## Minutes of the meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Forest Minister held on dated 29-04-2022 at Nurpur

A meeting regarding implementation of PIHPFEM&L (JICA Funded) in Kangra District was held on dated 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 under the Chairmanship of Sh. Rakesh Pathania, Hon'ble Forest Minister at Nurpur. The list of members present in the meeting is enclosed as Annexure A.

After a round of brief introduction, the Hon'ble Forest Minister set the Agenda for the meeting and desired that the entire Forest staff has to work expeditiously for implementation of PIHPFEM&L (JICA Funded) in Kangra District. The detail of activities was discussed and the CCFs and DFOs were explained that the first and the for most requirement of the implementation of the Project is the selection of wards in accordance with project criteria followed by formation of VFDS in selected wards. Thereafter Microplan process for each ward using various tools (PRA etc.) is required to be done. It was explained that for each ward, two SHGs will be identified for Income Generation Activities. The Hon'ble Forest Minister suggested the current possibilities of involving various SHGs and highlighted some of the activities to address the livelihood issues. The Hon'ble Forest Minister laid stress on carrying out of good plantations in all the VFDS. Similarly it was suggested that in Kangra District DRDA & HPSRLM have already formed SHGs that lack training for initiating livelihood activities. In addition to this, various IGA Model specific to the topography of Kangra District were discussed and deliberated upon. After deliberation following points of action emerged.

- 1. It was desired by The Hon'ble Forest Minister that all the DFOs concerned will share the list of selected wards under the project within in a week time positively.
- Formation of VFDS and identification of SHGs should be completed within 10 days and compliance be reported.
- 3. Hon'ble Forest Minister desired that all the codal formalities in respect to formation of VFDSs, registration of VFDS under Societies Registration Act, Preparation of Micro Plans, identification SHGs and Preparation of Business Plans for livelihoods should be completed expeditiously, so that maximum number of Women SHGs are trained and livelihoods support will be provided at early date.
- 4. CCF Dharamshala and CCF Hamirpur will monitor the implementation and coordinate with DFOs and the CPD JICA.
- Hon'ble Forest Minister desired that DFO Dharamshala will arrange a meeting with DRDA and HPSRLM for various livelihood convergence aspects in respect to women SHGs.
- Hon'ble Forest Minister desired that in order to reduce time for formation of new SHGs existing women SHGs will be roped in for the Project.
- Some of preferred Income Generation Activities like Vermicompost in cow sanctuaries, Mushroom Cultivation, Bamboo products, School bags, Kangra Painting, Haldi Processing, Pine Needle Handicrafts and Natural Farming etc. were suggested.
- 8. Hon'ble Forest Minister desired that all DFOs in Kangra District under JICA Project will identify at least two Cow Sanctuaries in their respective area which will be funded by CAMPA for fencing and initial inputs. The pondage to meet the water requirement will be created in those Sanctuaries. For management of these Cow Sanctuaries the

local SHGs will be roped in. Further for ongoing schemes of Animal Husbandry Department for "GO-SADAN" convergence will be done to get necessary funding of rupees 700 per Cow per month.

9. Hon'ble Forest Minister directed the DFOs to ensure that the sites for cow sanctuaries are finalized, linkage with SHGs and necessary formalities of convergence with

Animal Husbandry Department should be done within a month.

10. The support for establishing processing unit for dairy products and their packaging will be funded by JICA Project. The possibility of various products made from Cow dung and cow urine may be explored and necessary technical input and equipment support will be provided by JICA Project.

- 11. CCFs will organize a meeting of DFOs with DRDA at Dharmashala and workout the modalities of convergence for holding SARAS Mela at different Blocks of Kangra District. It was desired by Hon'ble FM that first "SARAS Mela" will be organized at Palampur before 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, second at Nurpur and consecutively in other Blocks of Kangra District.
- 12. It was decided that Circle level Nursery will be developed at Nurpur Range of Nurpur Forest Division with modern facilities.
- 13. Hon'ble Forest Minister also desired to use HPMC, HPTDC and other such counters at different locations for sale of various products made by SHGs.
- 14. Hon'ble Forest Minister suggested that "Fabindia" is good platform for marketing the product of SHGs.
- 15. Learning lesson from SWAN Women Federation processing of Haldi, other spices and their packaging by SHGs will be encouraged in Kangara district as well.
- 16. It was desired that training pertaining to SHGs will be supported by JICA Forestry project for Mandi, Kangra and Shimla Districts, KFW for Chamba and Kangra and rest of the districts will be supported by IDP.
- 17. It was desired by Hon'ble Forest Minister that Programme Manager (Marketing and Rural Financing) will prepare a write-up on Marketing & Branding strategies for various products prepared by SHGS under the project and Programme Manager (Livelihoods & Training) will explore the Livelihood models for SHGs in respect to Kangra District.
- 18. Once the various SHGs start their sustainable livelihoods, Hon'ble Forest minister desired that possibility of money bank for various SHGs will be explored.
- The Hon'ble Forest Minister gives the moto of money bank "TEACH TO EARN AND LEARN TO SAVE".

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Project Director (JICA PIHPFEM&L) Potters' Hill, Summer Hill, SHimla-5

## Following members were presented in the Meeting:

- 1. Mr. Nagesh Kumar Guleria, APCCF & CPD, JICA
- 2. Mr. Pradeep Thakur, CCF Hamirpur
- 3. Mr. D.R Kaushal, CCF Dharamshala
- 4. Ms. Vasu Kaushal, CPD KFW
- 5. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, DFO Dharamshala
- 6. Mr. Sunny Verma, DFO Dehra
- 7. Mr. Nitin Patil, DFO Palampur
- 8. Mr. Suman Ohri, DFO Nurpur
- 9. Mr. Rajesh Sharma, PD (F & A) Shimla
- 10. Mr. Arun Kumar ACF Plampur
- 11. Mr. Sandeep Kohli, ACF Dehra
- 12. Ms. Richa Mehta, PM (Livelihoods & Training)
- 13. Mr. Vinod Sharma, PM( Marketing & Rural Financing)
- 14. Dr. Manohar Lal Thakur, PM (Monitoring & Safeguard)
- 15. Mr. Sandeep Rana, SMS (Monitoring & Safeguard)
- 16. Mr. Shashi Pal, RO Nurpur