AGRI CO-OPERATIVE PROJECT











AGRI CO-OPERATIVE PROJECT	
Commenced on	**2012**
Duration	**Long Term (5 yrs)**
Implementing Agency	**Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)**
Why Agri?	➲ Enhance livelihood opportunities in South-Goa through increasing agriculture productivity ➲ Community Organisation through collective activities ➲ Nurturing agriculture and allied activities ➲ Empowering community for employment generation ➲ Resource mobilisation and fund raising for entrepreneurial initiatives

AGRI - COOPERATIVE PROJECT

1. Accordingly to the Baseline survey report, in the hinterland of Goa, almost 80% of population is engaged in agriculture, but due to inadequate irrigation facilities, agricultural activities are undertaken principally during monsoons and farmers are able to harvest only one crop a year; this limits employment opportunities of agricultural labour. Also villagers are not engaged in extensive cattle farming, dairying or poultry and most of these products are imported from neighbouring states.

2. The need assessment study also reports that inadequate irrigation facility, small land holding, and absence of agriculture extension services as major gaps in the system. With a proper agriculture extension support system, crop diversification and by following allied activities the agriculture productivity in the region can be increased.

3. Paddy and vegetables are grown predominantly in this area, their productively levels have increased multi-folds due to efficient practices, extension support and excavation of wells in the nearby vicinity, a total of 40 wells have been excavated to ensure smooth irrigation to the crops. Crop rotation of paddy with vegetables and pulses by applying organic fertilizers and diversification with other allied agriculture activities like vermi compost, and dairy is further enhancing the yield. Most of Goa's geographical area is covered under forest and most of the forest trees are available to enhance productivity of crops by either organic manure or bio-pesticide (Neem oil extraction and Neem cake application).

4. The approach implementation involves interaction with different stakeholders at the village and community level, especially small, marginal and land less labourer and Local Panchayat and Agriculture Department.

Aim

To enhance livelihood opportunities in South-Goa through increasing agriculture productivity.

Objectives

a) Community Organisation through collective activities

b) Nurturing agriculture and allied activities

c) Empowering community for employment generation.

d) Resource mobilisation and fund raising for entrepreneurial initiatives

Location

This Long Term project is undertaken in villages Khotigao and Gaondongri in Canacona Taluka through the formation of two collective farming cooperative societies in December 2012 under section 8 of the Goa Cooperatives Societies Act, 2001, mentioned as under:-

a) Khotigao Collective Farming Cooperative Society Limited
b) Gaondongri Collective Farming Cooperative Society Limited

The on-ground activities have commenced from June 2012. The project intends to reach out to more than 1000 members in the above referred villages.

Implementing Agency

The implementing agency is Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS).

State & Local Government Facilitators

a) Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Goa

b) Horticulture Corporation, Government of Goa

c) Indian Council of Agriculture and Research

d) State Co-operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd.

e) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Regional Office

f) Local administration & Village Panchayats

Problems Faced by Agricultural Communities in South GOA

Economic Stagnation

- Mono cropping/ lack of crop diversity, Lack of Allied Activities
- Poor quality seed, Small land holdings, under usage of Organic fertilizers

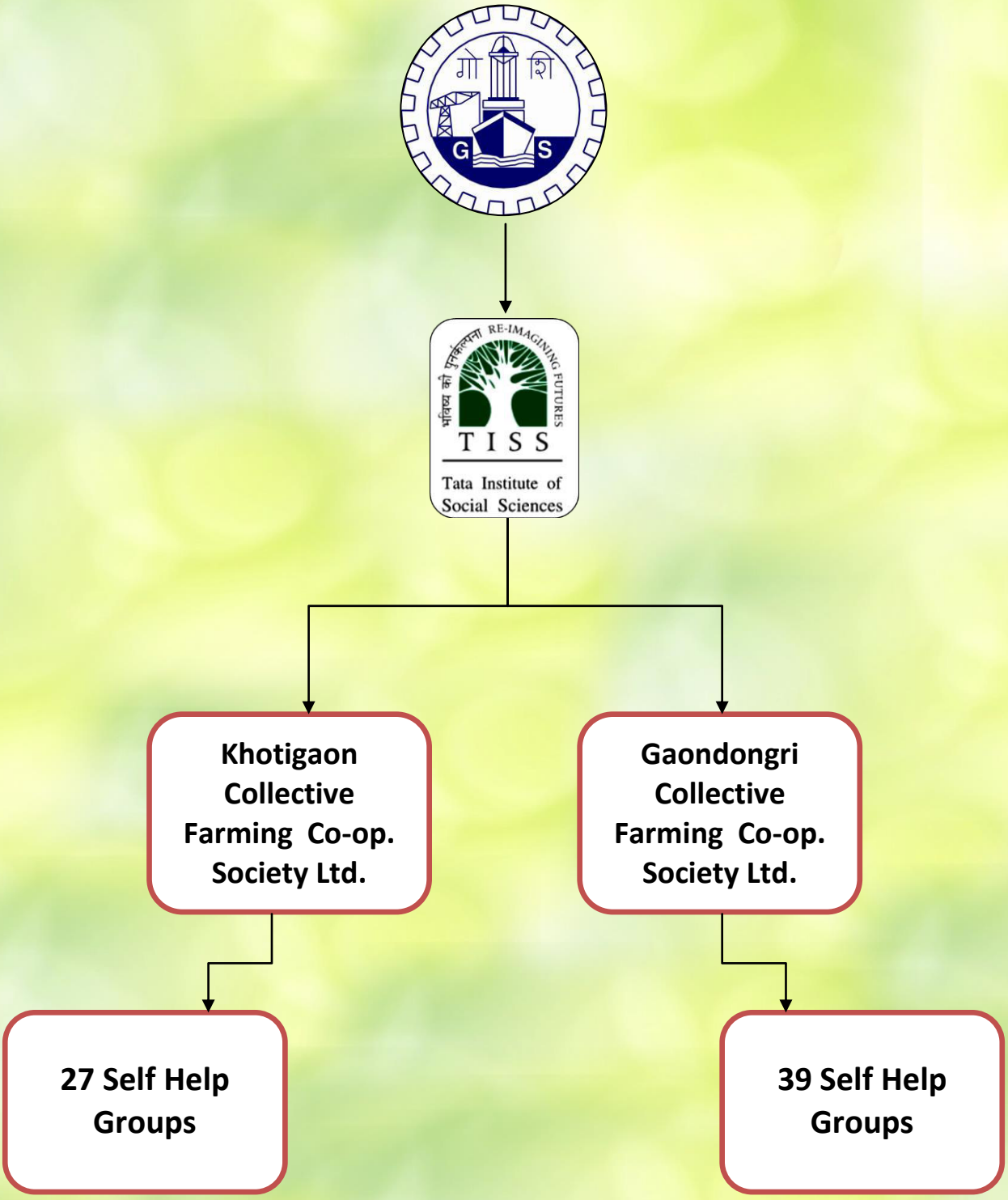
How can we help?

- **Community:** Forming farmer group within hamlets and enable the creation of a Village level federation that will be run by the members with the support of Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL).
- **Cultivation:** Help the local farmers adopt several allied activities through a series of training programs, infrastructure support activities and continues field support.
- **Market:** Collective Marketing of the produce generated by the farmers in order to secure the best possible price.

What do we do?

- Enable a common platform that is owned and administered by the community thus increasing the effectiveness of the resources employed.
- Provide training and extension services to small and marginal farmers with a focus on increasing income levels & managing risk.
- Identify innovative market channels through which the farmers can get the best possible price for their produce.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



PROJECT STATUS AS ON 31.03.2016 AGAINST DELIVERABLES (FY 2015-16)

FUND EARMARKED : Rs. 32.00 lacs

FUND SPENT : Rs. 30.67 lacs

DELIVERABLES	STATUS
Agriculture extension support to 700 tribal farmers in the Khotigao and Gaodongrim Panchayat	**Target achieved** Total (including major and minor) 56 training programs were conducted at society and field level, paddy subsidized seeds were supplied to SHGs, Market linkages support activities with Horticulture Department was established to facilitate farmers in getting agriculture subsidy.
Cultivation of 50 acres land in each village (total 100 Acres for both Kharif and Rabi seasons)	**Target achieved** Paddy crop harvested, Vegetable preparatory cultivation completed and transplanting done in 100 acres.
Provide 20 Vermi-compost units and 20 cows to the farmers involved in the project	**Target achieved**
Provide 20 (2HP) Water pumps, 20 pipes, 2000Kgs barbed wire, and Galvanized Iron plain sheet 1000Kgs to both the societies	**Target achieved**
Open well restoration to both the societies	**Target achieved** Total 10 open wells restored.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Seeds and fertilizers supplied to all the cooperative society members in collaboration with Agriculture department.

- Since the inception of the project, both the cooperative societies were able to produce 60 tonnes of vegetables and 45 tonnes of vermi compost.

- The Directorate of Tribal Welfare Department awarded Pradnyawant Puraskar to the Chairman of the Sanjivani Self Help Group of Gaondongri Collective Farming Co-operative Society for outstanding service in the field of Agriculture.

- Gaondongri Collective Farming Co-operative Society won Lokmat Goan of the Year Award, 2016 at the hands of Hon'ble Governor of Goa, Smt. Mridula Sinha.

AGRI-PROJECT SNIPPET

FIELD TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION BY ICAR, GOA











Meeting with Gaondongri Grampanchayat representatives



Meeting with Khotigao Grampanchayat representatives



Meeting with local Community leaders



Stakeholder meeting to laying road map for Agri-project



Cooperative Society members during the inauguration



Dignitaries at the time of inauguration



Skill building training program by ICAR society member



Pesticide spraying demonstration by scientist to Cooperative Society members



Seeds and organic manure distribution to Cooperative Society members



Training Programme on Pest and Disease Prevention and Pesticide usage demonstration by ICAR



Spraying demonstration





Irrigation infrastructure (Motors) was distributed to Cooperative members by Honourable Chief Minister of GOA.





Training programme on Water Pump operation





Monthly Cooperative Society Board Meeting with Extension Staff





Marketing of Vermi-compost by Cooperative Society





Agriculture product sale counter at GSL Exhibition





Extension support to Cooperative members in the field





Monthly Cooperative Society Training Programme in collaboration with Agriculture Department





Site visit by Dignitaries







Growth of vegetables saplings in the field





Training programme on Vermi-compost







Vermi-compost & Vegetables produced by Cooperative Societies