



2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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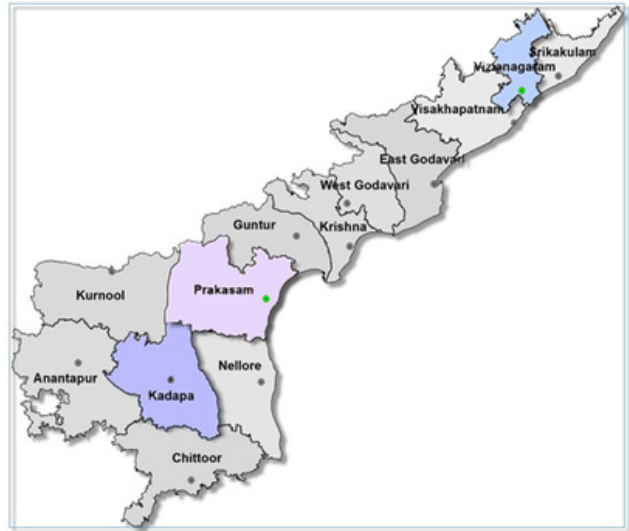
Our Story So Far

Our Philosophy

REEDS has always believed that right kind of collective leadership plays an important role in mobilizing the local resources for the betterment of all the stakeholders in development. To enable people work towards improvement of their own environment and economic situation through mutual cooperation and put it in practice.

REEDS started working in Andra Pradesh with the same philosophy in 1992 with following objectives -

- To conduct research and educate people about changing global environment and conservation of resources for future generations.
- To mobilize people to realize themselves, through practical methods that they can look after their basic economic needs through collective efforts.
- To find out ways and means for stopping migrations of land less, small and marginal farmers to the Cities.
- To promote forestation to meet the local needs.
- To make education accessible to all according to their time convenience.
- To make health as a community movement.
- To mobilize and educate women and make them as partners of development.
- To organize women, youth and men to fight against social evils
- To mobilize people to utilize Govt. infrastructure.
- To promote rural skills.



Area of operation: Salur, Makkuva and Pachipenta mandals of Vizianagaram district, Giddalur, Racherla, B. Peta, Komarole, Ardhaveedu, Cumbum, Pedda Araveedu, Tarlupadu, Pullalacheruvu, Y. palem, Tripuranthakam Mandals of Prakasam Dt .A.P. Atlur, Badvel and Gopavaram Mandals of Kadapa District in A.P. Kodangal, Bomraspeta Vikarabad mandal, Dharur and Yalal Mandals of Vikarabad district and saidabad mandal of Hyderabad district in Telangana State.

**In 2019, REEDS
upscaled its work in
Maharashtra with the
help of Yojak who
believed in similar
philosophy.**

A vertical photograph of a lush tropical forest scene. The foreground is filled with large, vibrant green palm fronds and other tropical foliage. The ground is covered in fallen brown leaves and debris. The background shows more dense greenery and a glimpse of a white structure, possibly a tent or canopy, partially visible through the trees.

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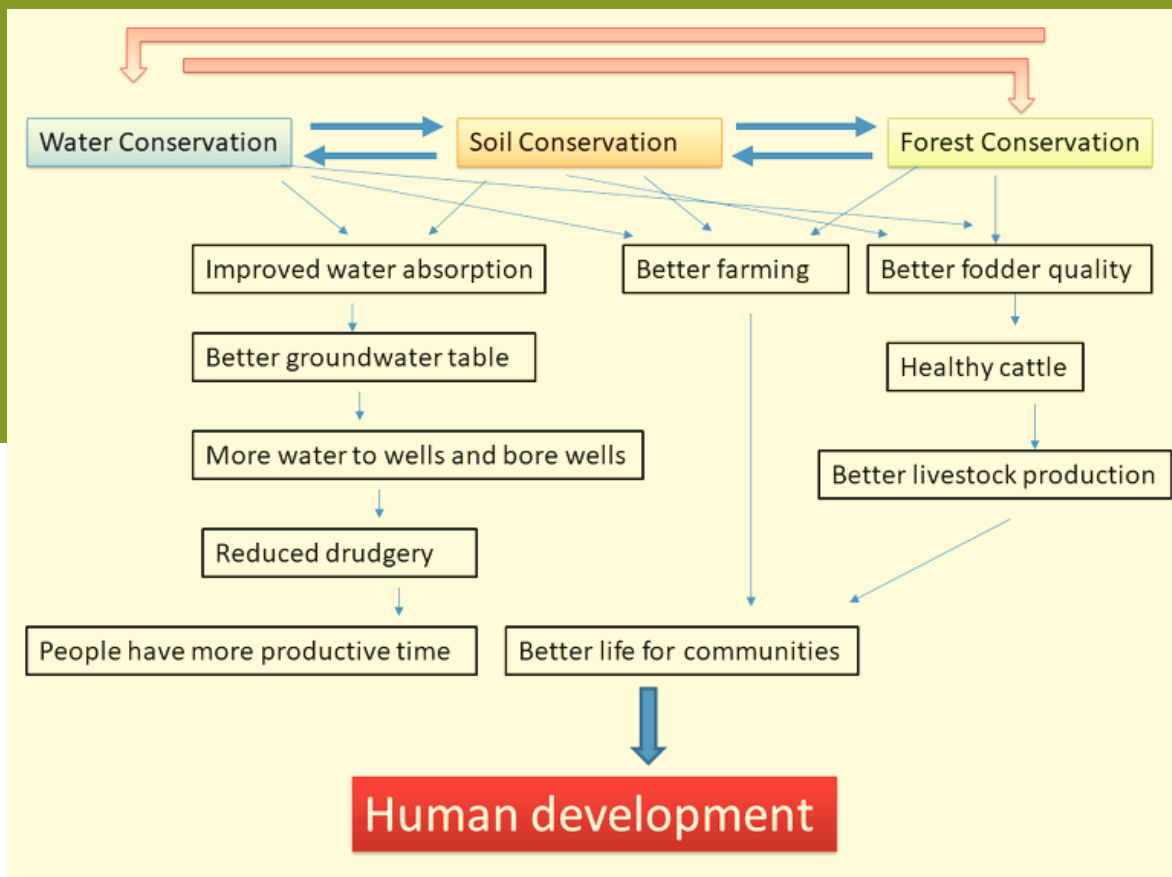


CONCERN

- The development philosophy that Bharat adopted as a nation in the post-independence era, was consumeristic. It envisioned citizens as 'consumers'. It gave solutions to certain issues such as food scarcity and hunger in a very short span of time but also gave rise to some very critical problems like rapid and heavy degradation of natural resources such as "Jal (water), Jameen (Land/Soil), Jungle (Forest).

As it can be seen from the figure, working on each of the resources would show collective and larger results. Thus REEDS believes in following strategies:

- Strengthening the natural resources (Jal, Jungle, Jameen and in turn Janawar and Jan)
- People's involvement from the beginning and at all stages
- Collaborative decision making
- Leveraging the existing government set-up/schemes to maximum advantage



JAL (WATER)

Vanrai Bandhara

Vanarai bandhara or Bunds are constructed across a stream or small river using gunny bags refilled with locally available soil or sand. These bags are sealed properly and are arranged in the form of a wall-barrier. This is a temporary structure built across water course to collect the water as well as to reduce the velocity of stream so that infiltration rate of water increases. It helps in replenishing the aquifer below the river bed resulting in increase in ground water level in the surrounding area.

REEDS promotes these structures as it is easy to build by voluntary work and doesn't need a lot of outside intervention.

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Bori Bandhara

Jalkund

A micro rain-harvesting technology suitable for providing climate resilience and improving livelihoods of small and marginal farmers. **REEDS started doing pilots of these in 2021. In the early 2021, 4 participants were selected, after seeing the results, it was decided to upscale to 30 Jalkund. Funding approved by TUV through their CSR initiative.** People started cultivating their vegetable garden using the water stored in these Jalkunds. This water could also be used for cattle in the dry summers.

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Jalkund

CCT

Ragatvihir has been active since 2015 with Madhya Bharat Vananchal Samruddhi Yojana, a brain child of Yojak. **REEDS was taken on board as a knowledge partner after suggestion by Yojak in 2019.** Though it was immediately followed by a pandemic period, REEDS could do a lot in Ragatvihir through an active team of "Gram Samiti". One of which is building CNBs (Cement Nala Bunds) at Ragatvihir through a CSR funding. One such CNB was also built in Koswan too.

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CNB

JUNGLE (FOREST)

COMMUNITY FOREST RIGHT

The Forest Rights Act, 2006, gives Gram Sabhas the right to protect, regenerate, conserve and manage any forest resources used by the entire community or village which they have been traditionally protecting and conserving for sustainable use. **REEDS was instrumental in helping people to get their community forest rights in all the PSS.**

VANDHAN VIKAS KENDRA

initiative targeting livelihood generation for tribal population by harnessing the wealth of forest i.e. Van Dhan. The importance of MFPs for this section of the society can be gauged from the fact that around 100 million forest dwellers depend on MFPs for food, shelter, medicines and cash income. It provides them critical subsistence during the lean seasons, particularly for primitive tribal groups such as hunter gatherers, and the landless. Tribals derive 20-40% of their annual income from MFP on which they spend major portion of their time.

Taking full benefit of the initiative, Van Dhan Vikas Kendra of Ragatvihir constituted under the guidance and support of REEDS performed an historical activity at the village. The bamboo harvested by the farmers from the forests of Ragatvihit were sold by Van Dhan Kendra and not the forest department. Between June to August 2021, the village could gain close to 32 laks. The laborers were paid well and Rs. 8laks were earned as profits.

It wasn't an easy job though, officers from the forest department were in complete denial of the rights of the villagers on the MFPs. It was a struggle to continue against them.

JAMIN (SOIL)

Ill practices such as excessive use of chemical fertilisers, non-thoughtful watering techniques have made soil suffer to a huge extent. REEDS makes people aware and guides them for better agriculture and soil related practices.

More organics

Use of organic materials like “rakh” - Ash from wood fires, such as bonfires or wood burning stoves, can be a useful additive to the compost heap or can be applied directly to fallow ground and dug in. It can be a natural source of potassium and trace elements.

waste decomposer - National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF) has developed a waste decomposer culture which is used for quick composting from organic waste, soil health improvement and as plant protection agent. It is a consortium of micro-organism extracted from desi cow dung.

Melghat and Molgi PSS are actively engaged in doing these experiments.

Vermicompost

Vermicompost enhances plant growth, suppresses disease in plants, increases porosity and microbial activity in soil, and improves water retention and aeration. **REEDS has started its vermicompost plants this year in Nashik cluster.**

Micro - irrigation techniques

Micro or drip irrigation provides water to growing plants at a very small rates, wetting relatively small soil volumes. Properly designed and operated drip systems produce neither erosion nor run off. **Jalkund based irrigation systems, rain pipes are some of the techniques that REEDS started implementing this year in Melghat and Molgi.**

JANAWAR (ANIMAL)

Vaccinations

cattle are real wealth of the farmers. A huge no. of animals die every year during epidemic which result in a great loss of the farmers. Hence cattle vaccinations are of higher importance in villages.

REEDS was proactive in April 2021 for the vaccinations in Molgi. The PSS was following up rigorously with the government departments for timely vaccinations.

More than 500 animals got vaccinated in and around Molgi because of this initiative.

Experiments in Backyard Poultry

Poultry was promoted as a supportive livelihood option in some of the PSS. Support for birds were given to the participating farmers from Melghat and Nashik cluster. The participant farmers were supposed to make arrangements for feeds and shelter.

In the initial phase, the mortality was high. Many birds died due reasons such as long distance travel, shock due to sudden change in environment. Some of the participant farmers could overcome the losses due to the mortality and did better after the learnings.

There are only a couple of success stories from this initiative. A better, modified version of the Backyard Poultry project would be implemented in 2022-23.

JAN (PEOPLE)

Parisar Seva Samiti Strengthening

The people from Parisar Seva Samiti are the backbone of REEDS work at villages. The carefully selected people lead the whole program. REEDS has to do a timely orientation for each project.

REEDS does a thorough handholding of the PSS from time to time. People need encouragement, a little push, proper direction and exposure depending upon the stages of the development process. REEDS skillfully performs all the required roles as and when required.

Nashik cluster PSS were pushed to do a retrospection. They were facing stagnation.

Reformation was done for Melghat PSS this year as post Covid, the old members were not active.

A lot of exposure, hand holding was done for Molgi PSS as the members were active and many projects were getting momentum.

MGNrega

MGNrega has been a flagship project for REEDS in the year 2021-22. People were encouraged to begin the process of MGNrega in most of the PSS. Molgi and Ragatvahir PSS were super-active and did benefit from the efforts.

A couple of works started and completed in Ragatvahir. But real star was Molgi. Molgi MGNrega project got funding from PwC in November 2021 but even before that the team was active for creating awareness about nrega works.

Many people came ahead and filled in form no.4 demanding the works before March 2022.



Vanrai Bandhara at Molgi



Backyard poultry training



Training of MGNrega at Molgi



CNB at Ragatvihir, Nashik



Jalkund



Poultry partner Sunwabai



Micro Irrigation systems



Mgnrega meetings and forms filling



Bamboo harvesting and selling through VDKV at Ragatvihir, Nashik



Meeting about improved seeds usage



Cattles vaccinations