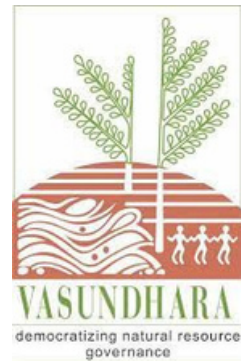


# VOL. 3 | SEPTEMBER 2021

# IN THE LOOP



Vasundhara Newsletter, 7th October

KIIT Square, Plot No. #1731/C, Das Mohapatra Complex, Opposite of Sai Villa PO: KIIT Campus,  
Dist.: Patia Station Road, Patia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751024



## OVERVIEW :

- Formation of Producer Groups
- Introductory Meetings/ Orientations & Training Programmes
- Technical Support to Raygada District Administration
- Voices for COP26
- "Working Groups" on Tribal Development & Vasundhara
- Identification of Traditional Boundaries of Aluni Forest Village
- AGBMs of Producer Groups
- Mapping/ Demarcation
- Consultation on Biodiversity
- Outreach
- CFM Best Practices Documentation
- Forest Based Livelihoods

## Formation of Producer Groups

In the month of September, a total number of 6 producers groups were formed and finalized as a part of Vasundhara's efforts to market NTFPs to facilitate a fair price to these communities.

The PGs were formed at Sado GP-Tileibani block, Badusahi-Jashipur block, Kalchipadadihi called BanaUscha PG, Tulubdihi, Sodo GP. These Producer Groups have the potential for various NTFPs such as Sal-Siali Leaf Cutlery, Tamarind, Mahua, Kusum, Char, Karanj.



## Introductory Meetings, Orientation & Training Programmes



We have conducted a number of Introductory meetings, collective meetings for various MFP value addition projects, claim facilitation for FRC, CR, and CFRR, and collective building for forest-based livelihoods.

Training programs have also been conducted for the reformation of the FRC committee, support to primary groups, FRA orientation processes, VDVK Training Programme in presence of PA ITDA, S/O ITDA, LDA, and other governmental authorities.

## Vasundhara invited to to extend technical support by Rayagada district Administration

Vasundhara reached yet another milestone in it's journey this month.

Rayagada district Administration (PA, ITDA, Rayagada, the District Nodal on FRA) has sent a request letter to Vasundhara to extend technical support for the facilitation of the conversion of forest village to revenue village and habitat rights of PVTGs in the district in a non-financial collaboration.



## Vasundhara invited for "Working Groups" on Tribal Development, Management of Forests and Wildlife, and MFP Development

The State Planning Board, Chhatisgarh, has constituted 8 "Working Groups" on the 3rd of August 2021 for Tribal Development, Management of Forests and Wildlife, and MFP Development. Vasundhara's Director is a member of one of the working groups on "Forest Rights and Community forest rights, including right over Community Forest Resources. The Working Group has sought detailed information from the State Government on the status of implementation of the FRA in the State along with the key initiatives undertaken by the State Government for proper implementation of the Act.

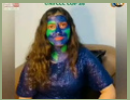
## Identification of Traditional Boundaries of Aluni Forest Village

Vasundhara has been approached by Tehsildar of Teleki for identification of traditional boundaries of Aluni Forest Village. Vasundhara has extended complete support in this regard.

This is another step for Vasundhara in extending support to Governmental agencies . The mapping process was held in Aluni forest village in the presence of Tahasildar, WEO ,RI, Amin, Forester, (WOSCA), Supervisor, Sarpanch, FRA Cell Coordinator



## Voices for COP26



Vasundhara conducted a program which saw young students raising concerns regarding Climate Change through Social Media. Vasundhara collaborated with IIFM, and other prestigious institutes.



## Annual General Body Meetings of Producer Groups

Vasundhara conducted Annual General Body Meetings for various Producer Groups in districts of Kandhamal, Mayurbhanj, Debagarh, and Sambhalpur.

Multiple plans were discussed and debated against one another regarding the way forward for these Producer Groups. Some common concerns raised by members of the PGs are as follows:

1. Loan Repayment Issues
2. Interference of Local Traders
3. Preference of salaried labor over risky business ventures
4. Accountability of funds
5. Unavailability of water
6. Issues with Storage Units



## Mapping/ Demarcation

Vasundhara facilitated mapping of village boundaries in villages of Eripiput in Kashipur and Podapalas of Mayurbhanj district of Odisha.

GPS mapping is an essential component of the claim facilitation process. The mapping processes were done in the presence of Tahasildars, Forest Officers, Range Officers and other relevant authorities.



## Consultation on Biodiversity

Vasundhara's representative met with OC Dr Anil Mohapatra, Dr S.S Mishra of EBRC and ZSI and Dr Srivastava (Berhempur University) at EBRC office, Gopalpur, Ganjam for consultation on Biodiversity.



## Community Forest Management - Best Practices Documentation

Documentation process for Institutional Mechanism of Community protected and managed forests in Ranpur, Nayagarh.

Selection of landscape based CFM areas in Kandhamal, Phulbani and preliminary site identification.

Meeting with MMJSP on procedures of conflict resolution and gender inclusion history in block level federation.

Further meeting scheduled for discussion and consultation with MMJSP on the formulation of a broad Management Framework along with Gram Sabha.



## Social Media Engagement



FOLLOWERS  
4515

POSTS ENGAGEMENT  
75+ 1000+

## Forest-Based Livelihoods



In an effort to create an NTFP Calendar, we have started working on profiling the NTFPs found in our intervention areas. This NTFP Calendar would be essential for planning for selling & marketing the products.



We are also in discussion with NISER (National Institute of Science Education and Research) for development of an App for online sale and marketing of the finished NTFP products, manufactured and packaged by the community, to the urban market.

