

ANISHA ANNUAL REPORT 2015



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1. Introduction:

In 2015, we worked both at the field level and at ANISHA resource center. At the field level we continued the earlier activities on organic farming with 220 farmers and develop the resource center, mainly focused on seed multiplication and re-forestation. This year the monsoon started in time and the sowing activities took in place in time. However there was untimely rain due to this the crop growth is not as we expected and the yield also affected. The dry land farmers this year too lost the crops, and the wetland farmers who had bore wells and wells they could able to grow crops. The bore wells and wells are recharged and if we get good monsoon in 2016 the underground water resource in this region will improve. Anisha's activities went along with the farmers and farmers are doing organic farming without much Anisha's intervention.

2. Organic Farming

Organic farming: Our 220 farmers are continuing the organic farming; most of the farmers are having their own seeds, improved the farmyard manure and timely prepare the fertilizers and pesticides etc.

Periodically, we are discussing about updates of organic farming, nutrients, fertilisers and pesticide preparation with the farmers. These preparations are prepared by themselves and it has reduced the farm expenses. As most of the materials like seeds and compost are having with themselves so they could able to do the farm activities in time and Anisha monitor's on regular basis.

Kitchen Garden with landless families: The 375 kitchen garden families growing vegetables, in the first season of March they had sown snake guard, brinjal, tomato, greens, ladies finger etc. In second season in June/July they have sown 10-12 varieties of vegetable seeds like field beans, pumpkin, bottle guard, sponge guard, greens, brinjal, tomato, beans, chili, ladies finger, moringa, bitter guard, butter sponge guard and radish etc. Every family have consumed 80 - 180 kg of vegetables for 9 months.

And some of the families sold excess pumpkin during the festival time in January got an extra income of Rs. 200-300/- in total 375 families grown 20,646 kg and saved approximately Rs. 562005 in 9 months.

**Quantity of vegetables grown by 375 families and money saved
for 9 months on vegetables in 2015**

	Vegetable varieties	Qty of vegetables grown (K.gs)	Cost of vegetables per kg (INR)	Money saved (INR)
1	Greens	900	15	13500
2	French bean	1002	25	25050
3	Radish	1200	15	18000
4	Brinjal	1705	30	51150
5	Beans	180	60	10800
6	Ladies finger	1100	30	33000
7	Chili	1350	50	67500
8	Field bean	1920	40	76800
9	Moringa	160	20	3200
10	Snake gourd	2450	30	73500
11	Sponge gourd	1952	30	58560
12	Bitter gourd	1323	30	39690
13	Bottle gourd	1604	20	32080
14	Butter sponge gourd	435	20	8700
15	Pumpkin	1800	15	27000
16	Tomato	1565	15	23475
	Total	20646		562005

Kitchen Garden with Tribal communities: This year we have extended the kitchen garden program with three more tribal villages (Nalroad, Elachikare & Konekare). Our target was 50 families in two villages Nalroad and Elachikare, however it increased during implementation stage with another 80 families of neighboring village who showed interested in kitchen garden i.e. Konekare. Again we did 80 household surveys and followed by orientation, seed distributed and trainings for these 80 families.

We got good response from these communities and during the end of the season when we were getting feedback from the families, they expressed that they will continue the kitchen garden and feel happy to cook and have fresh vegetables from their garden.

130 families generated 3036.75 kgs of vegetables for three months and Rs.64443.8 cost of vegetables generated. See the below table for details.



Training to tribal communities on kitchen garden

Quantity of vegetables grown by 130 tribal families and money saved for three months on vegetables in 2015

	Vegetable varieties	Quantity of vegetables grown in K.gs	Cost of vegetables per kg in (INR)	Money saved in (INR)
1	Radish	482	15	7230
2	Ladies finger	293.75	30	8812.5
3	French bean	277.25	25	6931.25
4	Tomato	326	15	4890
5	Creeper bean	87.75	30	2632.5
6	Greens	247	15	3705
7	Sponge gourd	528	30	15840
8	Bottle gourd	266	20	5320
9	Pumpkin	463.5	15	6952.5
10	Field bean	16.5	40	660
11	Beetroot	1.5	30	45
12	Bitter gourd	47.5	30	1,425
	Total	3036.75		64443.8

		
Radish & greens	Ash powder is applied to brinjal plants to control pest	Creeper sponge guard

Reforestation in tribal communities: The main aim of reforestation is that to increase the trees in this region. 20 years back there was good rain and more trees existed in the forest and in the farms. Gradually, the trees were cut down both in the forest and in the farms so it affected the rainfall in the region. Earlier there was 900 mm rainfall annually on an average, now we are getting less than 300 mm rainfall since three years. So Anisha thought that if we plant more trees the rain fall may increase in future. Initially Anisha distributed 300 plants for 130 families and they have prepared the pit and put fencing to protect from goats and cows. Then we distributed the trees including fruits plants like mango, sapota, lemon, pomegranate and amala. We were very happy to see some of families have put huge fencing to safeguard the plants from cow and goats.

		
Plants distributing	Taking home	Fencing to plants

Self Help Groups: The Self Help groups are continuing their activities like savings and credit, Anisha is monitoring the minutes and account books ones in 15 days. Few sangha's still takes ANISHA's support to run the sangha meetings. The sangha members are using the revolving money. So far all the investments are doubled and increased in numbers and the beneficiaries are happy.

Seed Bank and seed multiplication: It is one of the major activities of ANISHA, is to preserve the native seeds at present Anisha seed bank has 251 varieties of seeds. During the year our target was to multiply 100 varieties of seeds, but we multiplied 122 varieties like ragi 59 varieties, vegetables 47 varieties and 16 dry land paddy's varieties. We used one acre of land each plot measuring 18 sq ft and used 20 grams of seeds for each plot/variety and in boarder's pigeon pea, field bean, maize and castor. After sowing there was no sufficient rainfall and it affected the germination as well as growth. We collected from each variety 200 - 250 grams quality seeds. During the harvest time there was heavy rain so it affected the grains; however we got less quantity seeds from seed multiplication plots. Only 8 dry land paddy varieties seeds we got out of 16 varieties remaining varieties did not germinate due to less rainfall. (See Annex - 1 for list of seeds multiplied)

	
Marking plots for Seed multiplication	Seed multiplication plots

Farmers Contribution: 52 farmers and self help group members contributed one day labor and provided 6 tractor load of farmyard manure to Anisha in return to Anisha's support to them.



Farmers contribution to Anisha

ANISHA Trade mark: Anisha applied for trade mark for 'Anisha' in this process we received a letter from Trade Marks Registry, Government of India, it is in the process.

3. Government scheme:

Farm pond: A farm pond was constructed at Anisha resource center for conserving rain water, measuring 15*15 meters, with the support from agriculture department. We have invested Rs.25000/- for farm pond tarpaulin, 30 sprinklers pipes and 5 hp diesel engine, all these we got for subsidized prize from the agriculture department. For digging pond the government gave full amount but Anisha invested some money to put retain wall around the farm pond.

We gave information to many farmers on farm pond; however three farmers came forward and construct farm ponds from our motivation. Along with this farmers benefited tarpaulin and chargeable sprayer from the agriculture department on subsidy. Anisha has good report with agriculture department and getting information and benefits as much as possible to farmers.



Farm pond for rainwater harvesting in Anisha RC

4. Children program:

Educational support program: During the academic year Anisha supported 50 children to continue their education these children are studying in private schools from 8-10th std by providing school fees, uniforms, shoe, shocks, books, school bags etc. We also conducted weekly classes for 15 children who are very weak in language. After few weeks we made house visits to get the feedback from parents about their children study and got positive results.



School bag distribution

Another 15 children was supported by SD Norway exclusively for dalit children, for these children Anisha paid for school fees, uniforms, bags, books etc.

Case study

1. Ajith, I am studying in 10th std at St.Anthony's High school, Sandanapalya and live in Suluvadi Kotapodhai Village. I have one sister and one brother, my father Settu works in Tamil Nadu as a coolie in mines and earns daily Rs.300/- food and accommodation is provided by the contractor at the site, ones in four months he comes home. My mother works as farm labour and earn Rs.150 per day during agriculture season and non agricultural season no work, she looks after the family and we all are living with my grandmother. With the income from my mother the family is maintained. The living conditions in the mines are very poor because the workers are staying in the temporary sheds and no proper drinking water and no safety, so often my father falls sick and during those days he is not paid.

Headmaster's opinion - Ajith was good in studies but due to his father's ill health he was irregular to schools and joins his mother for work to support the family. This was identified by the school teacher and approached Anisha to support Ajith to continue education otherwise he will discontinue studies. In this situation ANISHA supported Ajith by paying school fees, uniforms, books etc. At present he is happy and concentrating on studies and also the school headmaster updates Ajith's improvement in studies.

Summer camp: In the month of May two day's residential camp was conducted for these children on Human Rights, 46 children attended the camp. The Human Rights Activist was the resource person conducted two days camp on human rights, child rights, shown the documentary film on manual scavengers etc. The session was more on group discussion and presentation in which the children participated fully.



Resource person explaining to children on child rights by using charts

Educational Tour: An educational tour was organized for Bandipur national park. The children were very happy and enjoyed seeing the wild animals like elephant with baby, lots of deer's, snakes, wild borer etc. and also saw the museum. The children expressed this is the first time they visited the national park and again in future they may not get chance to visit the park.





Educational tour to Bandipur National Park

5. Resource Center development & maintenance of infrastructure:

This year we concentrated more on RC development for future sustainability of project. Accordingly we planted 398 fruits and wood plants and given drip connection to all the plants. Some plants growth is very fast like nuts and some is very slow. So ones in 15 days the growth promoter are supplied to plants and mulching by using the farm waste to retaining moisture. The plants are monitored on regular basis. Due to summer now on alternative days water is supplied to plants. Out of 398 plants at present 324 plants survived.

In the plantation plots we sown peanuts, pigeon pea and field bean we got 4 gunny bags of peanuts and 40 k.g. of pulses. Until the plants grow height, we can cultivate crops in these plots.

List of plants planted in RC in 2015

SL No.	Name of the plants	No. of plants planted	No. of plants survived
1.	Lemon (native)	50	45
2.	5 Mango varieties	75	68
3.	Chickoo	75	72
4.	Fig	1	1
5.	Guava red	5	2
6.	Guava white	5	4
7.	Nuts	5	5
8.	Wood	100	74
9.	Fashion fruit	1	1
10.	Cherry	2	2
11.	Promo granite	25	22
12.	Lemon	2	2
13.	Amala	10	10
14.	Jamun fruit	1	1
15.	Clove	4	2
16.	Red sandalwood	25	10
17.	Jack fruit	10	3
	TOTAL	398	324

RC Plantation



RC maintenance: RC land, solar panels & batteries, solar fencing, two bore wells, buildings, cows, vehicles, water pumping motors etc are well maintained regularly. Twice the bore well motors got repaired and the solar fencing was cleaned during the rainy season.

6. Award to Anisha: In 2015 Anisha received two awards

1. The Women's World Summit Foundation based in Geneva, Switzerland, and honored Anisha by awarding their WWSF Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life for 2015 to Ms. Valliammal Rajan Palaniyappan along with several other recipients. On October 15, 2015, Valli was awarded this certificate on the International Day of Rural Women. The award was given for her outstanding work as a committed community leader and teacher in her local rural area of India. Along with certificate cash prize of 1000 USD received by Anisha. This award function was organized in the region by St. Charles Rural High school and gave the award to Valli, as a remembrance of the award valli distributed 500 lemon plants to the participants.



Church priest and Teachers association honoring valli

Valli distributing lemon plants to guest, children & community

2. Susila Dharma - Soziale Dienste e.V. (SD) has won a German Federal Environmental Foundation (DBU) competition - 'Valuing Soil' - for its support of the Anisha Foundation, which does valuable work in organic agriculture and seed and soil conservation. On December 8th 2015 Laura Verbeek, a board member of SD, received the prize of 5,000 €. 19 'lighthouse projects' were nominated by a jury from a total of nearly 160 applications.



Laura Verbeek being handed over the prize (© DBU/Michael Münch) and of the certificate itself that SD Germany received (© Susila Dharma - Soziale Dienste).

6. Conclusion

During the reporting year Anisha could able to do more work with limited resource. We concentrated more on development of resource center like plantation, installing drip irrigation, conserving and multiplying native seeds,

develop the land, construction of farm pond etc. At the field we monitored the 220 farmers and 375 kitchen garden beneficiaries. And the kitchen garden program was extended to 3 tribal villages covering 130 families, it was very effective program. The educational support program was well benefiting the children of small and marginal farmers and dalit families. However we had funds constrain for agricultural activities, with limited funds we could able to achieve our target. In 2015 we got good rainfall unfortunately it was untimely rainfall, but the good news is many bore wells and wells are recharged and if the rainfall continues in 2016 we may not have much water scarcity in 2016.

In 2015, Anisha's received two international awards for her work, which motivated Anisha team to work more and also felt satisfaction for their work.

Our sincerely thanks to Helmer's family, SD Norway, SD USA, SD Germany, SDIA for supporting Anisha to do these activities.

Supports from SD's and Individuals

- January to December 2015 for follow up programs of Organic farming it is supported by SDIA (for Personnel salary and administration)
- RC Reforestation & expansion of kitchen garden program for 50 tribal families supported by Helmer's Family
- Children educational support program (50 children) supported by SD USA
- Children Educational support program for 15 dalit children supported by SD Norway.
- Permaculture project proposal submitted to SD Australia and we received part of the budget, so we did not take up this project for 2015. In 2016 we take up this project.



Thank You