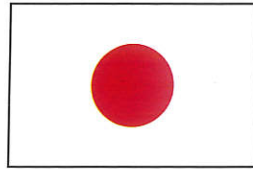


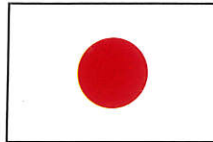


TRIPURA **SCATFORM** PROJECT

Project for Sustainable Catchment Forest Management in Tripura
Tripura JICA Project



Project for Sustainable Catchment Forest Management in Tripura
FUNDED BY JAPANESE ODA LOAN
AS A TOKEN OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION
BETWEEN
JAPAN AND INDIA
(Completion Year 2028)



FROM
THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN



Project for Sustainable Catchment Forest Management in Tripura

THE LOGO



SCATFORM: Acronym for **Sustainable CATchment FOREst Management**. Tripura **SCATFORM** Project is the nickname. Motto of the Project: Prosperity through Sustainability.

Water Drop: Benefits from livelihood and ecological benefits from the Project in general and better access to water, in particular.

Green leaf at the centre: Sustainability. Also represents SFM component.

Blue sky with cloud: Carbon sequestration by forest.

Soil with moisture holding capacity represents healthy forest soil; having better water infiltration and moisture conservation.

Together, the logo means a healthy ecosystem which leads to prosperity through sustainability.

Why this Project?

Local communities living in and around forests in Tripura have been facing problem in accessing forest resources & water due to soil erosion caused by forest degradation. So quality of forest needs improvement, undertaken through a catchment-based treatment approach.

Project Objective:

To improve quality of forest in the targeted catchments by sustainable forest management, soil and moisture conservation and livelihood development, thereby contributing to development of forest ecosystem services and livelihood improvement of forest dependent communities.

Area of implementation:

Project will be implemented in 7 districts (North Tripura, Unakoti, Khowai, West Tripura, Sepahijala, Gomati and South Tripura) under 16 Forest Sub-divisions, 36 Forest Ranges and 148 Forest Beat areas including 3 Ranges and 13 Forest Beat of Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary.

- Project cost: About Rs 1000 crore.
- Implementation period: 10 years from 2018-19.
- There will be 450 new Joint Forest Management Committee and 1350 SHGs (3 SHG in each JFMC, on an average).

Components of the project:

- Sustainable Forest Management
- Soil and Moisture Conservation
- Livelihood development
- Institutional Strengthening

Activities to be taken up in different components are as under:

Sustainable Forest Management component will enable to have

- 3 Hi-Tech Nurseries will be created at identified places. Area of each nursery will be at least 1.5 ha with annual seedling production capacity of 5 lakh. Objective of such nursery is to produce high quality seedlings, especially of species requiring intensive care (e.g., bamboo, cane), research on propagation methods of difficult but economically important plants and standardization of propagation methodology for indigenous rare, endangered and threatened species.

- ii. 7 Central Nursery to improve existing Central Nurseries to produce a large number of seedlings with reliable quality for plantation under the Project.
- iii. 150 Decentralised People's Nurseries (DPNs) in areas having difficult access. (1 DPN per 3 JFMCs). Minimum area 0.25 ha, minimum annual capacity 20,000 seedlings.
- iv. **Plantation will be raised in 5 Plantation Models:**
 - (1) **Artificial Regeneration (AR) with mixed species:** 1100 plants per hectare, in abandoned jhum sites where tree canopy density is less than 20% and where no teak stumps or seed trees are available. The site chosen must be within a distance of 5 km from village. Need and choice of local villagers (JFMC) will be taken into account for deciding the species to be planted. Project Target-5000 ha.
 - (2) **Aided Natural Regeneration (ANR) with mixed species:** 200 plants per hectare, in lower catchments where tree canopy density is less than 20% and where teak stumps or seed trees or bamboo rhizomes are not available on the site. The site chosen must be within a distance of 5 km from village. Need and choice of local villagers (JFMC) will be taken into account for deciding the species to be planted. Project Target-21,000 ha.
 - (3) **Teak Plantation Management:** 200 plants per hectare, in existing degraded teak plantations, where tree canopy density is more than 20% and where teak stumps or seeds are available on the site. The site chosen must be within a distance of 5 km from village. Need and choice of local villagers (JFMC) will be taken into account for deciding the species to be planted. Project Target - 15,000 ha.
 - (4) **Silvi-pastoral plantation:** 400 seedlings per hectare, near villages/ settlements, where tree canopy density is less than 20%. The site chosen must be within a distance of 2-3 km from village. Fodder need and choice of local villagers (JFMC) will be taken into account for deciding the species to be planted. Project Target - 1,000 ha.
 - (5) **Filter strip (96 km) & River Bank Plantation (100 km):** Filter strip will be developed on either side of the streams/ chharas, in flat area (upto 15% slope allowed), next to agricultural land/ eroded areas. (222 Bamboo plants, 222 cane plants and 333 trees seedlings will be planted in three rows with cane row in the streamside, next bamboo and tree, total 666 plants per kilometre to be planted). River Bank Plantation will be carried out on eroded banks vulnerable to erosion on either side of the streams/ chharas. Existence of residential areas and agricultural land along the riverside is a pre-requisite for taking up riverbank plantation.
 - (6) **Bandalling-** A total of 222 nos of bandalling structures will be constructed on pilots basis near erosion prone banks with low heights. The sites will be near filter strips and riverbank plantations. Their effectiveness will be studied and based upon its results it may be scaled up if required.

Habitat improvement in Gomati Sanctuary:

The following activities will be taken up in the areas of 27 existing Eco-Development Committees (EDCs) of Gomati Wildlife Sanctuary.

- The following livelihood improvement strategies shall be provided.
- Fruit tree planting (like ANR)- 600 ha
- Grassland development- 375 ha
- Eradication of undesirable and invasive weeds- 330 ha
- Besides the above, earthen check dams, gully plugs, fireline creation will be constructed and check post with Guard room will be set up to curb illicit activities. Boundary will be marked with pillars.

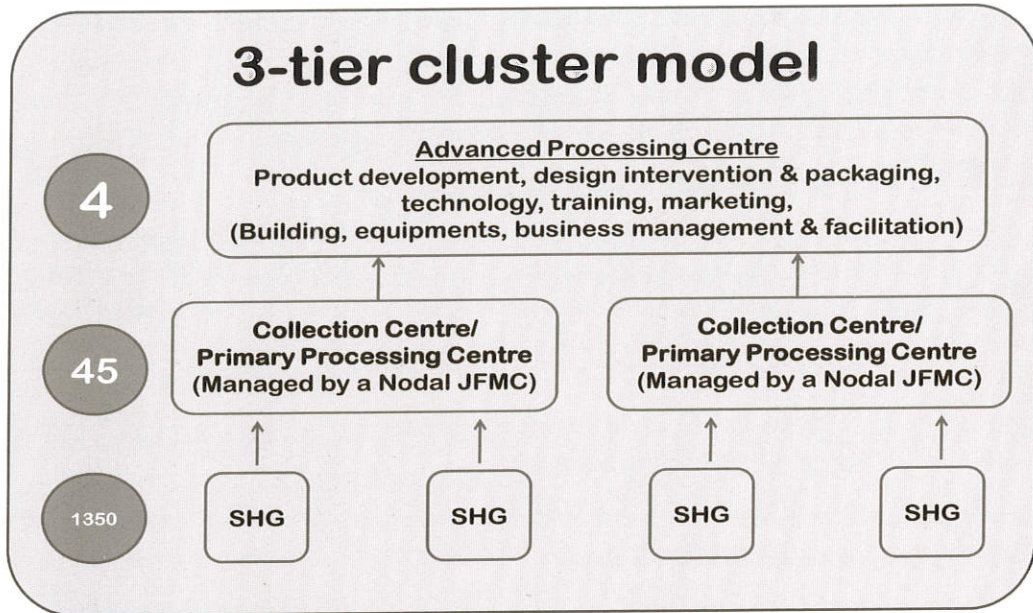
Soil and Moisture Conservation

- A total of 1435 check dams will be constructed under this component: 3 earthen check dams of Model 1 in each JFMC, 2 earthen check dams of model 2 in each JFMC and 2 RCC check dams of Model 3 for every 5 JFMC
- A total of 1269 brushwood check dams will be constructed for gully plugging in the Project area.
- Contour trenches will be constructed on steep hillside over a total of 1125 ha as a soil and moisture conservation measure in Project area.
- Mulching & plantation will be carried out over 846 ha around SMC structure for effective moisture conservation in the Project area.
- The effectiveness of these measures will be studied through a regular system of recording data using appropriate equipment and technology by incorporating best practices and a forest hydrological model suitable for Tripura will be developed.

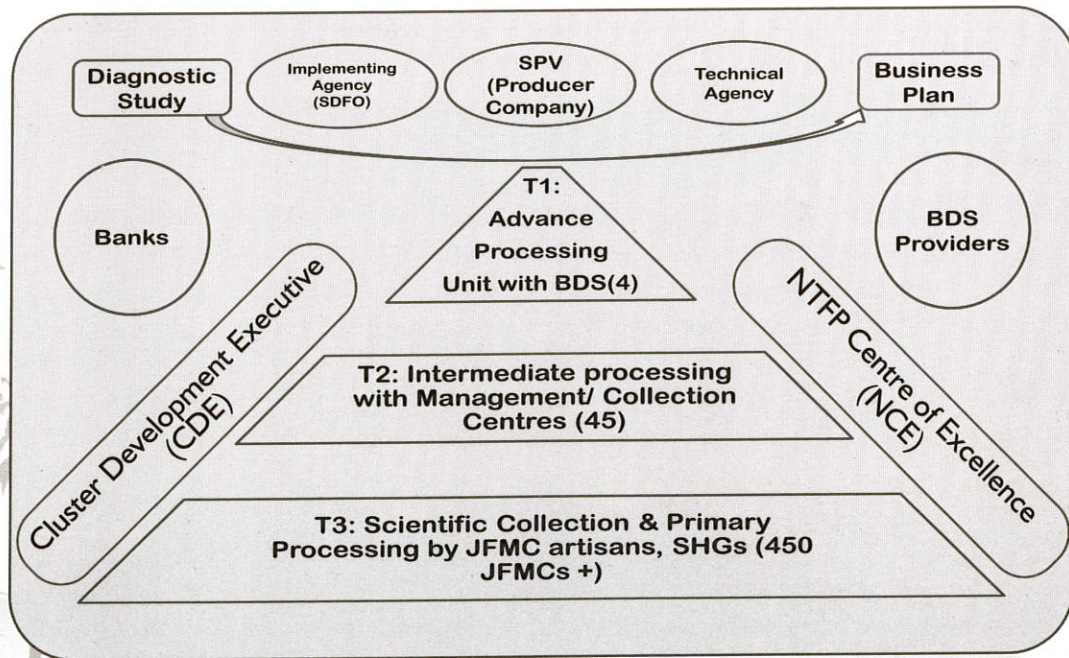
Livelihood Development

- Community living in and around will be mobilized in the form of 1350 Self-Help Groups and 740 Joint Liability Groups. All the groups will be NRLM compliant to facilitate smooth convergence.
- (1) Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP) based livelihood. NTFP Centre of Excellence (NCE) has been created as an autonomous Society and has been registered under Societies Registration Act 1860 for organized development of NTFP sector in the State. Role of NCE is significant in supporting the basis of livelihood activities of local people as a means of alternative income generation against the income sources severely relying on forest produce. An NTFP Policy will be formulated. Project shall support NCE and Crafts & More for 5 yrs, being one of the main focuses of livelihood development under the Project.
- Broom grass operation shall be continued & facilitated by NCE as per process developed by NCE during TFIPAP.
- NCE shall explore possibility of networking with domestic / international organization on identified area including Japanese institutions in the area of bamboo crafts.

Clusters of specific product based groups of artisans shall be established at 4 locations of high potential. NTFP based livelihood activities shall be classified into 3 tiers: Collection & primary processing by SHG/JFMC members (Tier-3), Secondary processing for higher value addition by SHG/JFMC members (Tier-2) and Advanced Processing & value addition by entity formed by SHG/JFMC (Tier-1).



Various enabling facilities provided will be as below:



- (ii) **Agro-forestry based livelihood:** The aim of this component will be to provide sustainable forest cover & income generation to forest patta holders and farmers from the under-storey.
- The existing Agroforestry models developed under TFIPAP will be revisited by an Agro-forestry Task Force (ATF) and revised models will be implemented.
 - **Activities will include:**
 - Planting from MGNREGA (50% cost under financial convergence, follow up from JICA 50% from SCATFORM, technical convergence with D/o Agriculture are proposed).
 - Agroforestry motivational campaign for JFMC will be undertaken after identifying patta holders and their land. They will be organized into JLGs and orchard management training will be imparted to them for its proper management. After plantation, follow up will be supported for 3 yrs.
 - Trainings for Livelihood Coordinator (LC) / Community Organizer (CO) will be organized, workshops will be organized for JFMC/FF.
 - LC/CO and Crafts & More (under NCE) will form consortiums of SHGs for marketing their products and for training to them.
- (iii) **Livestock farming based livelihood:** Pig farming, poultry farming, cow rearing have emerged as the most popular options in JFMCs. An Animal Husbandry Task Force will be constituted to plan & train people in preparatory phase. The Task Force will be responsible for overall activities under these components.
- (iv) **Animal Health Camps:** In an effort to make veterinary services available in the Project beneficiaries self-employed persons who provides veterinary information with linkage to doctors on AI, vaccination, animal health at every JFMC. This is to supplement government's veterinary services to reduce mortality and enhance productivity of livestock. Project will only provide training (6 months residential training will be arranged at R K Nagar Farm at Project cost). Sush self-employed persons will be supported to set up Units with the help of Revolving Funds provided from the Project. Task Force will coordinate. ARDD will be approached to provide technical convergence. LC/COs will be trained. Workshops will be arranged for for SHGs
- (v) **Fish farming based livelihood:** Tech skills to SHGs willing for fish farming in tech convergence with D/o Fisheries. Fishery Task Force will be formed to do detailed planning for all training in preparatory phase. The Task Force will also be responsible for overall component. Frequent interaction & visit by Fisheries Deptt will be arranged. LC/CO will be trained, workshops will be arranged for SHGs. Same system for marketing as in case of livestock.
- (vi) **Organic farming based livelihood:** This component will provide technical skill & information on setting up "Model Organic Conservation Farms" to Agro-forestry JLGs of producers Financial model will be like Agro-forestry component. Technical & financial convergences from Mission Organic Value Chain Development (MOVCD) through D/o Agri such as Organic Certification will be explored. Agro-forestry Task Force will coordinate, plan, etc whole activity. Pilot trial will be held by willing RoFR beneficiaries in convergence with MOVCD Scheme for NER. Pilot in few selected JFMCs doing Agro-forestry where no chemical fertilizer is used. Then scale up. SHG

Consortium based marketing as in the case of Agro-forestry /livestock. Training will be provided.

- (vii) **Ecotourism development:** TFD will formulate and effectuate an Ecotourism Policy. The possibility/ option of PPP will be explored through a feasibility study based on the above Policy. "Ecotourism Development Fund (EDF)" will be supported for smooth operation & support the ecotourism activities operated by the community. 4 Ecoparks including Tepania, Baramura, Unakoti will be improved on NLC model. New destinations like Chhabimura will be taken up on Community-based Ecotourism approach.

Institutional Strengthening:

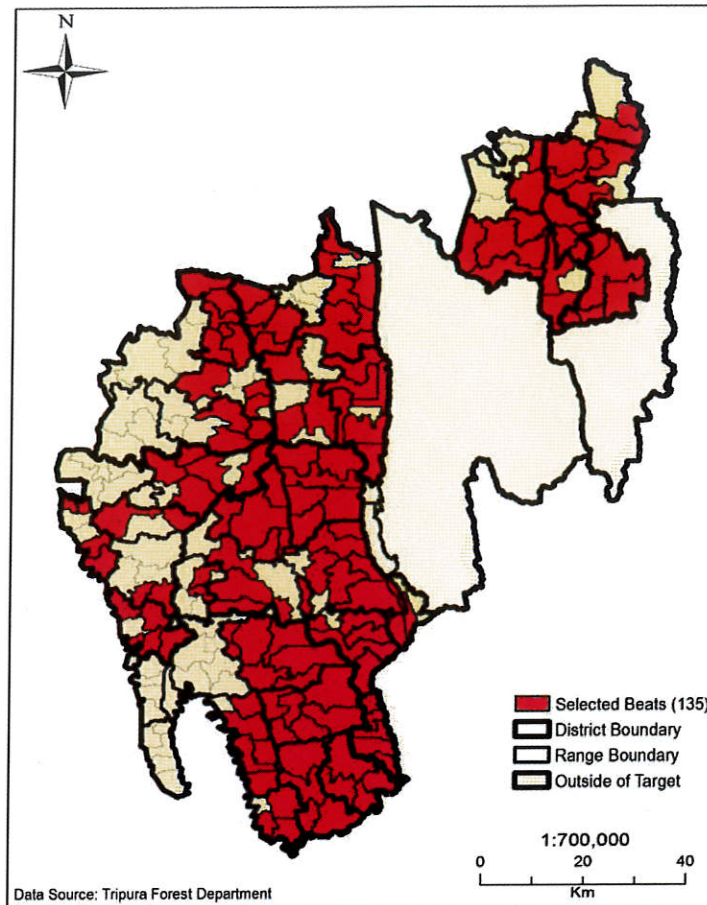
Following activities will be undertaken under this component:

- Construction of various building for better implementation of the project. Vehicles for mobility. Strengthening of MIS/GIS facilities: Departmental Capacity Development
- Development of Training Plan (national & overseas) based on TNA, by PMC Expert
- Imparting skill development (managerial/ gender) to Project staff. Refresher trainings for Project staff. Exposure visits (national & overseas).
- Research & technology transfer.
- JFM Capacity Development. Multi-utility Centres/VTCs.
- Training of JFMC/EDC/SHG (1350 nos). Refresher training of JFMC/EDC. Exposure visit (within & outside the State)

Convergence:

Project will enable to have convergence with the following department while carrying out various activities of the project: Agriculture, Horticulture, Fishery, ARDD, MGNREGA, PMUY, LIC (PMJJBY), TRLM (New SHGs to be NRLM compliant).

Implementation Arrangement: Project area Map:



Note: The Project will also include areas of 27 Eco-development Committees under Gomati Wildlife Sanctuary.

How Beats were selected?

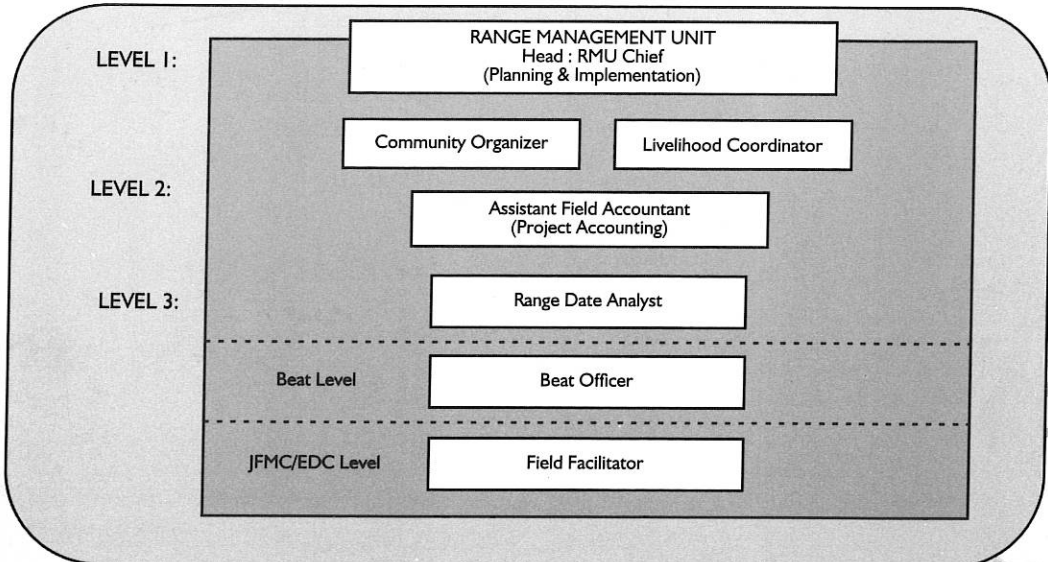
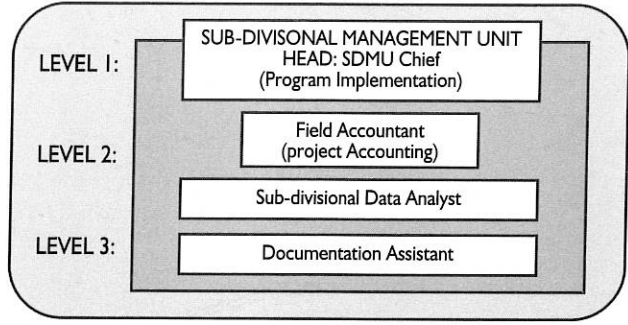
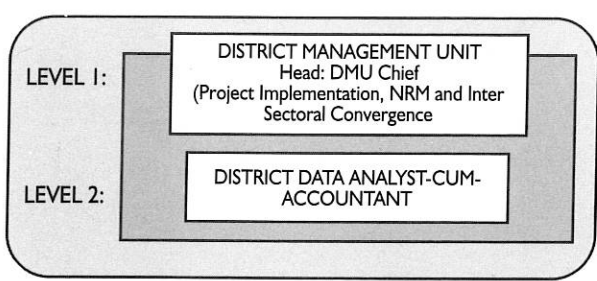
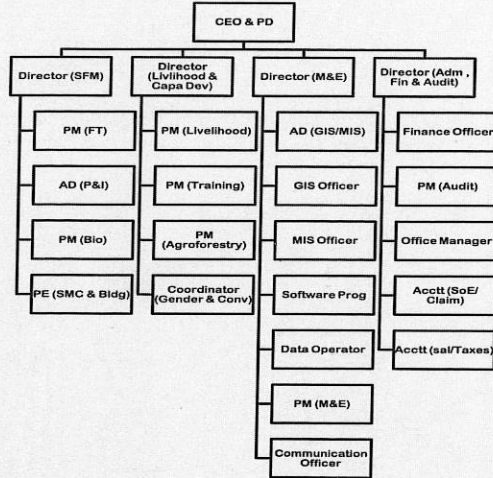
135 Beats
+ 13 Beats (GWLS)
148 Beats

33 Ranges
+ 3 Ranges (GWLS)
36 Ranges

423 JFMCs
+ 27 JFMC/ EDCs (GWLS)
450 JFMCs/ EDCs

| Sl No | Criteria | Measure | Weight |
|-------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Forest Degradation | (Open + Scrub) ÷ Legal forest | 30% |
| 2 | Soil Erosion | (Severe erosion + Very Severe) ÷ Total area | 25% |
| 3 | RoFR | RoFR Households ÷ Total Households | 20% |
| 4 | Poverty | Casual labours as per SECC 11 ÷ Total Families | 15% |
| 5 | Forest Dependency | Landless as per SECC 11 ÷ Total | 10% |

Institutional arrangement- PMU





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