

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 2022



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# **Table of Contents**

Preface	
Our coverage during the year	1
Natural Resource Management	
Major Achievements and Impacts	2
Soil and Water Conservation Measures	
Some Facts and Figures	3
Success Stories	4
Tank Rejuvenation	
Impacts of Nala Treatments	5
Livelihoods Development	6
Major Achievements and Impacts	
Income Generation and Skills Training Programs	
Success Stories	8
Goat Bank – an innovative approach	
A story of change – multifaceted beekeeper	9
Education	10
Major Achievements and Impacts	
Life skills development of children, school infrastructure & quality of education programs	
Success Stories	11
The impact of life skills development program on rural children	
Health and Sanitation	12
Major Achievements and Impacts	
Capacity Building	13
Major Achievements and Impacts	
A success story of a woman farmer and member in AESC	14
Future Plans	15
Financial Statement	
Acronyms	



### **Preface**

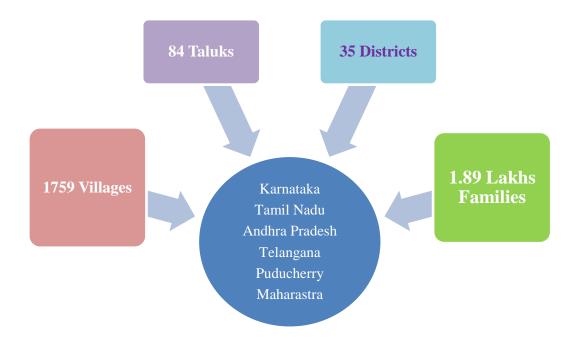
It is heartening to note that the Myrada model of planning and implementing rural development interventions proved its suitability in the context of the covid-19 pandemic and the resultant challenges faced by rural communities for whom we are working. This annual report 2021-2022 is a further confirmation of our continued relevance during the current stressful times.

Arvind G Risbud S S Meenakshisundaram

Executive Director Chairman



#### Our coverage during the year



#### NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Myrada adopts programs based on traditional water management approaches with a special focus on water resource management and micro watershed development. Our interventions facilitate the small and marginal farmers in sustainable agricultural practices. These interventions involve soil and water conservation measures including tank rehabilitation, groundwater recharge structures, soil testing, water budgeting and adaptation of Good Agriculture Practices such as INM, IPM, SRI, DSR, etc. While Myrada has been carrying out supply side interventions in watershed development for the last four decades, in the recent years the focus has expanded to also cover demand side management of water. Increased availability of water is useful only when it can be used judiciously. Our focus is to help the small and marginal farmers to understand the need for such interventions and to adopt the same on a sustainable basis.



During the financial year, we have facilitated farmers and farmers' groups promoted by us in leveraging resources for different soil and water conservation measures through convergence from different government departments. The finest example of such convergence demonstrated Gulbarga in through application of MGNREGA funds to the extent of over Rs.15crores against the donor's contribution of Rs.5.25 crores spread over 12 villages. These watershed development works resulted in 5.3 lakh man-days of work, thereby significantly reducing the pandemic related crisis of unemployment in the area.

Det	Details of labour work leveraged from				
	MGNREGA (Gulbarga)				
S#	Activity UoM		Total		
1	Earthen Bunds	Cum	468324		
2	Nala Treatment	Cum 14188			
3	Tank De-siltation	Cum	70176		
4	Agro Horticulture	Nos	21905		
5	Agro Forestry	Nos	17889		
6	Public Bore well recharge pits	Nos	89		
7	Farm Ponds construction	Nos	86		
8	Renovation and desilting of public open wells	Nos	9		

Myrada operated watershed development works in 35 districts during the year and was able to

help mitigate the adverse impact of the covid-19 pandemic to a considerable extent in respect of about 30,000 landless families.

#### **Major Achievements and Impacts**

#### Soil and water conservation measures

Rain water harvesting structures: In the fiscal year, we could achieve harvesting of rain water to an extent of 1068 million m3, mostly from the construction of 1015 rain water storage structures such as check dams, farm ponds, renovation of existing traditional percolation tanks, water recharge pits etc., in 7 watershed development projects implemented in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. This has helped nearly 1.61 lakhs small and marginal farmers in undertaking sustainable agriculture. Many open and dug wells of the farmers nearby these structures got recharged as reported by the farmers. A total of 142 borewells and open dug wells were constructed with rain water harvesting recharge pits which helped farmers to get additional water levels.

Land Development activities: Around 39,000 acres of dry land has been treated for soil erosion through construction of earthen and boulder bunds, stone pitched contour bunds, trenches, nala treatments, application of silt, etc. Silt excavated from the traditional common tanks, amounting to 1.5 lakhs tractor loads was applied over 3000 acres of land belonging to 630 farmers.

**Soil testing**: Applying chemical fertiliser to the soil without knowing the exact and actual nutrient needs of the soil is wasteful and possibly harmful. Overapplication of chemical fertilisers can be avoided only through creating awareness among the farmers in this regard.



In order to sensitise the farmers on Soil Organic Matter (SOM) and proper application or amount of fertiliser as needed soil testing was carried out for 5478 farmers. Through repeated awareness campaigns it is possible to make a big difference in how chemical fertilisers are applied.

**Dry land horticulture / Alternate land use systems:** All dry lands are not suitable for crop production. Some lands may be suitable for range/ pasture management and for tree farming, dry land horticulture, and agro-forestry systems including alley cropping. We identified 113 unused / uncultivated dry lands of the farmers in the watershed development areas and promoted rigid and drought resistance type horticulture commercial crop such as mango, pomegranate, guava, lemon, sappotta, drumsticks, etc. Nearly 55,800 horticulture plants were provided to the farmers free of cost.

**Direct Seeding of Rice:** Paddy is grown world-wide mostly by hand transplanting of seedlings in puddled soil. The farmers in many parts of the world are using different types of paddy transplants that require mat-type seedlings. Due to the complexity and cost of operations, and their availability and suitability, the pace of adaptation of the transplantation machinery is slow in India. The Direct Seeding of



Rice (DSR) cultivation offers an alternative and is being favoured by farmers in project areas.

We have introduced DSR cultivation method among many farmers in one of the watershed development projects located in Bhurgampadu, Pinapaka, Charla and Dummugudem mandals of Bhadradri Kothakundam district, Telangana and succeeded in getting comparable yields and incomes while saving 25-30% of water consumption. This initiative has so far spread over 1800 hectares belonging to 632 farmers in the project area.

#### **Some facts and figures:**





#### **Success Stories**

#### Tank Rejuvenation, Mugalur village, Anekal taluk, Bengaluru

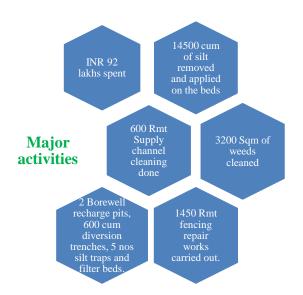
Mugalur is a small village and a grama panchayat located in Anekal taluk, Bangalore, Karnataka with a population of around 1700 people hailing from around 400 families. Agriculture is the main occupation of the village people with a total irrigated land area of nearly 100 hectares in which millets, flowers and vegetables are grown. The major water source for irrigation is through lakes/tanks, canals and bore wells. There has been a significant fall in the ground water table as reported by the farmers: 30-40ft a few decades back to 800-1000ft currently.

The village has a very big traditional percolation tank situated close and in the outskirts of the village which used to be a major water source and catered to the water needs of the farmers for agricultural through recharge of open wells and bore wells dug near the tank. The total area of the tank is around 52 acres which have not been maintained or managed properly for many years leading to the declining water storage capacity of the tank. Since the tank was full of trees farmers encroached the tank area for cultivation. The tank area was also being misused for undesirable activities. When we interacted with the farmers and the Grama Panchayat, they expressed that the lack of fund allocation from the district administration, despite several requests, was the stumbling block.

The Rotary club of Mid-Town, Bangalore associated themselves with the grama panchayat and approached the Hinduja Foundation for CSR funds. The tank renovation work was taken up and completed at an outlay of 92 lakhs provided by Hinduja Foundation. Myrada acted as an implementing agency. The district forest office also joined hands for this social cause and undertook fencing and tree plantation across the tank bund.

#### **Pre and post-condition of the renovated tank:**

The water holding capacity of the tank before undertaking the



renovation work was around 35,000 m<sup>3.</sup> The



existing small ponds had accumulated silt resulting in the draining of rain water during every monsoon season. Bunds on one side stretching up to 800 ft., were damaged. The tank was rejuvenated by clearing of weeds strengthening water supply channel, fencing work, silt removal etc. The

rejuvenated tank has a water holding capacity of 50,000+ m<sup>3</sup> The bunds are widened and strengthened by planting 3400 tree saplings.

Farmers are now happy to see the tank in a good shape with more water harvesting structures, recharge pits, additional new ponds, etc. They expressed the hope that the ground water level will start rising in the coming days. We hope that this joint effort facilitated/supported by all the stakeholders will create history.

#### Impact of Nala treatment in the catchment areas

Laxikanth, 45, is one of the farmers living in Pattan village, Kalaburgi taluk, which is one of the Pragat Watershed development areas. He owns 16 acres of dry land and cultivates banana, red gram and jowar through rain fed cultivation. His land is close to the catchment area and gets flooded frequently.

After discussion with the Grama Panchayat, Myrada decided to undertake nala treatment work with 189meter bund construction and a water holding capacity of 1.54 lakhs litres. This helped 45 farmers (including Laxikanth) in the catchment area by protecting their lands from flooding and soil erosion.

Laxikanth is a very happy farmer now and with a smile, he expressed that the nala treatment work



carried out close to his lands has helped him to transform his agriculture from growing red gram and jawar to banana, sugarcane, onion and other vegetables. He said that apart from protecting his lands from flooding he also benefitted by getting more water in his open well. He conveyed his heartfelt thanks to the project partners i.e., BFIL and Myrada for their watershed development works carried out in the village which is beneficial to many farmers.

#### Chandrakanth Dhari, a farm pond beneficiary says,

I have been cultivating jowar and vegetables in 4 acres depending on the rainfall received every year but not getting a good yield due to insufficient water available in my bore well. As a dream comes true, I have constructed a farm pond of size 10/10/3ft with the assistance from MGNREGA scheme mobilised through the efforts of Grama Sabha, Myrada and BFIL with a water holding capacity up to one lakh litres. During the first rain in the month of June my



pond got filled with rain water. This motivated me to take up agriculture in full swing and I started cultivating jowar, Napier grass and other vegetable crops in 4 acres.

Thanks to BFIL and Myrada who came forward to train farmers on the benefits of farm pond construction and provided technical and financial assistance for the construction of farm pond in my land and other 24 neighbouring farmers as well.



#### LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT

The Covid-19 pandemic created severe challenges in many aspects of rural life especially relating to health care, employment and income opportunities, education, and transportation of people and goods. Many have lost their jobs, reverse migration occurred from cities to the native villages, small and micro enterprises could not survive for many days which created havoc in lives of the people. Our projects supported many landless and daily wage families through the creation of labour employment in different watershed development works at several locations. During the pandemic period, our projects directly resulted in 6.77 lakhs man-days of employment.

Agriculture and allied sector is the main occupation and income source for the people in the remote villages where all our watershed development projects are implemented. As people depend on agriculture and related business activities for their sustainable livelihoods, they also face some issues such as lack of financial resources, lack of technical business knowledge and skills, marketing of agriculture produces, etc. To overcome these challenges, Myrada worked closely with SAG federations, farmers groups, FPOs and other stakeholders and extended handholding support through capacity building training, facilitation, market linkages etc. We have many achievements and innovative success stories in the livelihoods development sector as shared below.

#### **Major Achievements and Impacts**

#### **Income Generation and Skills training programs:**

Myrada's contribution in the area of women empowerment is well recognised and our SAGs continue to function as a platform for livelihood options for poor rural families. We have been continuously nurturing and strengthening the SAGs and their federations in all our project locations. We facilitate their livelihoods development through entrepreneurship development programs, microenterprise promotions, vocational skills training etc. Federations of SAGs such as CMRCs are built with necessary capacities and they extend handholding support to the SAGs. Many SAGs promoted by other agencies find it beneficial to be part of the Myrada promoted CMRCs for leveraging resources and linkages.

Credit linkages to SAGs: Most of the SAGs promoted by Myrada are independent and monitored by the CMRCs but they are associated with Myrada implemented projects as a matter of principle and of mutual convenience. During the fiscal year, the CMRCs have facilitated in mobilising credit to SAGs through banks and MFIs for promoting income generation activities, business development etc. An amount of Rs.49 crores was mobilised as credit from "Sanghamithra Rural Financial Services" promoted by Myrada and invested in starting up new and strengthening of micro enterprises such as petty shops, vegetable vending, flour mills, goat and cow rearing, backyard poultry, cloth merchant, roti making, tailoring, chilli powder making etc. In addition to the above, a revolving fund of about 3 crores was made available to more than 2500 self-help group members from various project budgets to help and set up micro enterprises.



**Skills training for employment generation:** A total of 2274 youth and 1548 SAG members were trained in different skills trainings such as beekeeping, tailoring, carpentry, driving, livestock rearing, backyard poultry, value addition in broom making, lantana-based craft making skills, etc. Most of the trained people are

engaged in promoting enterprises or are on wage employment. The estimated income range is between 3000/- to 10000/- per month. Around 850 people have set up beekeeping enterprises and earn regular income. Some of them have started value added products such as honey with dry fruits and nuts, honey amla candies, honey wax, honey chocolates, pollen, etc., and developed into a profitable business.

2274

Youth and women trained in vocational skills

2550

Farm and non-farm based IGAs promoted through revolving funds



Rs. 9.36
lakh
worth of
sewing
machines
distributed
free of cost
to 78 SAG
members
in Ballary



**Vermicompost production:** 400 vermicompost units were set up by those trained by Myrada in different project locations. This has reduced investment in the purchase of chemical fertilisers.

Rosemary promotion in hilly areas: Rosemary is perennial in nature, highly remunerative, considered as easy to grow and pest-resistant and can withstand drought conditions also. The leaf and its oil are commonly used in food and also to make medicine which can produce income up to 3 lakhs per acre and last long for many years. To promote sustainable livelihoods of the farmers located in the hilly area and to protect agriculture crops from wild animals Myrada KVK introduced the cultivation of Rosemary plants as one of the sustainable income sources. As the climatic condition in Talavadi hill area is suitable for Rosemary cultivation 4 farmers were selected and provided ten thousand plants for 4 acres.

#### **Success Stories**

#### "Goat Bank" – an innovative approach

The concept of "Goat Bank" is to create a revolving bank of goats to be loaned to the self-help affinity group members and to promote goat rearing for generating regular income. This is one of the innovative methods developed jointly by the holistic rural development project (HRDP) team of Myrada and the CMRCs promoted in the project villages in promoting income generation activities for the livelihoods of the poor. The goat bank model has covered 990 families in the last 2 years.

During the implementation of HRDP in the 16 selected villages of Bidar, Raichur and Gulbarga districts of Karnataka, SAG members who came forward to rear goats were assisted with a sum of Rs.7,000/- from the project funds. The cost of the female goat ranged between 5000/- to 8000/- and each beneficiary had to

Details	Nos.
No. of SAGs promoted in 16 HRDP villages – 2020-2022	210 (2802 members)
No. of SAG members initially assisted with goat kid from the goat bank in all 16 villages - Last 2 years period	330
No. of goat kids received by the goat bank as repayment from beneficiaries in the last 2 years	990
Total grant issued from project amount for promoting goat bank (In lakhs)	23.76
Total beneficiary's contribution (In lakhs)	9.90

pay the difference as her contribution. As a policy of the goat bank, each beneficiary has to donate the first new born goat kid to the goat bank as a repayment which in turn is given to the other needy SAG members as a revolving loan. The goats usually breed once in six months giving birth each time to 2-3 kids on average. CMRCs manage the goat banks. Each

beneficiary earns between 40,000/- to 60,000/- per year on average. This goat bank model is one of the success stories to inspire the SAG members elsewhere.

Kalavati residing in Gundur village of Gundur GP, Basavakalyan taluk in Bidar district is one of the beneficiaries who took up goat rearing as an income generating activity through HRDP in the



year 2021-2022. She expressed that the IGA support has changed her life style from a household woman to an entrepreneur in goat rearing. In one year period, she could multiply up to 15 goats and earn an income of Rs.60,000/- by selling 6 goats. Now she has 7 female and 2 male goats and planning to have 100 goats in the near future to make it a big business. She is happy to say that many buyers have started approaching her to supply goats with an advance payment. **Kalavati** is a role model for all the other SAG members in the village in promoting goat rearing.

#### A story of change: multifaceted beekeeper

Dhananjay, a diploma holder in electrical engineering and hailing from a remote village of Vaddarakempapura of Tumakuru district, Karnataka was working in a crane operating company at Bengaluru and as his salary was not enough to meet his expenses in the metropolitan city, he returned to do something for his livelihood in his family land.



He approached Myrada Green College (MGC) which provides skills training for youth and extension and business development

support in rural trades. He was enrolled in a beekeeping training program during January 2021. He started with a bee box in his family land. Spotting his enthusiasm and entrepreneurial abilities he was further enrolled in the fast track training program for developing his business skills during September 2021. That built up his confidence in business promotion.





Dhananjay is now one of the enterprising youth who has established a honey production business within a short span of time. He is into multiple products such as rearing bees and producing quality honey, multiplying bee colonies for sale and preparing wax, and has set up a unit in manufacturing and marketing bee boxes which gives him good earnings compared to his previous job. He has now established his own bee keeping training cum honey production centre in the name of "Prakruthi Bee Farm". His professional skills were used by MGC in conducting training in beekeeping as a qualified trainer.

#### Mr.Chandrakanth, Dairy farm owner, Bankur village, Chitapur Taluka, Kalaburgi

I have been rearing buffaloes for 3 years. At present, I own 20 buffaloes which give around 42 litres of milk every day. On an average, my income per month is Rs.35,000/-. In our village, we had a scarcity of drinking water for the cattle for many years. But we have sufficient water now from the construction of check dam and restoration of nalas through the



watershed development project implemented in our village by BFIL and Myrada. Our entire village people are very happy to see the wonderful work carried out by Myrada and creating water harvesting structures, increasing ground water level and sources for improved agriculture for our village farmers.



#### EDU CATION

Myrada adopts a holistic approach to the development of children in terms of social, emotional, physical, mental and intellectual growth. Formal education alone will not help children in the rural and semi urban areas in developing them as children as good citizens. They need special attention to holistic development which can be ensured through imparting special activities in a participative manner. Therefore, our programs in education domain in the last 4-5 years have been focusing on the life skills development of adolescent girls and boys, mostly girl children coping with their regular studies and ensuring their wellbeing. We achieve this through promoting children's groups (CGs) and children resource centres (CRCs) in our project locations. The CRCs are becoming a centre of attraction for the school going children and their parents. Life skills activities are conducted during after-school hours or on weekend holidays. Besides, infrastructure development in selected needy government schools such as classroom renovation, safe drinking water and toilet facilities, setting up smart classes, etc., are also taken up.

#### **Major Achievements and Impacts**

# Life skills development of children, school infrastructure & quality of education programs

Children's Groups and life skills development: A Total of 148 Children's groups (CGs) were formed covering 2208 children between 10-16 years and learned various items related to child rights and protection, problem solving, goal setting, leadership, drawing and painting, self-awareness, communication, etc. Tuition and spoken English classes, health education and kitchen garden promotion were also taught.





Computer skills on wheels: As our life skills development program has been a centre of attraction some of the donors came forward and provided facilities for imparting basic computer skills by donating mobile computer van with laptops, printers, LCD projectors and internet connectivity. This has helped in reaching out to more children in the remote areas. Parents, communities, educational department and grama panchayat leaders have extended good

cooperation by providing community centres, panchayat building and school premises for conducting the program regularly. Enthused by this success we have planned to reach out 10,000 children in 2022-2023.

Infrastructure facilities to schools: A total of 29 government primary schools and day-care centres located in different projects areas were supported with two new classrooms, smart class digital learning facilities, library books, school bags for poor children, chairs and benches for students, toilet facilities, compound wall, rain water harvesting systems, RO water purifiers and classrooms renovation etc. Ten day-



care centres were renovated with wall paintings to create good learning atmosphere for the children. Caretakers in the centres expressed that the attendance of children has increased and

parents felt happy for providing a better environment for the children in the day-care centre.

**Solar lanterns for school going children:** A total of 500 primary and high school children studying in 16 government schools in Raichur, Bidar and Gulbarga districts were provided with solar lanterns for their studies, home works and exams preparation.



#### **Success Stories**

#### The impact of life skills development program for rural children

Child marriages continue to happen in the rural areas, especially in remote tribal villages. Poverty, poor education of girl children, dropouts, lack of awareness on child marriage, etc., are some of the reasons noticed for early marriages among the tribal communities.

Bettamugilalam, Kambalam. Kamagiri, Doddamalam, Polgakollai, Kodakarai Krishnagiri district, Tamil Nadu, are some of the tribal communities' villages where Myrada implements projects on the holistic development. Myrada supports tribal communities especially women and girl children towards socio-economic through development awareness creations, vocational skills, income generation activities, etc. Knowing the social and educational status of girl children in these villages Myrada formed "Children's Groups" and facilitated conducting



RRISHNAGIRI: Five child marriages were stopped in the last two days near Anchetti. Hosur and Veppanahalli by revenue, childline and the police department in the Krishnagiri district. All girls have been sent to a government-aided NGO's reception unit at Dharmapuri. In the first incident on Thursday, Anchetti police constable N Naveedh and Doddamanju VAO llamparithi stopped a child marriage.

Health Minister Ma Subramanian had held an awareness programme in July following TNIE's article on child marriages haunting tribal Kamagiri village in Betramuglialam, Just 200 metre from the same panchayat, on Friday, the team along with Childline staff Madhappan prevented two other child marriages in Doddamanju. On Friday, near Anchetti, three other child marriages were stopped and the girls were produced at Child Welfare Committee.

As per norm, Doddamanju VAO Ilamparithi has to inform the incidents to the social welfare department, sources said. But, the VAO claimed that he does not have to report to the department and that he had informed Childline. The Childl Welfare Committee saved two other girls near Shoolagiri. Collector Dr V Jaya Chandra Bhanu Reddy said cases of the five incidents will be filled under the Child Marriage Act. District Social Welfare Officer Vijayalakshmi was unavailable for a comment.

life skills development activities among 10-16 years school going children and some dropouts as well. This has helped many girls in the project villages in developing new knowledge and various skills and protected themselves in many girl-child related issues.



**Keerthana,** a 14-year-old girl studying 9<sup>th</sup> grade in a government school and hailing from a marginalised farmer's family is one of the members among 24 in one of the children's groups. She never misses the life skills activities conducted every Sunday facilitated by the Community Resource Person (CRP) and the mentor of the CG. As a part of the life skills activities, the facilitator of the children group gave a homework to all children to draw a picture of their vision and present next time when they meet during their regular CG activities.

Keerthana came up with a wonderful drawing that made an impact and applauded by other

#### Keerthana says:

"If children get married at an early age, they are trapped inside the cage but if they go to school they can spread their wings and fly as they dream". children, parents and the communities. She explained about her drawing made with two different faces as a married or school going girl. **Keerthana's** drawing was shared in all of the children's groups run across the project villages which has created a telling impact among all other girl children who have started raising voices against child marriage, child abuses, etc. Our CG concept and approach is bound to create a greater impact

in the coming days.

#### HEALTH AND SANITATION

Myrada's experience during the COVID pandemic was heartening in as much as the enthusiastic participation of thousands of Self Help Affinity Group members and CMRC representatives in healthcare related projects for TB, Hypertension and Diabetes Mellitus over prolonged periods of time which helped us carry out a community based awareness cum screening and mainstreaming of identified patients into the Governmental healthcare system. Our practical support to the district healthcare system in addressing COVID related issues has earned a lot of goodwill at the district level government agencies and we look forward to further cooperation with government in this regard if the need arises.

#### **Major Achievements and Impacts**

Safe drinking water for school children and communities: RO water purifier systems were set up in 6 government schools functioning in the project working area of Chitradurga district and provided a safe drinking water facility to the school children and staff. Additionally, two water purifier systems were installed with a capacity of 500 litres per hour one each in Chitradurga and Bidar district.





Health and hygiene awareness through community radio program: "Namma Dhwani" a community radio station was set up in 2001at Budikote village, Bangarpet taluk, Kolar district by Myrada for conducting awareness programs on various social issues. During the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic the radio station broadcasted awareness sessions on precautionary/ safety measures, importance of vaccination, disposal of used masks through health tips, drama, experts talk, live phone-in programs etc. Maternal care and child nutrition related awareness sessions were conducted in 4 selected villages and broadcast through the community radio programs.

Herbal garden: One immune boosting herbal garden has been set up in Myrada KVK training and research centre for demonstration purposes for the stakeholders such as farmers,

visitors, trainees, SAGs, FPOs etc. Awareness programs on the use and importance of herbal plants were organised in 4 villages/towns nearby the KVK training centre.

To address the food security of the people during the covid-19 crisis ration items were supplied to 818 families in 16 villages spread over Raichur, Bidar and Gulbarga districts.



#### **CAPACITY BUILDING**

Myrada KVK located at Gobichettipalayam town in Erode district, Tamil Nadu is a major grassroots level farm science centre to provide various types of agriculture and allied business activities related training and research support to men and women farmers, rural youth and various entrepreneurs to build capacities for sustainable livelihoods development. Dissemination of the latest and advanced farming technologies, job-oriented skills trainings, on-farm test and front-line demonstration on different crops cultivation are the major areas of interventions being carried out intensively with great success. Myrada KVK has established a large network in Erode and neighbouring districts and covers many stakeholders to benefit from its services. The following are some of the major areas of achievements of Myrada KVK during the fiscal year 2021-2022.

#### **Major Achievements and Impacts**

Agriculture Business Centres (ABCs), Village Knowledge Resource Centres (VKRCs) etc., are some of the institutions established across our project locations to help farmers and youth. A total of 3794 men and women farmers were trained in various topics on advanced agriculture and allied sectors. An innovative institution called Agri., entrepreneurs service centre (AESC) established by Myrada KVK, Erode provides post-training handholding support such as technology development, business promotions, financial proposals for startups, etc. In the last 3 years since inception of AESC, many farmers and agri., business people have accessed this centre and get consultation and benefit. We have many success stories (as mentioned below) in promoting new entrepreneurs through AESC.

#### A success story of a woman farmer and member of AESC

Manjula.P, a woman farmer residing in Kolappalur village of Gobichettipalayam, Erode district attended beekeeping skills training organised by Myrada KVK on organic farming and honey bee rearing in Gopichettipalayam campus. After intensive training, she started honey bee rearing in the year 2008 with 10 bee boxes. With her hard work and enthusiasm, she developed her honey production with an increase to 300 bee boxes and approached KVK again for marketing the honey produced by her. MYRADA



KVK connected this entrepreneur to a farmers' producer company called Kazhani FPCL in Kallipatti village (this company was also supported by KVK even from before its inception) for marketing the honey. Seeing her commitments and business skills in honey production, she was attached to the AESC for getting guidance and support in strengthening her honey business and later started mentoring many farmers who approached AESC for promoting beekeeping as an enterprise. In two years' period, she has trained around 1624 farmers and youth from Erode and neighbouring districts. Over a period of time, she expanded her business through a cluster development approach in beekeeping covering 8 blocks with 2968 honey producers in the district and began marketing honey with a registered brand name "Manjari" as a trademark. She has developed 42 value added products in honey and markets her products through social media like Facebook, exhibitions and fairs. Currently she earns an income up to 6-7 lakhs per year.

Manjula's efforts have earned recognition through several awards at the national, state and district level. She is the first woman member to be nominated to the **National Bee Board.** She is a preferred mentor, trainer and advisor for many colleges, universities and government departments in Tamil Nadu. She has established a Knowledge and Resource Centre on her farm to promote beekeeping and honey production.

AESC has several similarly experienced entrepreneurs who are blooming into mentors and trainers and experts in their chosen trades.

- 520 rural youth were trained and equipped with job and business skills on various scientific bee rearing techniques and value addition in honey, lantana camara craft making skills and value addition in millets and banana flour making.
- 628 government officials and extension workers from the department of agriculture & horticulture were trained in fall armyworm management in maize, white fly management in coconut, soil health management, pest control, nutrient, and weed and disease management in different crops.





- During the fiscal year, 561 extension activities were conducted such as field day, agricultural science exhibitions, soil and water testing in the farmers' field, seminars and exposures to different intuitions such as CICR, TNAU, NIFTEM, etc., in which 26596 stakeholders (farmers, youth, govt., agriculture department staff) participated.
- 12 On-farm test (OFT), a participatory study jointly with the agriculture scientists and the farmers on different technologies applied and tested in cotton, sugarcane, finger millet, blackgram, marigold, rosemary, cadamba, groundnut, jasmine, small ruminants, value addition in banana & millets. The outcomes of these technologies were documented and shared with the farmers, trainees, visitors and all other stakeholders connected to learning, study and practice through which successful technologies were suggested to the farmers and other practitioners.
- Front line demonstrations (FLDs) on 21 varieties of crops were carried out on 40 acres of 195 farmers. Through these demonstrations, constraints and factors contributing for higher production related data were recorded and shared with the farmers.
- As broom making is one of the major sources of livelihood of the SC and ST communities hailing from Ramaranai village, Talavadi block, Erode district living in the thick reserve forest, one self-help affinity group was selected and the members were trained in value addition skills in broom making organised jointly by the district administration, Tamil Nadu State Rural



Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM) and Myrada. This initiative would help in developing brooms production with much more value addition, marketing and good income. Efforts are being made by the project team to do follow-up, undertake a feasibility study for the enterprise development, marketing of finished products through exhibitions etc., to empower these tribal communities for increased income and better livelihood.

Our other training and research centres similar to Myrada KVK such as Myrada Green College (MGC) in Holalkere, Chitradurga district and CIDDORs in Hosur, Kolar, Bellary, Chitradurga and Gulbarga too imparted short and long duration training to SAGs, FIGs, FPOs, myrada promoted institutions such as CMRCs, farmers and youth.

#### Our Future Plans, 2022-2023

#### Major areas

- Strategic planning meeting with the Myrada Program Officers, core team members and executives for setting our next 3 years' plans and focus areas.
- ▶ Children's life skills development program across all the project locations and reach ten thousand children in next two years.
- Focus on demand side water management interventions in the coming years.
- Expansion of project locations on a case to case basis.

# **Financial Statement**

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022					
EXPENDITURE	2021 - 22 Rs.	2020 - 21 Rs.	INCOME	2021 - 22 Rs.	2020 - 21 Rs.
Livelihoods	2,74,79,020.67	1,18,98,117.32	Grants	29,06,78,649.81	23,88,46,927.97
Natural Resource Management	23,30,32,775.64	16,17,18,620.34	Contributions received	4,22,630.00	5,90,690.00
Health and Sanitation	1,63,62,505.21	1,85,42,319.72	Contribution towards	59,550.00	52,000.00
Education	2,35,79,009.62	1,90,98,773.21	accommodation Interest on Savings Bank Account	32,55,096.00	26,93,418.05
Institutional Capacity Building	2,14,03,905.26	1,93,33,855.68	Interest on Fixed Deposits	2,28,45,802.00	2,71,03,296.15
Purchase of Assets	1,19,85,841.00	68,37,723.00	Interest on IT refund	1,20,413.00	3,630.00
SURPLUS transferred to :			Disposal of Assets	1,21,634.00	33,564.00
Donor's Account	-	2,15,13,624.16	Rent	6,11,600.00	6,41,100.00
Corpus Fund Account	74,36,285.47	1,02,05,516.04	Other Income	1,66,325.00	51,065.28
Project Corpus Fund Account	16,56,735.28	8,67,141.98	DEFICIT transferred to Donor's Account	2,46,54,378.34	-
Total	34,29,36,078.15	27,00,15,691.45	Total	34,29,36,078.15	27,00,15,691.45

In terms of our report of even date

## Acronyms

AESC	Agri Entrepreneur Service Centre	MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act	IGA	Income Generation Activity
COVID	Corona Virus Disease	IPM	Integrated Pest Management	ABC	Agri. Business Centre
СВО	Community Based Organizations	Myrada	Mysore Resettlement And Development Agency	MGC	Myrada Green College
CG	Children Group	NABARD	National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development	SAG	Self-help Affinity Groups
SOM	Soil Organic Matters	NCD	Non Communicable Disease	SRI	System of Rice Intensification
CMRC	Community Managed Resource Centre	NGO	Non-Government Organization	ТВ	Tuberculosis
CRC	Child Resource Centre	INM	Integrated Nutrition Management	FPO	Farmers Producer Organization
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility	OFT	On-Field Trials	RO	Reverse Osmosis
BFIL	Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited	FIG	Farmers Interest Groups	ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research
DSR	Direct Seeding of Rice	NRM	Natural Resource Management	GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
CICR	Central Institute for Cotton Research	TNAU	Tamil Nadu Agriculture University	NIFTEM	National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management
тот	Training of Trainers	TNSRLM	Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission	CIDORRs	Centre for Institutional Development, Organizational Research and Reforms
HRDP	Holistic Rural development Project	FLD	Field Level Demonstrations	KVK	Krishi Vigyan Kendra

