

Report of Scoping Visit in Karnataka

1. Objective of the scoping Visit:

Under the project scoping visits were made of all the four states of Assam, Karnataka, Odisha and Rajasthan in the month of October, 2013. These visits were meant for finalizing the State Level Partner Organisation and to share about the project to enhance SLPOs understanding, knowledge about the overall project idea, objectives, goals, key features and activities along with methodologies, strategies and approaches, target groups, government departments and agencies etc. During this visit state partners were also sensitized about the Rural Non-Farm Sector as a whole and the key activities of Research, networking and advocacy part along with the web portal and its interactivity.

Scoping visits also meant for meeting with the key government department officials like Rural Development Department, State Rural Livelihood Missions, National Institute of Rural Development, State Institute of Rural Development, NABARD, major research institutes of the state working in the area of livelihoods to brief them about the project and seeking their active cooperation throughout the project period.

During the scoping visits major NGOs which are working in the sector of Livelihoods or RNFS were also targeted to meet their management officials for briefing them about the project and their active cooperation.

2. Duration of Scoping Visit

October 17-18, 2013

3. Meeting and Signing MoU

During the scoping visits project director and project coordinator met with key persons of Public Affairs Centre (PAC), Bangalore (Karnataka) to finalise the State Level Project Organisation (SLPO). Key persons were informed about overall project, goals, objectives, activities, intermediately results, outputs, outcomes/impact, methodologies/approaches of action research, research, networking, web discussions and advocacy as part of the project.

After the presentation, a round of discussions happened, where queries on research methodology from PAC were answered well.

After mutual decision, a formal MoU has been signed between CUTS and PAC for project period of one year.

4. Meetings with Stakeholders

Member of Project Management Team (PMT) along with the representatives of the SLPO met with the below mentioned (table) key state functionaries and completed necessary ground preparations for launching the project smoothly in all the states. Further, SLPO did

required follow-ups at state level to reach out the key officials and stakeholders to brief them about the project.

S. No.	Name of the Department/Organisation/institution	Meeting With	Persons Visited
1.	Department of Rural Development, Govt. of Karnataka	Mr. V. Umesh, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary (Development), Karnataka	Mr. George Cheriyan, CUTS Mr. Madhu Sudan Sharma, CUTS Mr. Suranjan Dutta, Public Affairs Centre
2.	State Rural Livelihood Mission, Karnataka	Mr. K. Krishna Swami, SPM	"
3.	NABARD, Bangalore, Karnataka	Dr. R. N. Kulkarni	"
4.	Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bangalore	Mr. Komal Singha, Assistant Professor	"

5. Outcome

- Clarity about the project was enhanced in the SLPO, targeted key Government officials and practitioners of the RNFS.
- Formal MoU was signed CUTS and SLPO.
- Face to face meeting with the top level Government officials will ensure their active participation in the project activities at various point of time.
- PMT was also knew some of the ground realities during the visits and interacting with the key stakeholders and partner organisation.
