

Annual Report 2018 - 19

Council For Rural Enlightenment

Arikalavari Palli, Egavoor Post
Bhakarapet – 517 194
Chittoor Dist, A.P

Ph: 9866656822/9985590115

Email:

cre_bkrt@yahoo.com/cre.chandra@gmail.com

COUNCIL FOR RURAL ENLIGHTMENT (CRE)

Annual Report 2018-19

Council for Rural Enlightenment (CRE) is a registered non governmental organization. It has registered under Societies Registration Act 1860 with registration number is 394 of 1994. The CRE had completed two decades of service for the service of society particularly for the benefit of small & marginal farmers, agricultural laborers, children and youth in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh.

Distinct board of directors: The CRE has distinct board of directors with multi specialized persons in the areas of Natural resource Management, Organic farming, Farmer Producer Organizations, climate resilience agricultural production systems etc. Present board members are:

Name	Position	Education	Experience In RD Activities
1. C. Chandrasekhar Reddy	President	BA	20 years
2. R. Dineshkumar	Vice president	B.Sc (Hort.cul)	18 years
3. Dr.S. Prahaladaiah	Secretary	M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D	19 years
4. Sarada	Treasurer	M.A	7years
5. S. Mohan	E.C. Member	B.A.	9 years
6. K.V.Ramana	E.C. Member	B.Com.	21 years
7. C. Hemalatha	E.C. Member	BA	6 years

Objectives of the organization:

The CRE has been working with the following objectives:

- To empower the of women on financial management and social activates
- To empower the farmers on promotion of organic farming and sustainable agricultural practices
- To empower the villagers on Water and sanitation program
- To lake up various developmental programs for the benefit of labour communities
- To create awareness on environment to maintain the ecological balance
- To support to Youth to taken up various skill development programs and create self employment

- To taken up programs on promoting of child rights
- To take up various activities for promotion of sustainable livelihoods for the poor

Major areas of work: The CRE has been working with the following thematic areas

- Climate resilience Agricultural development
- Organic farming with value chain development
- Natural Resource Management with special focus of soil and water conservations, rain water harvesting
- Dairy development
- Skill development for women and youth for self employment
- Farmer Producer Organizations and their business development

Location of work: The working area of CRE is in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh

Funding Agencies: The CRE has been working with the following donars to achieve their objectives:

Major Funding agencies		
IFAD through GOI	NABARD	RSWR-USA)
Govt of AP	Govt of India	CAPART, Hyderabad

Projects are in progress by CRE:

The CRE has been taken up two major projects during the year 2018-19.

A. Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project (APDMP)

B. NABARD supported Micro Entrepreneur Development Program (MEDP)

A. Pallejeevam - Andhra Pradesh Drought Mitigation Project (APDMP):

The Pallejeevam program has been implementing in 9 Gram panchayats of KV Palli, Kalakada and Kalikiri mandals on behalf of Government of Andhra Pradesh for the benefit of 4500 households particularly small & marginal farmers belongs to SCs and STs. The APDMP is focusing on four thematic areas –

1. **Promotion and strengthening of Community Based organizations with farmers.**

2. Agriculture and Natural Resource Management,

3. Livestock services

4. Gender.

Major activities taken up in Palleejeevam are

1 Promotion and strengthening of Community Based organizations with farmers:.

1.1 Promotion of Farmer Producer Organizations:

The CRE has promoted three FPOs in KV Palli, Kalakada and Kalikiri mandals by involving the farmers in all the activities to give suggestions and take decisions. Each FPO has been conducting monthly once scheduled meetings, discussing the farmer issues and taking decisions. Each member paid Rs.1050/- to FPO (including Rs.1000/- for share capital, Rs.10/- for membership fee and Rs.40/- for shavings). The following table depicts the FPO wise details of membership, share capital and savings.

Name of the FPO & Mandal	Households joined in FPO			Membership, share capital & Savings paid (Rs.)		
	Total	Male	Female	Membership fee	Share capital	Savings
Bhumatha FPO, KV Palli Mandal	262	174	88	2620	262000	10480
Ushodaya FPO, Kalakada Mandal	295	203	92	2950	295000	11800
Maabhoomi FPO, Kalikiri Mandal	268	169	99	2680	268000	10720
Total	825	546	279	8250	825000	33000

There is a separate 9 member Executive committee for each FPO to take decisions on behalf of their members by due preference given to women representation in the Executive committee. Agenda based meetings are held and recording all the decisions to further dissemination to all members

The CRE is identified: 219 Poorest of the poor families to provide skill based livelihood support in three clusters. The FPOs are conducting monthly scheduled meetings at their respective head quarters.

The FPO members were trained on 5 modules to strengthen their activities. They are objectives and membership at FPOs, services of FPOs, roles and responsibilities of EC, financial management practices, bylaws and legal compliances. Staff also trained

1.2 Establishment of CLIC centers:

Established three Climate Information Centers (CLIC) in three mandals to disseminate the technical information to member farmers. Each CLIC is equipped with 40" TV, infrastructure like chairs, tables etc to sit around 50 members in each CLIC. Videos related to agriculture and animal husbandry is displaying in the center to empower the member farmers on various crop management practices to reduce the cost of cultivation. One specialist in each sector like Agriculture, NRM and Animal husbandry is providing continuous awareness on various issues raised from



the members.



In addition, the refrigerator, battle cooler, microscope, oven. Bovine, vaccine carrier and drenching gun are made available at CLIC center to provide support to shepherds and poultry farmers to preserve the various vaccines for seeking health care practices.

1.3 Customer Hiring centers:

Established three Custom Hiring Centers (CHCs) with investment of Rs.10.00 lakhs for each center. Each center has Agricultural machineries & equipments like tractor, cultivator, rotavator, seed cum fertilizer driller, power weeders, Taiwan



sprayers, harvester, Brush cutters are kept available to access the small and marginal farmers with nominal rental basis to utilize in their agriculture field and reduce their input cost of cultivation. Based on the phone call or personal request to CLIC from member farmers, the machine will be sent to the field of farmer. The price list of services available in each custom Hiring center is displayed to create transparency in all activities and to get confidence among the member farmers.

2. Agriculture and Natural Resource Management:

The following are the major focus areas of work in agriculture and Natural Resource Management

2.1 Support for Climate resilience cropping system

2.2 Enhancement Productivity

2.3 Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural practices

2.4 Protection of soil health and increase soil moisture

2.5 Demonstrations of practices in Natural Resource Management

Activities (learning sites, living soils, borewell inventory etc)

2.6 Support for farmers to access developmental activities



The following are the major activities taken up for the benefit of the members

2.1 Support for Climate resilience cropping system:

The Chittoor district is one of the drought affected district in Andhra Pradesh. The ground water resources are depleting day by day. So the high water absorbing Crops are not suitable to grow. So, the CRE has taken measures to sensitize the farmers for growing of various climate resilience crops like millets -raagi, jowar, sweet corn, bajra, korra etc. Distributed Navadhanya kits for 45 members to

encourage farmers to grow traditional crops and 3.7 Qtls of Horse gram to 15 farmers. Encouraging the farmers on promotion of Millets based on drought conditions. supplied andukorralu.

2.2 Enhancement Productivity:

The Farmer Field Schools (FFSs) and field days has been conducting to empower the farmers on various crop management practices starting from ploughing to post harvesting practices. In three clusters, 90 farmers were identified and completed one crop cycle and empowered the farmers on various crop management practices like land preparation, seed treatment, Integrated Pest Management & Integrated Disease management, irrigation, Fertigation etc. 6 Resource farmers were identified to motivate the demo farmers @ two per cluster. Field day is conducted at the end of crop cycle and shared the best practices.



2.3 Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural practices:

a) Encouraging fertigation based on soil test results:

The CRE is encouraging the farmers for Soil test based fertilizer usage to reduce the cost of cultivation and to produce healthy crops. By convergence with Department of Agriculture, the CRE is providing support to farmers in collection of soil sample and complete the soil testing on time.



b) Established bio resource center:

The CRE is established bio-resource center at KV Palli cluster to sensitise the member farmers on organic farming. Preparation of various decoctions and other fertilizers. Jeevamrutham, neemasthram, Ganajeevamrutham, bramhasthram, Agriasthram etc.

c) Established Manavittana kendramu (MVK):

Established Mana Vittana Kendras at all three CLICs to encourage production of local breed seeds. The CRE is distributed **3.3 quintals of** Breeder groundnut seeds to three clusters for the benefit of **000** farmers to be cultivated in **000** acres of land. The CLIC centers will be collected the produce from the farmers and store it for further distribution to other farmers. This process will be continued for ever. In older days, the farmers are protecting their all types of seeds for further use. So the CRE is reiterating the



same system for further improvement.

2.4 Protection of soil health and increase soil moisture

- By using heavy chemical fertilizers and chemical pesticides, the soil health becomes ruins and producing unhealthy products to the people. The so people becomes sick and spending huge amounts for health



care. So the CRE is empowering the farmers on soil test based recommendation of chemical fertilizer and pesticides.

- To protect soil health and to increate soil moisture identified **600** acres of land for developing for living soils
- Protective irrigation given to **144** farmers to safeguard of groundnut crop

2.5 Demonstrations of practices in Natural Resource Management activities (learning sites, living soils, borewel inventory etc)

As per the proposed activities in Pallejeevam



program for development of demonstration, the CRE is identified the following activities

- 750 acres of land @ 250 acres of land is identified for development of learning site
- 195 acres of land identified for living soils
- Identified 142 bores wells for inventorisation
- CRPs were identified for follow up of learning sites
- Land boundaries were identified and entered in GIS
- Bore wells inventory for 142 borewells

2.6 Support for farmers to access developmental activities

- Distribution of horse gram with the support of dept of agriculture and Horticulture to 15 farmers 3.7 quintals
- zeeba distributed to 24 farmers for mango crop
- jipsom distributed to 75 farmers for development of nutritional values to soil
- drip irrigation sanctioned to 12 farmers for the coverage in 24 acres of land for optimum use of existing water resources.

3. Veterinary services to shepherds and poultry farmers:

3.1 A cadre of community volunteers developed for providing regular support to rearers of small ruminants and poultry farmers.

- 10 para- workers were identified and trained for providing regular health services to shepherds
- 10 service providers were identified and trained for providing regular health care services to poultry
- 300 pop farmers were identified to provide local breed poultry with night shelters
- Common interest Groups were formed with 100 pop families and sanctioned night shelters to protection of their poultry
- Identified 3 entrepreneurs to produce local breed poultry birds



- Identified common grazing lands for development of fodder
- Distribution of cattle feed by tie up the Godrej company.
- Distributed the subsidized cattle feed to member farmers **147** members benefited from the scheme.

3.2 Conducting Reares field schools

- Conducting regular Rearers Field Schools in fixed dates and empowering the farmers on various diseases to small ruminants and poultry
- Providing Regular Vaccination to sheep and poultry by local community workers
- Identified three local breed entrepreneurs for producing the local breed poultry to be supplied to poor families to get additional income and to meet the needs of the poor.



4. Gender :

To encourage women in the developmental activities, the CRE is encouraged women to join into FPOs. 34% of FPO members are women. Preference given to women in Executive committees of FPOs. Identified women from poor families to provide support for local breed poultry and night shelters.



B. NABARD supported Micro Entrepreneur Development Program (MEDP):

The following activities were undertaken under MEDP programme with the financial support of NABARD.

The CRE is trained 30 women on self employment opportunities particularly for pickle making with support of NABARD. All trained members are getting additional income from the sale of pickle at their respective villages.

5. Audit Reports:

Council for Rural Enlightenment