Mysore Resettlement and Development Agency
Historical Profile

Mysore Resettlement and Development Agency

- Self Help Groups
- Education
- Health
- Voc. Ed
- FPO
- Watersheds
- Microfinance
- Community

- Resettlement of Tibetans

- 1968
- 1978
- 1984
- 1994
- 2000
- 2004
- 2012
- 2018
Our Mission

- To foster a **process of ongoing change** in favour of the rural poor in a way in which this process can be **sustained** by them through building and managing appropriate and innovative **local level institutions** rooted in values of justice, equity and mutual support.

- To recreate a self sustaining **habitat** based on a balanced perspective of the relationship between natural resource and the legitimate needs of people.

- To promote strategies and skills through which the **livelihoo**d of poor families and the rights of **women** and **children** are secured.

**Building local poor people’s institutions**
To promote systems that foster **primary health care** and reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS/STIs on the poor and vulnerable in a sustainable manner.

- To **influence** public **policies** in favour of the poor.

- To strengthen **networks** and **linkage** between and among formal and informal institutions that can foster and sustain the impact of development initiatives.

**Building local poor people’s institutions**
Myrada was started in 1968.
- History divided into 2 periods.
  - From 1968 to 1978-79, Myrada was involved entirely in the resettlement of Tibetan Refugees.
  - From 1978-79 Myrada has been involved with the rural poor.
Myrada is currently managing 16 projects in 12 backward districts of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Myrada is now entering the 3rd Phase – promoting its own MPIs MYRADA promoted institutions to take over.
Today’s Structure

MYRADA is promoted formal and Informal Institutions sharing a Common Vision to promote All round Growth, Livelihood Strategies, Local Governance, Environment and Natural Resource Management, Health and Education.

Favouring the rural poor through their Institutions and in an equitable and sustainable manner.
MYRADA promoted institutions

**CIDORRs** – centres for capacity building and research -10

**Sanghamitra Rural Financial Services** - MFI for rural groups

**MYRADA - KVK**
agri-related technical institute - Erode

**CMRCs - 72**

**Federations**

**Producer Companies -16**

**CBOs – SAG/ WDA/ Soukhya groups**

**Farmers/ SAGs/User groups**

**MYKAPS –**
spin off NGO in Mysore area

**CMRCs - 17**

**Producer Company**

**Farmers/ SAGs/ User groups**
Structure - Community-based

COMMUNITY MANAGED RESOURCE CENTRE

Federation

WDA

SAG

Federation

SAG

SAG

SAG

Federation

WDA

SAG

SAG

SAG

Federation

SAG

SAG

SAG
Myrada - Across India

Ongoing Technical Support
Interventions Abroad

Political Map of the World, June 2003
Organizational Structure
- Head Office

Governing Body

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Program Officers

Support Team

Project Staff

Accounts & Administration
It is not enough to teach the poor to fish
When they cannot reach the river

- The barriers are sometimes social, physical, people whose interests will be affected if a poor person reaches the river
- These powerful people also catch fish, in large quantities
- They control the market and the lives of the poor
The poor need **sideways linkages** to negotiate these obstacles, and to ensure that they do not emerge again, and to cope with new ones.

Such long term battles need a **stable group** – sound in structure, management and governance; able to learn, self-evaluate and reach out to others strategically.

**The basis of such a group is AFFINITY**
What we hope for...

- That the poor have/develop their own support systems, their own networks
- That their institutions function well enough to be noticed, appreciated and recognised by the mainstream
- That their strengths and successes enhance their ability to predict, manage, direct change
Our Strengths

- Strong **grass root** presence
- Programs **focused on sustainable and cost effective** solutions
- Ability to work at **scale** – district level intervention
- Extensive **experience & infrastructure in capacity building**
- Work where there is a **need** – shift to North Karnataka
- Strong **partnership** with the government & other NGOs.
- **Decentralised** system of functioning
Areas of Expertise
- Five Domains

1. **LIVELIHOODS** – formation and strengthening of people institutions – over 12000 groups: promoting livelihood strategies
2. **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT** – water, soil, forests, bio diversity, value addition for agriculture, post harvest, ecosystems – reduce risk of vulnerable and poor
3. **HEALTH** – promotion of basic health needs, child health, HIV AIDS, anemia, malnutrition & food security, primary health care, sanitation & hygiene
4. **EDUCATION** – strengthening capacity of teachers, SDMCs management skills, facilities to improve skills in english, computer and maths, vocational training, skills training for drop outs.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNANCE** – support and capacity building to local democratic institutions
1. Important to foster **alternate systems** for the poor to mobilize and manage required resources through capacity building and effective linkages.

2. **Advocate** with policy makers to foster growth, decentralization and equity.

3. Interventions should build on **people’s strengths** and not only needs.

4. **Invest in children**, not in isolation, but in the context of the **family**.
5. Recognize the close relationship between removal of poverty and concern for environment

6. Act as catalyst to strengthen links between government service providers and community

7. Empower CBOs to establish strong systems (financial & management) for sustainability

8. Strengthen local institutions’ response to monitor & ensure community access to services (health & education). Access barriers include – geographic, economic, social, gender and political factors
Innovations
- What Myrada has brought to the table

- Self-help Affinity Group movement
- Community institution role in managing ecological restoration
- Small group approach for HIV high-risk groups to ensure sustainable prevention and care response (Soukhya and Nemmadi groups)
- Capacity building of GP, VHSC, SAGs in specific and sustained response to maternal, child health and malnutrition
- Operating a farmers science school (KVK) – which has over 150 agri-related innovations
- Promoting MPIs to take up entrepreneurial skills – improved livelihoods and nutrition status.
Thank You!

www.myrada.org