

***Socio-Economic development of Dalita and
underprivileged in Rudrapur & Barhaj development
block of District Deoria (Uttar Pradesh)***



INTERNAL EVALUATION

**SUBMITTED TO
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DEORIA April 2006**

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May, 2006***



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1. INTRODUCTION

The Socio-Economic development of Dalit and underprivileged in Rudrapur & Barhaj development block of District Deoria (Uttar Pradesh) project was initiated in 2003 in partnership with CASA. The overall objective of the project is the social empowerment of Dalits and the strengthening of livelihoods of poor households in Deoria district. The project is located in 2 contiguous blocks, and has so far directly benefited over 400 poor families from 19 villages.

The objectives of the present Evaluation is to: (i.) assess the achievement of project's outcomes that are expected to contribute to policy and practice changes; (ii) evaluate specific issues and programme contents; and (iii) review YCK's organisational capacities and learning's in the context of the project inputs and expected outcomes. The Evaluation is also to provide directions for future intervention.

2. FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

2.1. Community based organisations for empowerment

- The emergence of empowered women leadership in the groups is the hallmark of the project. What is significant is that this empowerment is widespread across groups and women have created critical spaces for themselves both within the households and in the community- a remarkable achievement in itself, since Deoria, where the project is based, is a known cradle of backwardness. The empowerment can be credited to the institutional and social interventions provided in the project.
- The process of saving regularly has been well established and saving targets are being met. Almost all members have stopped taking loans from the money- lenders. However, the limited rigour in the system of account keeping, the low levels of investment on livelihood activities and the need to improve credit discipline in groups that are withdrawn from are issues of concern that needs to be further addressed in the next phase.
- Total number of SHGs in the project to 14. In addition 05 kisan Groups have been formed as grassroots community institutions in Rudrapur and Barhaj blocks. The involvement of the SHG and Federation leaders and the adoption of a campaign strategy has been an effective factor in expanding the number of SHGs.
- 03 Federations have been promoted with a current membership of 19 SHGs and non- SHG members total of 620 (male-170and female 450). The Federations' most significant achievements, has been in providing an identity and social space as a collective forum for poor Dalit (Scheduled Caste) women in the blocks. The Federations are looking for support in adding new dimensions to the project, especially in terms of livelihood activities.
- Strengthening the Federation has been a slow process, primarily because the target group is the poor and marginalized. Thus, some Federations lack direction and clarity of purpose and are more activity centric; their financial sustainability needs to be ensured and not all livelihood interventions undertaken



by the Federation so far have been viable; and all 3 Federations do not have their tangible structural body and have no separate books of records.

- Kisan Samooch is a smaller constellation of farmers that is successfully involved in seed preservation and production. It is possible to come up as an input supplier service agency to the farmers in the area. But the system production of seeds has to be further streamlined to take care of other functions.

2.2. Livelihood promotion: sustainable livelihood model and environment

- In excess of the project period there has been a shift in livelihood promotion strategy from largely farm based, local, collective ventures or initiatives, to providing supplements in the existing sources of income with the increase in income being incremental. The shift has guide to large scale expansion of interventions as the community is able to take to new practices, processes or inputs very easily. The expansion of successful ideas is taking place from people to people, either by observation, spread by word of mouth, proactive promotion by community groups and institutions like the Federation.
- Under the sustainable agriculture component the focus has been on three inter-linked strategies- expanding the existing sustainable agriculture package to all the member households through SHGs; strengthening the package through technological and ecological as well as environmental improvements; and training a key resource person of local agri- experts- to spread the practices to others.30 farmers have been trained to make organic manures as mataka khad, wormy compost and CPP. According to field observation it is very helpful to farmers to reduce their dependency on chemical fertilizer and expenses also.



- Through out the focused grouped discussion during field visits; a common phenomenon come of require of irrigation system, yet they have plenty of water during monsoon season. There has been seen also lack of the mechanism of water restoring.
- YCK has made important inroads into consolidating the micro finance based project towards creating an alternative model of credit delivery linked to livelihoods. It now follows a strategy to link the SHGs with external sources for credit and has also established a system of interface with Banks and Govt. officials.

2.3. Strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI)

- YCK has a first hand experience and exposure of panchayati raj institutions and deepness of its functionalities. As per observation of the field a good rapport building interventions has been initiated in recently driven Panchayati Raj General Election 2005.



- Voters consciousness campaign was been commenced in 43 villages intensely. A pre defined approach could make a major revolution among the community; how to vote; whom to vote; why to vote and so many catalytic points arose and given choice to choose.
- AMNA-SAMNA events were organised by the team to get the candidate's manifesto for the improvement and development of the respective constituency. In order that voter could make their standpoint and choose as they approximating too.
- A challenging endeavour had initiated with the purpose of reformation in voter's list. It had been a major concern of candidates. One who belongs to powerless family, it was more possible to make some **ulat-fer** in the list. So that they could not vote if they were unfavourable and a same time it was effort to increase the list of voters' in favourable families.
- The team of YCK done excellent job to cope the unjust with the communities. And, got much support of candidates who belongs to socially and economically deprived. They were provided a pool of support in nomination process.
- Interface and liaison with elected members are established in terms of support to enhance their skills and knowledge about role and responsibilities for what they have to adhere.
- The activity that has been implemented as training of panchayat members is may be more advantageous in planning and implementation of the rural programmes.
- It is observed that, need to re-strategize the plan of action so that realistic and demand based entitlements realization could be in place.

2.4. Disaster preparedness: Community based initiatives

- YCK has been developing a viable and distinct community based model for flood mitigation that combines livelihoods and disaster management. The model primarily focuses on community managed preparedness and response system, reduction in loss of livelihoods by developing appropriate cropping pattern, and advocacy for policy and practice change.
- Have effort to save grains from flood. An effort has been made with help of local resources and tools called MANDILA. Mandila has made with in the groups. It is try to promote at individuals. It's really a good practice for demonstration.





2.5. Gender and development

- Although the impact on policies has been marginal and more at the local level, the changes in practices that have been brought about could lead to positive changes in policies. At the individual and community level significant changes in practice that have been observed include the communities' willingness to organize themselves into functional collectives and the adoption of improved agricultural practices and livelihood activities. The focus on women has had a cascading effect on practices as wide ranging as inclusion of women in the procession of decision making at the community as well as the household level, significant contribution to the community in new roles as trained health workers, local agricultural resource persons, etc.
- Changes in the institutional practices have been relatively fewer and localized but significant. Moreover, they are largely in response to the changes that have occurred at the household and community level. Besides, in spite of developing replicable and relatively sustainable models of livelihood in relation to both women's empowerment and flood prone areas and with adequate evidence from the field, policy change perspective has remained weak. It had been seen their emergence of empowerment of women slightly slow; need to re- strategise the role of the project.

2.6. Participatory planning and implementation

The project “**Socio Economic Development of Dalita and underprivileged**” was envisaged as a tool to kindle the community to make a cohesive environment and common plate form, so that any vehicle of development could surpass smoothly and have insurance of participation of all part of Dalita and underprivileged community. As a bet of YCK, made effort seriously; in selection process of Key Resource Person (KRPs.) as internal support provider vis-à-vis primary conceiver of the project inputs. All the items of the project have been decided at open forum of the community at the time of the micro-planning. Every micro-plan of the villages has been prepared distinctively on the priority of those particular villages' concerns.

Throughout the course of field visits of the project areas; it is found the knowledge base of KRPs. Need to be profound with reference to their role and profile. Individual plan of action in course of project activities would be expected from different skilled KRPs KRPs. could be vehicle for replication and expansion of successes of project models. YCK need to re-strategize their implementing methodology to minimize their resources and stakes.

2.7. Project coordination: organisational capacities and learning

i. Social mobilization: YCK is especially strong in the community dimension of the programme and linking the same to the empowerment and livelihood objectives. Mobilizing women is not an easy task in





social backwardness area. The outcome reflects on the capacity of YCK in not only mobilizing women but facilitating them in a way that they are least dependent on YCK for taking up various issues. YCK has worked behind the scene in the training programmes, during exposure visits, during meetings, to instil confidence in the women leaders.

ii. Livelihood promotion: YCK is a learning organization as demonstrated in turning around of its livelihood strategy when the earlier approaches were not working adequately. Changes reflect good reading and understanding of the community needs. For instance the need for the groups revenue model stem from the fact that YCK have to found that its original idea of community banking did not make much of an impact as banking finance is more easily available. On the other hand in spite of the success with agriculture promotion YCK would need to take up intensive sectoral development with Federations providing the requisite technical and service support. YCK thus, needs to acquire sectoral competencies.

iii. Up-scaling: Key to up scaling seems may be to identify appropriate interventions that have natural propensity to reach large numbers. In the case of YCK farmer to farmer propagation, dissemination of the package through small and simple handbills, handholding and demonstration by *Key Resource Person*, and finally, by holding dissemination workshops and training programmes have been the effective via media for up scaling. Interventions have moved beyond the project boundaries and not limited to the target group of the project. It is important to identify the sequence and qualitative aspects of social processes and procedures that lead to definite outcomes. Knowing this would make up-scaling efficient and cost effective and outcomes determinate. Further, the social processes need to be codified and tangible, with indicators for proper monitoring of group health and desired outcomes, so that such data on a large scale can be efficiently monitored.

iv. Policy advocacy: This has remained more a by-product of field interventions carried out by the field based staff rather than becoming a dominant activity for the senior staff based in the Head Office. This situation needs to be corrected.

v. Learning and monitoring systems: Some of the key learning and monitoring mechanisms in YCK are exposure visits, internal strategic meetings of project leaders, quarterly meetings, sponsoring staff for various training and capacity building workshops and events or holding these internally with the help of resource organisations. YCK also has an internal culture that supports innovation and experimentation.

3. PROJECTS IMPACT AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

- The project has had considerable impact at the household level in three key areas:
 1. That the extent of dependence of members on moneylenders for credit requirement has been significantly reduced according to our field observations.
 2. The extent of food security of member households participating in the farm based livelihood interventions has relatively increased.
 3. The extent of cooperation and cohesiveness among community has also been increased in terms of both provisions of access of entitlements and opportunity provided.



4. EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

The above outcomes have been the result of the intervention strategies used. A systematic process and the fact that YCK has a process of critically reviewing the strategies, generating learning's and internalizing them to improved performance has resulted in a dynamic strategy which responds to the ground situations. While by and large they have been effective some of the key elements that have had a significant impact are:

- The exclusive focus on Dalits and Schedule Caste communities has ensured that the marginalized and poor communities in those blocks are addressed.
- Developing community institutions according to specific requirements of the project has been highly effective and has potential elements of sustainability.
- The Key resource Person and local resource persons have contributed in large measures to the achievement of the programme.
- The capacity building of the SHGs, key resource person and empowerment strategies adopted has been effective.
- YCK's strategy for advocacy however, has been relatively fragile.

5. OUTCOMES

At the beginning of this project YCK and CASA had agreed to achieve certain identified outcomes with in the project period. The following figures and matrix gives a brief description of the outcomes achieved, while the subsequent paragraphs explain the processes and impact in detail. It also have been endeavoured to analyse the contemporary eminence of the project activities.

5.1. COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

The structural base of YCK's programme in Deoria district is the community based organisation that have been promoted. These are of different types and purposes:

- In the women empowerment programme these are at primary level as women self-help groups and at secondary level as federations of SHGs. While the SHGs have been formed around mutual savings and credit, substantial investments have been made in building up their leadership and management capacities. As such the SHGs formation process has been viewed as a means to empower the women as well as to encourage them to become active partners in their development process.



As the data provided by the YCK the fact that present 24 groups were formed. Out of 19 groups are of female that have 273 memberships that is 81% of total membership. As per fig no. 1



- The groups are well organised and managed their affairs independently. Meetings are also held on a regular basis and the Minutes Book maintained by a literate member of the group or one of their belongings is promoted to do so.

Division of gender in SHG

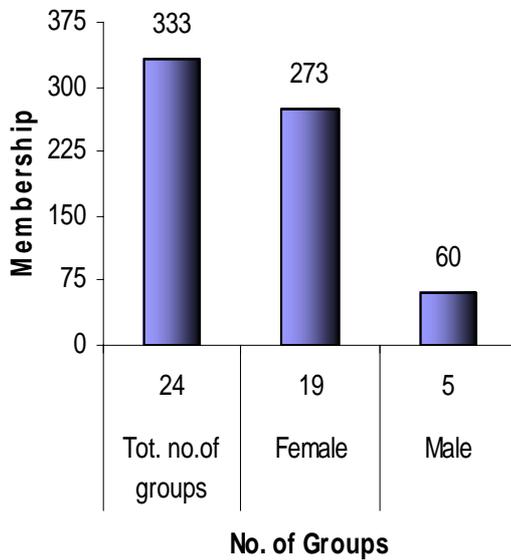


Fig.-1

- The process of saving regularly has been well established. Members in groups having substantial savings and stable lending process are able to reap concrete benefits from the loans generated. In all the groups, women clearly say that they have stopped taking loans from moneylenders. This is a major milestone achieved by YCK.
- The financial management capacity and processes of the group need to be made more rigorous. No single group have CCL facility as yet, primarily due to the Banks' reluctance to recognise the groups. Immediate efforts should be in force in this regard.

- The rules and regulation of the groups in context of financial transactions and rotations should more situations specific and democratic besides, uniformity. Some of separate sheets can be used in books of proceedings.

- The pattern of utilization of the savings is being done more intelligently. As the data suggests 52% of total savings is in rotation, which shows the need of credit. Obviously, a wise step has been taken to have some of the savings among the group for meeting contingency that is 12% and rest of the money is in bank.

Utilization Pattern of savings
Savings (in Rs.)

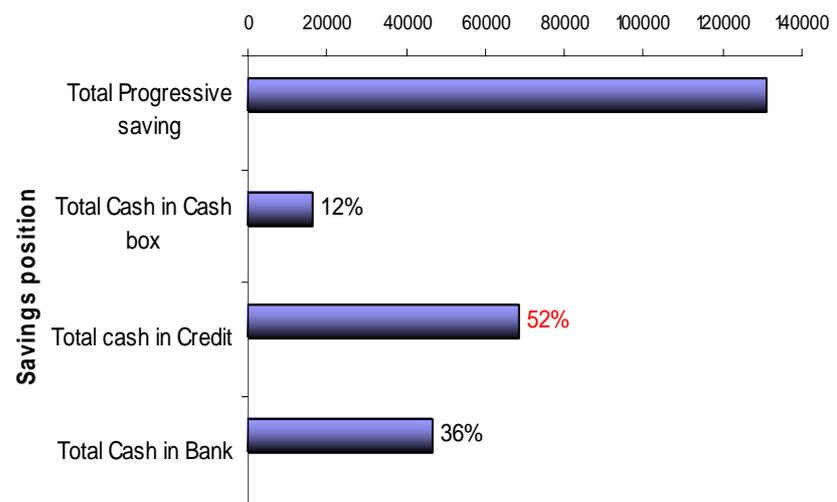
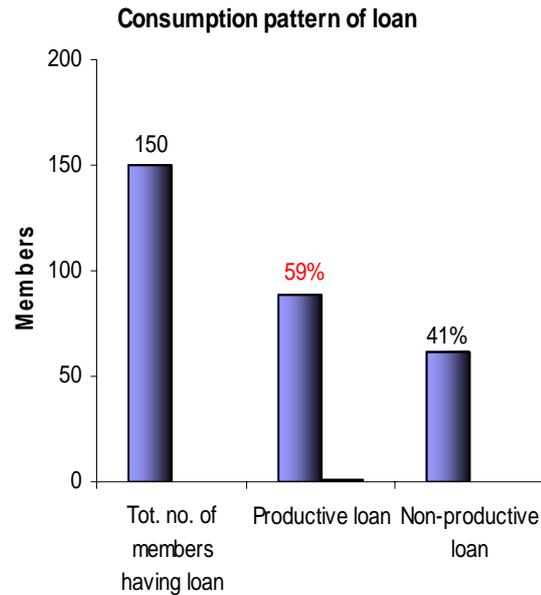


Fig.-2



- Utility of the credits could be visualized with this figure which shows the consumption of loan for productiveness and non-productiveness. The data that provided by the YCK team is clearly indicate 59% credit is utilizing for productive ventures. Generally, in other cases rarely can find so. Some of the studies executed by the Micro-finance institutes are also confirmed that it is serious concern to mobilize and providing path for consuming loan as productive form.



- The loan repayment periods set by the SHGs are comfortable but, not punctually insured. However, an area that needs improvement is credit discipline in groups. The loan repayment ledgers showed outstanding loans, indicating that some of the groups were not effective in ensuring timely repayments. The group norms of penalizing members who delay repayment of instalment are not being enforced strictly. This has lead to gradual acceptance that one can repay loans taken at ones convenience. While social benefits are all pervasive they are not very perceptible. The benefits accruing from credit is more tangible and recognized. This capacity of handling finances would be seriously hampered if the credit discipline were eroded.

Fig.-3

- It is almost rarely find the democratization system of the groups. But, YCK has been introduced the culture of democratic patter of the disbursement of the loan. The figure indicate the fact 23% is strength of office bearers who have been disbursed 22% amount of total loan and 76% is strength of members who have been disbursed 78% of total loan.

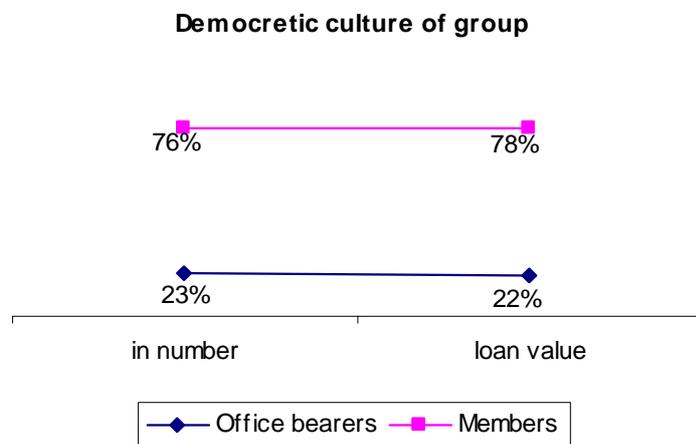


Fig.-4

5.2. Addressing health issues: empowering women

YCK has a good vision to address the rural women’s health issues. The implementing area of YCK where the project is being initiated is at basin of Gorrah river tributary Rapti, that cause to sever flood. The remoteness of the villages is too tough to approach in rainy season. As per villagers saying, there happens no single way to go to out side the village in flood season. At the time of flood all the facilities provided by the government are going to failure. Neither transportation facilities nor health facilities are getting available when needed.



Seeing the circumstances of the areas, YCK planed under the project as per need, evolved to address the maternal health problem of the community. Existing traditional birth attendant that provide services to community, could equipped with the skills and apparatus.

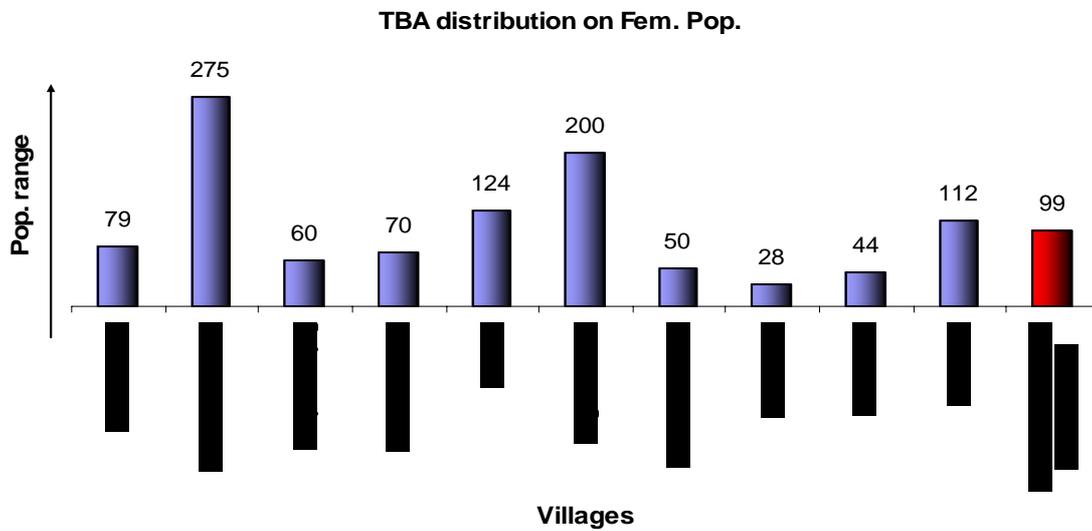


Fig.-5

The effort has been made seriously but, the gap may perhaps not visualize. The data, indicating no attention made on demography. Presently the average come on 1 TBA is on per 99 female populations but, if categorising the TBA presence village wise the figure would go zigzag.

5.3. Federation

- SHG Federations besides providing other social and networking services should begin to focus on promoting certain livelihood sectors among the group members. Federations should engage in sectoral support services depending on the sectoral requirements. The revenue model would vary for each sector. One sector that should be seriously explored is to create a seed producing belt in the area. This would create a competitive edge for the region. Such a foray would ensure larger returns to the farmers who have small land holdings.

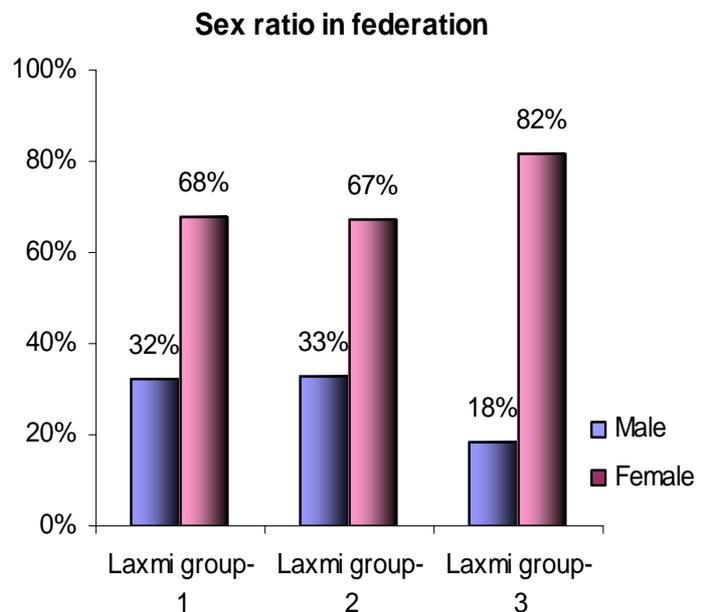


Fig.-6



- YCK team has formed 3 large federations of total membership of 620. Each federation has membership of (1) 154, (2) 246 and (3) 220. One significant and attracting symptom is showing that female participation in federation is going high. It is a symbol of steady empowerment process. It could see through the data, every federation has not less than 65% of women participation.
- The key issue with Federations is their long-term social and financial sustainability. For long term sustainability of Federations it is important they become member centric through providing services to its entire member SHGs. Federations could do a number of things that would add value to members. For instance ensure entitlement realization, engage PRIs to perform effectively, facilitate bank linkages, provide accounting services, and provide livelihood support, all as a paid service. This will force the Federations to become SHG centric. Federations also need to be educated about performance monitoring of SHGs so that there is an early warning system in place giving

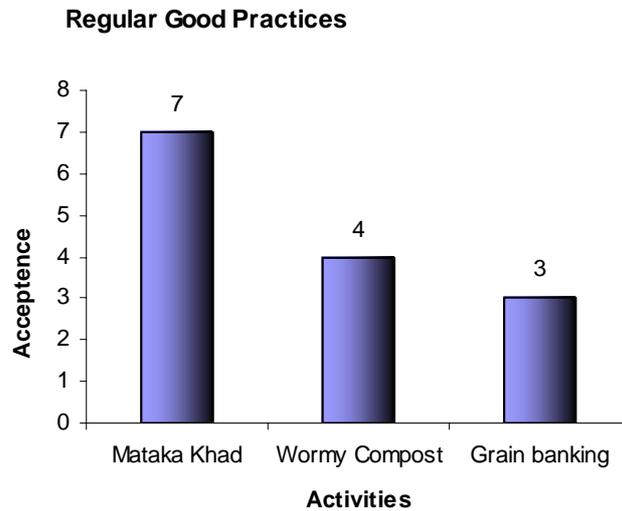


Fig.-7

Federations time to intervene.

- However, these Federations need further support and guidance in breaking new grounds, adding new dimensions to the project and as an agency that can reflect on their work and give feedback periodically. They need support to evolve a service agenda and instituting mechanisms to collect the charges.
- YCK in evolution of organic and low cost farming has initiated a little component of preparing bio-fertilizer; *Mataka Khad and wormy compost*. As per observation made in the field, the acceptance of Mataka Khad is very high. Because of, there is a major problem of stray cattle in summer and *Neel Gaya* in any season. By using Mataka Khad cattle do not graze the crops due to their smell. Such practices should make at large scale and need to make also simply replicable package.
- Wormy composting: This requires biomass including dung, which is available very easily. Besides, earthworms are required to be procured initially. These if looked after carefully multiply rapidly to be used in new pits, increasing the production. The vermi-compost applied to fields regularly, increase the land fertility. Cases have been reported that application of vermi-compost has restored productivity of saline soils.

An aged farmer of village Bhirwan told the effect of wormy compost, without using chemical fertilizer he could get same quantity of grain from the same field. As per his confident he was looking more convinced to change his convention. It will need to co-opt such convinced person as key resource for promoting such ideas and successful model to mass.



5.4. Key resource Person (KRPs)

YCK has well strategy to approach in the villages with help of the Key Resource Person. They are from different filed and discipline as teacher, panchayat members and local doctors. YCK has intervned in 10 gram panchayat of Rudrapur and Barhaj block, here the things is to mark that only 4 teacher , 2 doctors and 23 panchayat members have been involved in process and provided training.

The major lacuna that are seeing the proportionate number of the KRPs. Approximately, in 10gram panchayat 100 members are expected, out of only 23 members are given support by the YCK. It need to broaden the numeric of KRPs. And also have to foresight to choose the intervention specific resource persons.

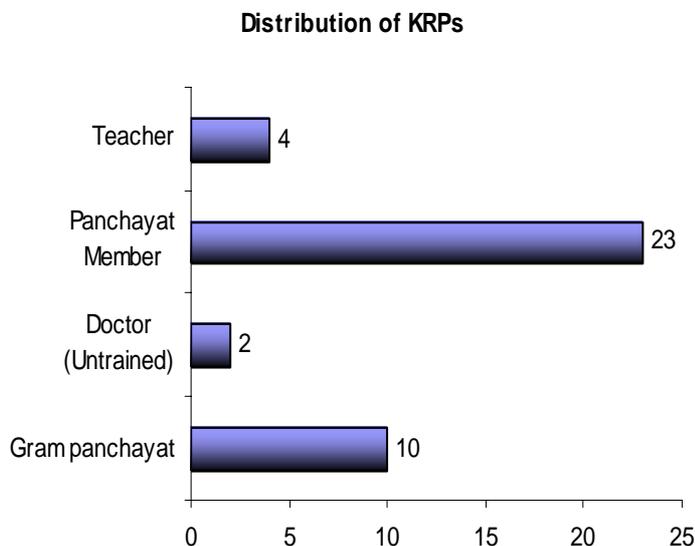


Fig.-8

5.5. Livelihood promotion: sustainable agriculture

In terms of livelihood YCK has initiated and provided to farmers some of skilled trainings; so that they would be capable and could select the ventures as per their resources and skills.

Several trainings those could promote the status of skills and economic value also, are structured by YCK, e.g. vegetable growing seed production, banana farming, mushrooming and crusher operation etc. Could see in fig.-8, there are 9 types of ventures are being promoted out of 5 farm based and 4 of them non-farm based in the view of land holding capacity of the farmers’.

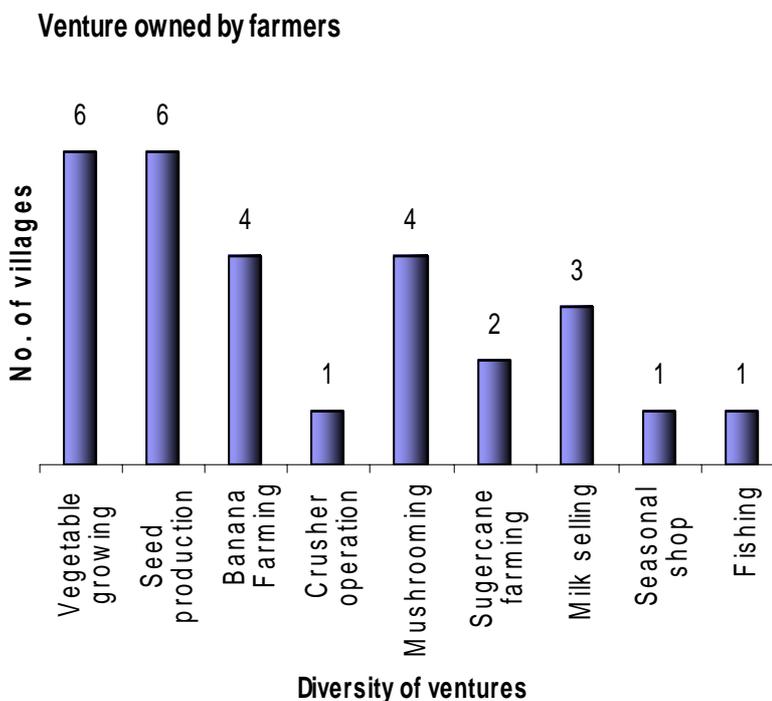


Fig. - 9

The figure that shows vegetable growing and seed

production is being done in 6 villages; the figure no.-9

shows the



strength of farmers and their production value. If categories the ventures in three (a) those are adopted by 6 villages, (b) those are adopted by 4 and 3 villages and the (c) which are adopted by 2 and 1 villages. We could analyze adoption of vegetable growing and seed production is the most ornamental than others. Banana farming, mushrooming and selling milk are more beneficial than fishing, seasonal shop and crusher operation.



There is need to focus what ventures could be easier to adopt and in terms of returns. It also observed during the field visits there is essential to swot up the feasibility of the venture and availability of resources as well as skills.

Secondly, if be analyzed critically; in terms of returns and involvement of members, there are major fissure amidst the form of returns. We could learn from that intervention and improve the livelihood strategies Ref. fig.-9. With no hesitation YCK team can analyze and share the fact of the statistics of the ventures adopted by the farmers or group members.

Analysis of ventures' co-opted by Farmers

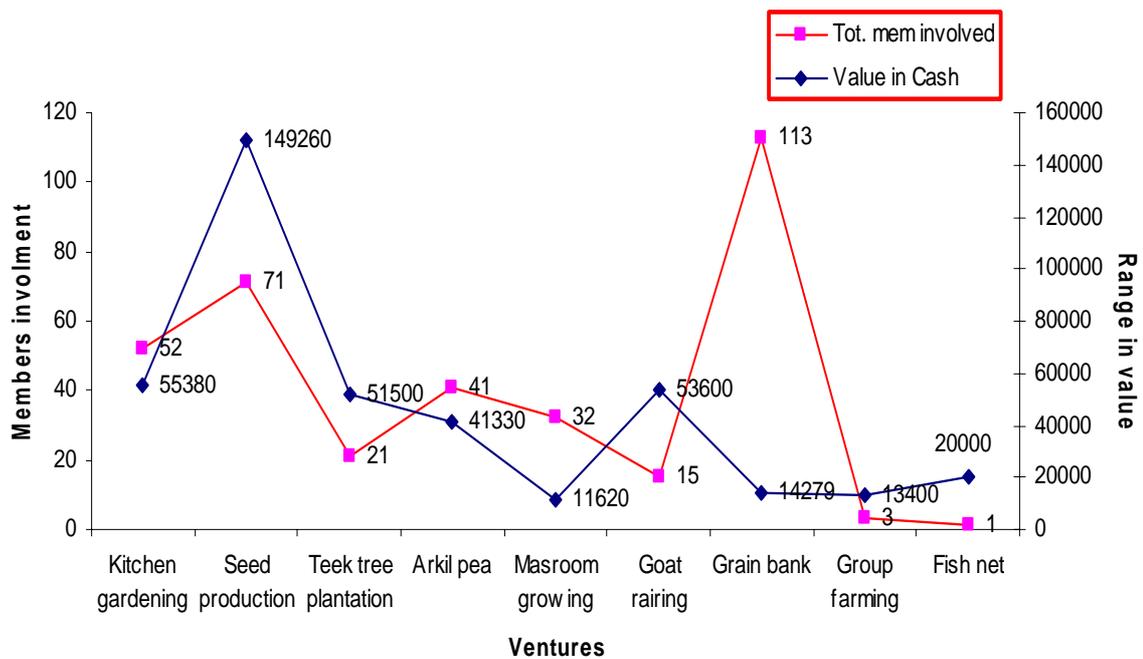


Fig. - 10

All the activity has clearly indicated the impact of interest and benefits. Learning could be drawn from the data, what activities would need of promotion and input in form of skills, assets and capital. Team should not go with fashion, draw authentic need with participation of community and plan for what input would be needed. Also can make a pool of resources what are readily available.





6. Project coverage and cost effectiveness

The outcomes have been achieved in a fairly cost effective and cost efficient way. But the project has so far directly benefited 331 households through its various interventions and another 392 indirectly, and their numbers are more or less still steady for a period of three years. Besides, it is expected that these recurring benefits will go on for number of years before it plateau out. In fact, 7 members of team are organising to provide regular inputs for a last three years. The demographic table that contained population of the areas and project coverage is given below for reference. With reference of table providing by the YCK team total SC population is 25% of the total population of the areas, but the project coverage is 21% of the total population. While, project dose not cover only SC population as the data indicate a mix population of SC and OBC are the beneficiaries of the project.

Total Pop. Project area		Project Coverage		In %	Total Pop. Project area		In %
Male	6369	Male	1353	21%	SC Pop.	3068	25%
Female	5770	Female	1236	21%	OBC Pop	7614	63%
Total	12139	Total	2589	21%	Others. Pop	1457	12%

Sex ratio/1000 male = 906

It will need to have focus on balance of gender as well as equity and equality, along with sex ratio by the project team. Matrixes of distribution of the responsibilities are given, that shows a injustice sign of the project that compel to think the capability of staff and effectiveness of the planning vis-à-vis cost effectiveness.

Directly benefited HHs.	331
Total project team	7 members
Total period gone	3 years
Household per staff	47
Household per staff per year	16
Household per staff per month	1

It shows a poor performance of the project. There is need to revise the implementation planning of the envisaged project. So that success of the project could be replicated in the mass.

7. Recommendations and Road Ahead

7.1. Federations – Functions and Sustainability

The key issue with Federations is their long-term social and financial sustainability. At present the Federation leaders are bearing minor expenses on their own to provide help to the members. However, they would not be able to do this for long. There is need to arrive at a revenue model which is membership centric sans which YCK is encouraging up-loading of savings in the Federations to be given out on interest and income generation activity to meet the regular expenses.

For long-term sustainability of Federations it is important they become member centric. Federations could do a number of things that would add value to members. Some suggestions are given below:



- a. Ensuring entitlement realization: The government has number of schemes to which poor are entitled. These never get to reach the most backward and deserving Dalits. Armed with the Right to Information (RTI) Act, the Federations should take up entitlement issues of its members, after carrying out entitlement profiling.
- b. *Pradhan* to ensure things are done properly and two, encouraging its members to stand in PRI elections and occupy local governance space.
- c. Facilitating bank linkage: SHG leaders with greater awareness and prowess would be able to negotiate with the banks for linkage for accessing higher credit for the members.
- d. Providing livelihood support: This is discussed in 'Livelihoods' section that follows.

Should the Federation provide such services to the member SHGs, they would be ready to part with some of their interest income generated from internal loaning. This amount can be substantial.

7.2. Capacity building for knowledge management and replication

YCK should develop a centre of knowledge management. It should be visualized as a semi-independent unit that provides support and services to various stakeholders in community based micro credit and livelihood sector. It should provide information and documentation service, including training, thematic research, advisory and consultancy services, and emerge as a forum for knowledge sharing and advocacy policy and practice changes.

YCK should also facilitate creation of a network of different stakeholders in the region specifically various NGOs in the area and lead the same for replication of successes. It should also take up the issue of developing capacities of various stakeholders as also provide leadership to the group.

7.3. Replication and expansion in analogous region

About 40% of the area is flood prone, adding to the misery of people. Due to flood & water logging the poor section is forced to migrate for their livelihood, so migration is historically a very significant phenomenon of this area. It provides migratory labour to all possible destinations in India from Punjab, to Gujarat, to Mumbai in the West, to Kolkata and Assam (up till border) in the East.

Due to migration people are suffering in every way. The situation of women is particularly bad, having all the ills associated with male migration. Besides the high workload on women, defenseless, they are exploited by higher caste people. The elementary education is effected in a bad way and the children drop out rate is high. Linked to the migration, the region is reporting increasing cases of HIV-AIDS. It could have a dubious distinction of becoming an AIDS capital if things are not checked in time.

Ironically, the region is very rich in natural resources and was once a cradle of civilization. With deep fertile soils and plenty of water it is ideal for agriculture, aqua cropping/culture and agriculture allied livelihood activities. It has wherewithal to become prosperous.



YCK operational area falls roughly in the middle-east of the region on the UP side. The issues it is tackling are typical of the area – gender and caste discrimination, poverty, floods and water logging, and lack of livelihood opportunities. YCK should be encouraged to widen its canvass of operation and strategise to develop community and livelihood systems for the entire region.

Nevertheless, team efforts has been recognised by communities and approving environment is been geared up. Activities like awareness campaign on Panchayat Election and agro based has been got a status of acceptance as high.

It is seen in the field Wormy composting has been achieved much popularity in the community and out of project area to boot. An ARKIL pea was being a unique intervention as perceived by the community.

7.4. Incorporating some new dimension

- YCK should form a campaign group as a part of federation for insuring the irrigation system for farming. In view of natural resource management a water management plan should be initiated by the YCK. Because of plenty of water goes waste in monsoon season and after could not find a drop for cattle. GORRA River is floating near the area but no system has been evolved to leach out the irrigation water from the river.
- Need to revise the package of disaster management and foolproof community based mechanism should be develop by the YCK. Incorporating livelihoods, health, social security, livestock management and structural management also.
- Searching and promotion of Key Resource Person (KRPs) is may be critical for progression of the project. They should a good conductor of the project theme, but selection of KRPs is a skilled task that should be done logically and basis of need of the project.
- Account management of the groups is moderately weak that need rigor support by the team to account book keeper. There is also need to functionalize the SHGs as self regulated and self managed.
- As observed in the field the bio-fertilizer have made space of acceptance. YCK should plan for mass replication on the target based. Now focus should be on quantity.
- A good practice is being performed by the group members named “kitchen gardening” .It is really would be model for demo. Need to practises more focus and factually proved.
- CASA should provide opportunity to approach and strategise multi disaster coping mechanism.
- As per scenario of the project area as long as could see, mostly families are having hut that is more prone to fire. That needs a replacement plan. YCK has well experienced that would do a common gathering with CASA person, local Panchayat and district development authorities. So that a concrete replacement plan would be evolve.



- It is felt that more attention is needed to involve actively panchayat members in projects' activities process. A target orientated plan should be adhering to mobilize the panchayat as resource.
- Community should provided an opportunity to share their initiatives taken with support of YCK to government functionaries and could share plane to seek support of govt. lead programme. Interface camps are be more effective to mobilize resources and opportunities to community.
- YCK team has to seek managerial support in documentation and info system. Need to evolve a self appraisal system so that development could be measure time to time. Exposure can provide wider scope of knowledge and skills.

8. CONCLUSION

The opportunity provided by CASA to YCK is essentially appreciable in terms of the liberty to think and designing of the project frame and implementation. Like such project; a great scope of innovation and learning are obtained. But it is suffered during discussions with YCK team that some crouches are in the project. It may be limitations of the project or short sighted course of the project. A need come out during discussion in field and at desk both that a long term approach should be initiated. So, sketch could be transform in live at ground.

Little but serious efforts has been made which has need to be added value to make some conceptual and infrastructural modifications, e.g. *grain bank, organic manure, kitchen gardening, group farming* and others missing livelihood ventures could be explore and get modified.

Capacities building of different stakeholders of the project area may perceived as more effective tool to make community self-reliant. Need assessment for capacity building would be a great task to identify the mode and form for intervening. Although YCK has strength in capacity building and agricultural based livelihood ventures. Such project like facilitation for development and getting changes in community's behaviour and practices seek more sensitive and rigor efforts.

The development investment by CASA in YCK is very well spent. YCK has initiated a number of good practices initially in the region. In terms of coverage it is not the biggest non-government entity in the area but a reputed and honest endeavour having initiated for providing concrete and tangible benefits to the poor households while targeting women empowerment. Having come up with practical and working models it is now positioned to expand its circle of influence to the entire flood affected Tarai region. This endeavour should be taken forward. CASA support would be a good investment for one of the most backward regions in the country.