN)		26,750.00
" <u>Balance b/d</u>		473,710.00	" Grass Root Trainers for Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Livelihood Security Project		26,674.00
		22,454,060.97	" Improving Nutritional Food Security among Marginal and Small Farmers in 6 Villages of Bisoi of Mayurbhanj District, Orissa		572,129.00
			" Balance b/d		18,950.00
					10,650,961.28

Receipts	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Payments	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)
To Balance c/d			By Balance c/d		10,650,961.28
" <u>Supplementary Support to Education Programme</u> Grant received from Shaplaneer, Japan		22,454,060.97	" Strengthening OJUSA through Advocacy Campaign against Contract Farming & Protection of Rights of Small and Marginal Farmers		49,806.00
" <u>Tree Nursery</u> Grant received from Aeon Environment Foundation, Japan		194,777.00	" Ensuring Food Security of Rural Poor Through Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Purulia District		
" <u>Partial Construction at MPEC Centres in Kayetpukur</u> Grant Received from Mutsu Technical High School, Japan		263,174.00	1st Year	509,164.50	577,089.50
" <u>Livelihood Impacts of Participatory Forest Management Implementation</u> <u>Implementation Strategies in India</u> Grant received Overseas Development Group, UK		17,458.00	2nd Year	67,925.00	
" <u>Grass Root Trainers for Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Livelihood Security Project</u> Grant received from Concern World Wide, India, Orissa		129,305.00	" Eco Farming Demonstration		8,117.00
" <u>Improving Nutritional Food Security among Marginal and Small Farmers in 6 Villages of Bisoi of Mayurbhanj District, Orissa</u> Grant received from Indo-Global Social Service Society, New Delhi		671,784.00	" Missing Peace Foundation		28,639.00
" Balance b/d		23,965,358.97	" General Fund		1,466,140.25
			" Technology improvement, production & distribution of low-cost biological inputs for small farm clusters through bio-resources mart (BIO-MART)		164,914.50
			" Coordinated project proposal on Biological Integration of Farming Activities & Resource Management (AICP)		542,873.50
			" Bio Integrated Farming System (Biofarm)		522,136.28
			" Documentation of Edible Wild Mushroom in Tribal Dominated West Mednipur, West Bengal		360,668.00
			" Balance c/d		14,371,345.31

Receipts	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)	Payments	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)
To Balance c/d		23,965,358.97	By Balance c/d		14,371,345.31
" <u>Documentation of Local Seed Varieties of Vegetables & Various Methods of Seed Extraction & Storage as Practiced by Tribal People in Bisoi Block of Mayurbhanj District in Orissa</u>			" Production of Posters, CDs on Social Insects		143,505.00
Grant received from Indo-Global Social Service Society, New Delhi	34,000.00		" Social Analysis System		54,528.00
Less. TDS deducted	3,893.00	30,107.00	" UD Award Project Supported by SANFEC		54,308.00
" <u>Strengthening OJJS through Advocacy Campaign against Contract Farming & Protection of Rights of Small and Marginal Farmers</u>			" Food Security Project (Local Contribution)		84,682.00
Grant received from Action Aid, Kolkata		171,075.00	" Development of Series of Booklets 'Science Around Us'		40,865.00
" <u>Ensuring Food Security of Rural Poor through Sustainable Management of Natural Resources</u>			" Development of Technical Capacity Base for the Promotion of Organic Agriculture		407,723.50
District (1st Year)			" <u>Closing Balance</u>		4,000,000.00
Grant received from Karl Kubel Stiftung, Germany	288,000.00		Fixed Deposit with SBI, Dhakuria		
Interest received from Fixed Deposit	599.00	288,599.00	Cash in Hand (as certified)		
			FCRAA/C	1,262.80	
			General Fund -Domestic	349.47	1,612.27
" <u>Eco Farming Demonstration</u>			Cash at Bank		
Grant received from Steve Kupertz, USA		300,000.00	FCRA A/C (Current Account with State Bank of India , Dhakuria Branch, A/C no.11052269437)	6,807,381.14	
" <u>Missing Peace Foundation</u>		132,302.00	General Fund - Domestic		
Grant received from Mr.Tsutsui from Shaplaneer, Japan		76,789.00	(Savings A/C in Allahabad Bank, Golpark Branch) A/C No. 102649	578,969.00	
" <u>Local Contribution (General Fund)</u>		1,910,403.00	(Savings A/C in UTI Bank, Prince Anwar Shah Road)	1,821,564.00	
			A/C No. 2550101000048329)		9,207,914.14
" Balance b/d		26,874,633.97	" Balance b/d		28,366,483.22

Receipts	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Payments	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)
To Balance c/d					
“ <u>Production of Posters, CDs on Social Insects</u> Grant received from Dharamitra, Wardha, Maharashtra		26,874,633.97	“ Balance c/d		28,366,483.22
“ <u>Documentation of Edible Wild Mushroom in Tribal Dominated West Medhipur, West Bengal</u> Grant received from Govt. of India/ Bharat Sarkar, Ministry of Science and Technology, Dept of Science & Technology, New Delhi		80,653.00			
“ <u>Coordinated project proposal on Biological Integration of Farming Activities & Resource Management (AICP)</u> Grant received from Govt. of India/ Bharat Sarkar, Ministry of Science & Technology, Dept of Science and Technology, New Delhi		300,000.00			
“ <u>Technology improvement, production and distribution of low-cost biological inputs for small farm clusters through bio-resources mart (BIO-MART)</u> Grant received from Govt. of India/ Bharat Sarkar, Ministry of Science & Technology, Dept of Science & Technology, New Delhi		300,000.00			
“ <u>Social Analysis System</u> Grant received from Academy of Development Science, Pune		500,000.00			
“ Balance b/d		60,000.00	“ Balance b/d		
		28,115,286.97			28,366,483.22

Receipts	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Payments	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)
To Balance c/d					
" <u>UD Award Project Supported by (SANFEC)</u> Grant received from Academy of Development Science, Pune			" Balance c/d	28,115,286.97	28,366,483.22
" <u>Food Security Project (Local Contribution)</u>				2,000.00	
" <u>Food Security Project (Local Contribution)(Ext)</u>				66,158.00	
" <u>Development of Technical Capacity Base for the Promotion of Organic Agriculture</u> Grant received from Food & Agriculture Organisation, New Delhi				5,364.00	
" <u>District Technical Agency (DTA)</u> Grant received from DRD Cell, Paschim Midnapur, Zilla Parisad, WB				91,800.00	
				85,874.25	
				28,366,483.22	28,366,483.22

Sustainable Agriculture Network

- Dakshin Chatra Unnayan Samity, North 24 Parganas
- Swanirvar, North 24 Parganas
- Indraprastha Srijani Welfare Society, South 24 Parganas
- Bagmari Netaji Sangha, South 24 Parganas
- Champa Mahila Society, South 24 Parganas
- Hanribhanga, West Medinipur
- Purulia Project, Purulia
- Birbhum Project, Birbhum
- Rajadighi Community HSS, Malda
- Kajla Janakalyan Samity, East Medinipur
- 50 other organisations from various districts as wider network partner

Ecology and Natural Resource Education Network

- Swanirvar, North 24 Parganas
- Kajla Janakalyan Samity, East Medinipur
- Champa Mahila Society, South 24 Parganas

- Vikramshila Education Resource Centre, Burdwan
- Sundarika Bartika, South 24 Parganas
- Manab Jamin, Birbhum
- Sundarban Grameen Bikash Kendra, South 24 Parganas
- Society for Equitable Voluntary Actions, Bikash Kendra
- Seva Kendra, Kolkata
- Rural Health Development Centre, Malda
- Dakshin Chatra High School, North 24 Parganas
- Kenduadihi Bikash Society, Bankura

BIOFARM

- Pondicherry Science Forum (CERD), Pondicherry
- ICRA, Bangalore
- Mitraniketan, Kerala
- AME Foundation, Tamilnadu
- Dharamitra, Wardha
- Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology, Gangtok
- BAIF Development Research Foundation, Bhopal
- SURE, Rajasthan

- DRCSC, West Bengal
- Vigyan Shiksha Kendra, Uttar Pradesh
- Gorakhpur Environment Action Group, Uttar Pradesh
- Shramajivi Unnayan, Jharkhand
- Rural Resource & Training Centre (RRTC) / Bosco Reach Out, Meghalaya
- Deccan Development Society, Andhrapradesh
- Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari
- Integrated Rural Development of Weaker Sections in India (WIDA), Orissa
- Himalayan Environmental Studies & Conservation Organisation (HESCO), Uttaranchal
- World Wide Fund, Kolkata
- West Bengal Voluntary Health Association, Kolkata
- ENDEV, Kolkata
- Sappho for Equality, Kolkata WBEN, Kolkata
- LKP, Kolkata
- Swanirvar, Kolkata
- Casa, Kalyanpur
- Gana Unnayan Parishad, Kolkata
- The Young Explorer's Institute for Social Service, Kolkata

ADDA

- Vikramshila, Kolkata
- SPADE, Kolkata
- CUTS, Kolkata
- BRWAS, South 24 Parganas
- SRC, Kolkata
- Shikshamitra, Kolkata
- Sanlaap, Kolkata
- SPADE, Kolkata

DRCSC/Service Centre
is a registered
non profit society,
promoting rural
development
through economically
viable, ecologically
sound & socially
equitable
management of
Natural Resources
through
community based
initiatives.