This year too Vasundhara participated in the 5th edition of Parichaya-The National Tribal festival organised in Bhubaneswar to promote and celebrate the traditions and handcraft of the tribes of Odisha. Members of Vanjata, an MFP federation of forest-dependent communities, supported by Vasundhara participated in the fair. Our members from Kandhamal, Kuchinda, Jashipur, Daspalla, Ranpur, and Deograh brought in their various MFPs and products.
Training on leaf plate processing

As a part of our ongoing training programs to enhance and accelerate livelihood prospects for our forest-dwelling communities, a training program for leaf plate processing was organised in Sanakamiti village of Nayagarh district’s Daspalla block. Following the training program, the Bana Bhumi Producer Group has also initiated the sale of sal leaf bowls handmade by them to nearby villages for various occasions.

Village level meeting on FRA

To empower forest-dwelling communities to claim what is rightfully theirs, our team members conduct regular meetings at different villages in our field areas to apprise them of their rights under the FRA and initiate claim making process. A similar such meeting was held in Jamusahi village of Nayagarh district’s Ranpur block. Discussions were also held over challenges faced by the Gram Sabha. The villagers have agreed to submit CR/CFR claims.

FRA Training Program

The series of refresher training programs on Forest Rights Act, arranged for three groups, culminated on October 14th. Two more sessions were conducted in September prior to this. The training program incorporated sessions on History and Significance of the Forest Rights Act, its salient features, institutional mechanism, claim filing process, GIS mapping and field visit for on ground exposure.

CFR claim making process

Initiation of CFR claim making process was undertaken in multiple villages of Mayurbhanj’s Bisoi Taluka and Nayagarh’s Ranpur block. Our members initiated the process late in the night after the beneficiaries return home from their day long work. The process was undertaken at Edelbeda village, Dhana village, Gobardhanpur village, Khejuri Katas village.

Review and Planning meeting

Review and Planning meetings are a crucial part of professional upliftment to chart out new understandings through previous learning.

During the month, review and planning meetings were held in Jashipur, Rairakhol and in Dasapalla with our volunteers and village and block level cadres.
The Month in Pictures

Traditional boundary mapping

Resource Mapping