An introduction to the Development Initiatives of Tribal Communities with SHASHWAT in the Catchment Area of Dimbhe dam, Dist. Pune, Maharashtra, INDIA

Anand Kapoor
SHASHWAT, Dist. Pune, INDIA
Community Aldeia, EQUATOR INITIATIVE,
Rio de Janeiro, 16 June 2012
Dimbhe Dam area
A tribal village on the hilltop - Pimpargane
Village Digad
partially affected by Dimbhe dam waters

1253 families shifted out
11 villages totally submerged
13 villages partially affected
Collecting forest produce
Balhirda – the only source of cash income
Virgin evergreen four-tier cloud forest

Tribal people’s belief: Our Forest - our Mother
Forest Conservation

Sacred Groves
People’s management of
Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary
Sacred grove of Ahupe village
Deorai (sacred grove) of Ahupe village

5-6 acres in area

22 species of large trees

10 types of shrubs

7 types of climbers

Deity: Bahiroba

Black mouth monkeys

Giant Indian red squirrel

Many species of birds and earthworms

800 year old climber

Saved by the people from a contractor’s axe in 1984
800 year old climber at Ahupe sacred grove
The sacred grove of Ahupe village

May 2012
The opportunity in land development: Making paddy terraces with stone bunds on steep slopes Which also leads to **Erosion Control** & will increase the life of the dam
Agriculture in the hills

Rice grown in small terraces

Land Use Pattern (ha)

- Forest, 10472, 34%
- Unirrigated, 12508, 42%
- Culturable Waste, 4338, 14%
- Not Aval for Cultivation, 3036, 10%

Shifting cultivation crops on steep slopes
The tribal tradition of developing Paddy fields with stone bunds

The Padkai program of mutual cooperation
Making paddy fields with stone bunds on steep slopes

Pilot project with partial Govt. support in 2002
The result of 9 years of effort

- Land ownership documents upgraded to present day
- Paddy Terracing scheme sanctioned by Govt. in Jul 2009
- First such scheme in Maharashtra
- Only for 38 villages of Dimbhe dam area
- Will benefit 6000 landholders
- Rates Rs. 1,82,777/- to Rs. 2,52,330/- per hectare
- For ground slope ranges 8 % to 20 %
- Total Outlay Rs. 4300 lakhs
Innovative Land Use - Draw-down Land Cultivation

Irrigating the land which becomes available after the dam reservoir waters go down
Drawdown cultivation area

Submergence area 2002 ha.

Area available for drawdown: 350 – 400 ha.
Lightweight pumps shared by 13 farmer groups in 2007
Lightweight diesel pumps introduced in 2007 with land use permits from Govt.

People have accessed 99 pumps from Govt. by 2011
Migration from 7 villages has stopped since 2 years

13 farmer groups, 65 farmers, 11 villages

2008 yield: 50 quintals

2009 yield: 293.51 quintals

2012
Fisheries

Employment through water
Shramik Adivasi Fish Coop. Society (regd 2006)
Fisher families 201,
89 are primitive tribe Katkari,
11 Thakar, rest Koli Mahadev
& 32 women’s SHGs

- 19 villages
- Dam height 72 metres,
- Reservoir 20 km long
- Average fishing area 1278 ha.
- Dam drained completely in 2000 & 2002
Boats in Dimbhe

2003

2010
We are here today
Progress in figures

Stocking fish seed

FISH CATCH IN DIMBHE

FISHING DAYS PER YEAR
ADVANCED FISH CULTURE with support of CIFE & NFDB

work for empty hands in June-Aug

Floating Cages

Input seed size 25-35 mm

Pen at Digad village

Advanced fingerlings 100-150 mm
Ornamental Fish rearing by Fisherwomen’s SHGs

Technical Support by Central Institute of Fisheries Edu., CIFE Mumbai, & National Fisheries Dev Board
Transparency in Fish Co-op. Society affairs

Annual General Meet
2009
Participation of women in management
We have come together

Dimbhe dam area poverty eradication program

Div. Commissioner Pune Div/ Tribal Dev. dept/ Fisheries Dept/ Revenue Dept/ Block Dev Officer/ National Fishworkers Forum/ Bargi Dam Visthapit Sangh, Jabalpur/ CIFE & NFDB/ Shashwat & the fisherfolk of Dimbhe dam area
THANK YOU