



Council for Rural Enlightenment (CRE) : Piler Annual Progress Report for 2023 -24



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Council for Rural Enlightenment : Piler

Annual Progress Report : 2023-24

The Council for Rural Enlightenment (CRE) was registered in the year 04.06.1994 with registration number 394 as non-governmental organization under Societies Registration Act 1860. Subsequently it is also registered under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act FCRA (No. 010140346, dated: 16-4-2004) further it is registered U/s 12A of I.T.Act F.No. HqrsI (158)/CIT/TPT/2003-04Dt. 29-6-2004. It is also registered with 80G with registration no. AAAAC2034MF20229, dated: 31.12.2021

From the past 29 years, the CRE has evolved into a credible organization for strengthening of community based organizations with focus on Farmer groups, promotion of Livelihoods to the small and marginal farmers in the district. Further it is focused on the Natural Resource Management.

Vision: Sustainable Development for the Poor

Mission: Promote and strengthen the Community based peoples organizations with Poor, farmers, women and other marginalized communities

Values: 1. Concern for quality, 2. Integrity & honesty, 3. Accountability, 4. Gender equality and 5. Social Inclusion

Target group: poor, small and Marginal farmers by focussing on women and youth. Priority will be given to Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled castes, backward class and other economically poor households.

Governing body: 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	24 years
2. Dr.S. Prahalladaiah	Secretary	M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D	23 years
3. Sarada	Treasurer	M.A	10 years

4. S. Mohan	E.C. Member	B.A.	13 years
5. K.V.Ramana	E.C. Member	B.Com.	25 years
6. C. Hemalatha	E.C. Member	BA	10 years

Objectives of the organization:

The CRE has been working with the following objectives:

- To empower the of poor households particularly women on importance children education
- To empower the farmers on promotion of natural farming and sustainable agricultural practices
- To take up various measures to improve groundwater recharge and bio-diversity through Watershed development programmes
- 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
- Natural 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
- Exploration of various government schemes for development of poor
- Farmer Producer Organizations and their strengthening as viable business institutions

Major activities taken up during 2023-24 : The CRE is implemented the following programmes for the benefit of target people

A. Empowerment of poor on self-employment skills, Natural farming, new plantation crops, insurance and financial inclusion through trainings and exposures

1. The CRE is organised one day training to 30 rural women youth on mango grafting of seedlings with support of NABARD in Usthikayalapenta village during June – July 2024 with the objective of to increase the resisting power of plants from protection of various pests and diseases. The services of experienced and trained resource person is used for the training. The women from 30 families were actively involved in the training. They are ready to plant in the next and subsequent seasons. Local varieties of mango seedlings used for grafting. The District Development manager, NABARD visited the training and interacted with the participants and expressed their satisfaction.



Outcome: 30 families are able to raise the nurseries with grafting of plants.

2. Organised one day trained 30 SHG women on tailoring at Usthikayalapenta with support of Jana Sikshana Samstha (JSS), Tirupati. The duration of the training is 90 days. It is expected to develop them as self-employees in tailoring by tie up with the banks for purchase of sewing machines. All the women belongs to poor and landless families. So there is a scope for all the 30 members will get the employment opportunities.
3. One day training organised for 15 Village Watershed Development Committee (VWDC) members on utilisation of various watershed activities and various skills for their



utilisation. There are 100 members trained in two batches at Ustthikayalapenta village

4. Exposures :

- i. Exposed 30 farmers on natural farming practices at Center for Sustainable Agriculture (CSA), Proddatur, Kadapa district. The CRE is decided to promoted natural farming practices to reduce the cost of cultivation and to increase the healthy agricultural products. So 30 farmers from 30 families got exposed on various natural farming practices.
- ii. One day exposure visit organised to 30 ground nut farmers to Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Government of Andhra Pradesh, Tirupati on improved ground nut seeds. Ground nut is the major agricultural crop in KV Palli Mandal where most of the lands are rain-fed lands. The RARS is invented new improved seeds for ground nut. So the farmers were exposed on new varieties of seeds.
- iii. One day exposure visit organised to 30 farmers to College of Horticulture, Rly Kodur, Annamayya district on Avokado cultivation on 3.7.2024. Avokado is the new plantation crop developed recently. It is grown in rain-fed lands also. So the farmers were exposed at the Horticultural College, interacted with the professors of horticulture on plantation of avocado crop.



5. Convergence activities

Mobilised Loans to 35 farmers through PMEGP @ Rs.150000 and purchased two cows each. They will get backend subsidy of 35%. Conducted training on management practices of cows and repayment schedule. All the 35 families were purchased @ two cows and getting additional income through the sale of milk.



6. Training on insurance activities

- i. Trained and mobilised 110 farmers for Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bhima Yojana

(PMSBY). Each farmer will pay Rs.20/- per annum. Benefit of the scheme is accidental benefit of Rs.2,00,000. Age group of farmers are 18 – 70 years

- ii. Trained and mobilised 70 farmers for Pradhan Mantri Jeevana Jyothi Bhima Yojana (PMJJBY). Each farmer will pay Rs.432/- per annum. Benefit of the scheme with normal death benefit of Rs.2,00,000 . Age group of farmers are 18 – 50 years

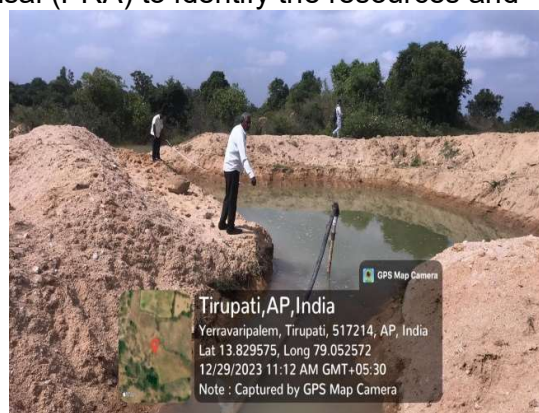
- iii. Facilitated Insurance for 70 milch animals belongs to 35 families purchased through PMEGP

7. **Financial inclusion** : Oriented and facilitated account opened for 55 families those who are not having bank accounts

B. Implementation of Watershed Development Activities: Watershed activities are in progress in Usthiakayalapenta panchayat of K.V.Palli Mandal of Annamayya district and Vadlakunta panchayat of YV Palem mandal, Tirupati district. The following are the progress of the watershed development activities.

- i. Completed 12 farm ponds
- ii. Strengthening and formation of new farm bunding in 255 acres of land
- iii. Survey conducted for ground water recharge in usthiakayalapenta panchayat
- iv. Conducted household survey to know the baseline socio economic profile of the households in watershed area
- v. Conducted Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) to identify the resources and various watershed activities particularly soil and moisture conservation works, water harvesting structures, horticulture etc in usthiakayalapenta village as per the programme implementation plan. The CRE is hired experienced resource person and completed the PRA exercise

C. Constructed Rural marketing infrastructure :



- i. Constructed rural marketing infrastructure at YV Palem for direct sale of agriculture products by farmers to consumers and business men. The total project cost is Rs.15.0 lakhs

D. New interventions

Facilitated improved variety of groundnut seed to grow with 6 farmers from Regional Agriculture Research Station (RARS) Tirupati for further replication

- i. Sensitised the farmers on seed multiplication
- ii. Orientation done for crop diversification in manchayalamanda village. 5 farmers shifted their crops from Groundnut to tomato/musk melon. The CRE is build the convergence efforts with Novo company for marketing of musk melon,



- E. **Support Children Education:** The Educational standards of children in remote villages like V.R.Colony, Jillallamanda Thanda etc is low comparatively with other villages. So the CRE is proposed to organise special classes after the regular school hours to improve the educational standards. It is planned to support material like bags, books, pens, pencil, eraser, sharpener etc to equip their educational standards. Discussed with the villagers to establish evening tuition centers from the academic year 2025-26.

Expenditure :Total expenditure of CRE during the year 2023-24 : Rs. 27,69,123