

NABARD CONSULTANCY SERVICES

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Tribal Development Fund

Tribal population of India constitutes around 8% of the nation's population. NABARD has established a Tribal Development Fund with an initial corpus of Rs 50 cr. This fund would be utilized to create the necessary framework conditions to replicate the successful "wadi" programme for development of tribal areas inhabited by poor tribals throughout the country.



"Wadi" means a 'small orchard' covering one or two acres with crops like cashew, amla or any fruit crop suitable for that area with forestry species on the periphery of the land holding. In five years, a poor village with 100 families gets converted into an orchard of a 100-150 acre, producing hundreds of tones of fruits. Processing facilities are established for a cluster of villages and finished products are marketed. This is a proven concept with two decades of concerted efforts by Bhartiya Agro Industries Foundation (BAIF), an NGO based at Pune and working in Vansda, Gujarat.



The approach will ultimately lead to the increased agricultural production and improved standard of living, bringing tribals into the banking fold through SHGs and other micro enterprises.

Progress Update

Nabcons has crossed a landmark of contracting more than 150 assignments at the end of Dec 2004 from a wide range of domestic and international clients.

Progress

Assignments	No.	Fee (Rs.Lakh)
Total	155	1440.48
Completed	98	252.47
Ongoing	57	1188.01

Types of Assignments

Type	No.	Fee (Amt. Lakh)
Project Preparation	53	231.56
Project Appraisal	28	37.09
Feasibility Studies	21	51.29
Turnaround Strategies & Financial Mgmt.	02	5.50
Debt Restructuring	09	24.38
Monitoring		
Evaluation Studies	23	1019.40
Exposure Visits	19	71.26

Tsunami Disaster

Nabcons extends its heartfelt sympathies to the kith & kins of the victims of Tsunami. May the Almighty rest the departed souls in peace and give strength to their family members to bear the irreparable loss.

NABARD at the corporate level has taken decision to offer a special package of soft loans for the cause of rehabilitation. The staff of NABARD has contributed one day's salary as a small effort to help the affected.

Nabcons has also been awarded an assignment of preparing a detailed project report for setting up of cold storage for storing vegetables and fruits in the Islands. The infrastructure facility so created would help in stabilizing the prices of agri-produce, besides ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers.

Medicinal and Aromatic Crops (MACs)– Global and Domestic Opportunities

“Health for All” has been the focal theme of National Health Policy of India (2002). “The Indian pharma industry has shown remarkable growth and maturity during the last four decades. Unparalleled in any other industrial segment, capital investments grew from Rs.140 crores in 1965-66 to over Rs 3,000 crores in 2000-01. During the same period, bulk drugs grew from Rs.18 crores to over Rs. 4,000 crores, formulations from Rs.150 crores to Rs.20,000 crores, exports from Rs.3 crores to Rs.8,000 crores and R&D expenditure from Rs.3 crores to Rs. 400 crores. In spite of such phenomenal growth in value terms, India, which has 16 per cent of the world’s population, produces only 1.2 per cent of global output of pharmaceuticals/ herbals. Annual per-capita consumption of drugs in India is one of the lowest in the world at \$3.”- Annual issue “The Hindu”.

To increase India’s share in global output of medicines, one way is to focus on the traditional systems of health care. This traditional system is also known as Alternative System of Medicines (ASM) or Complimentary and Alternative system of Medicines (CAM). In this, herbs form a major part. Major share (90%) of the total demand of these phytomedicines (medicinal products containing as active ingredients, only plants, parts of plants or plant materials, or combinations thereof, whether in the crude or processed state) are reportedly met from the collections made from the forests and wild sources. The demand of these plants puts exploitation pressure on forests, resulting into fast extinction and endangering of some plants and at the same time leads to compensating the short supply through malpractices like adulteration / substandard substitution practices.

The spectrum of MACs include **Herbal medicines; Herbal cosmetics/perfumes; Nutraceuticals; Aromatics and spices; Bio pesticides; Veterinary medicine; Natural Dyes and food colours; Non-edible oil, oil cakes**, etc.

Health Care & Medical Tourism offers another business opportunity. Hon’ble Union Finance Minister, in his budget speech for 2002-03 indicated that India could tap the top segment of \$ 3 trillion health care industry by highlighting its health tourism facilities. Based on Kerala pattern, the health tourism can be promoted in almost all the states, especially in all the Himalayan states, NE region, Chhatisgarh, MP and through out coastal belt where the biodiversity is large and accessibility and information systems are well developed to a large extent.



Government of India has created “**National Medicinal Plant Board**”, an apex body for coordination, consolidation and accelerating efforts required in this sector to meet the emerging global demand and to generate rural employment & income.

As per the broad estimates of NABARD, an area of 4 lakh ha is under herbal crops, of which about 2.8-lakh ha is under established medicinal and aromatic crops. More than Rs.500 crore is needed annually only for cultivation and primary processing. Another over Rs.500 crore credit is needed by its industry. This is a business opportunity for the banks and financial institutions for extending credit to all viable projects.

These crops can be named as “E-3 crops” indicating their direct relationship with the Ecology, Economy and Employment. Neem, Castor, Henna, Senna, Tulsi, Aloe, Amla, Mentha, Centronella, Patchouli etc. are worth mentioning whose contribution in traditional health care in domestic market and export is significant. Planning Commission, Gol has also indicated a plan for the plantation of 20 lakh ha of Jatropha alone in coming years for biodiesel production and assessed the funds requirement at Rs.6000 crores generating 6000-lakh mandays of employment. These crops can significantly contribute to our exports.

Nabcons/NABARD has capabilities and core competence to facilitate development of this sector and provide consultancy services for various aspects like cultivation, primary processing, grading, packing and marketing.

Patchouli – Aroma of Prosperity

Patchouli- (*Pogostemon cablin*), a bushy, 3/4 foot tall plant with small furry leaves, is a tropical member of the Lamiaceae (Labiatae) family and is well known for its aphrodisiac and anti-depressant properties. Its oil has many therapeutic uses with its anti-inflammatory, antiseptic, fungicidal,

insecticidal and decongestive properties. Worldwide annual consumption of Patchouli oil is estimated to be in the range of 1200-1500 tones and Indonesia is the major supplier of Patchouli.



Patchouli grows well on sandy loam to medium black soils with slightly acidic reaction, having good drainage. It requires adequate sunlight, well distributed rainfall, humidity between 40-60 % and temperature below 38-40°C during major part of the year.

Patchouli occupies an important place from economic point of view particularly with the increasing global demand. South Gujarat has shown spectacular growth in a short span of time which was made possible with the pivotal role played by the District Development Managers (DDMs) of NABARD particularly Shri P.K Dholakia, DDM, of Navsari district. Mr. Dholakia, contributed not only in promoting its cultivation but also arranging critical inputs such as credit as well as organizing assured marketing tie-ups.

The economic life of the plant is usually considered as three years. During this period a farmer may earn a net income of about Rs.1.80 lakh from one-acre farm from selling the dry biomass of Patchouli. The initial investment for establishing one-acre patchouli farm may be around Rs.1.25 lakh and may vary depending on different factors.

In a nutshell, Patchouli is one of the potential high value crops offering a lot of export opportunities.

Fisheries development in Uttaranchal

Government of Uttaranchal has awarded a prestigious assignment for holistic development of fisheries in the state, initially for preparation of detailed project report (DPR) and subsequently for facilitating its implementation over a period of 3-5 years. The scope of the assignment includes Development of Trout Fisheries in uplands,

Mahseer Fisheries, Running Water Fish Culture, Reservoir Fisheries, Extension/Awareness Programmes, Post Harvest Management, Marketing and R & D linkage.

The work has already been commenced with a highly dedicated professional team. The report is likely to be completed within a period of three months. The significance of the assignment is in its holistic sectoral (Fisheries) development, including the implementation.

Planning Commission – Monitoring Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) in Backward Districts.

Planning Commission, Government of India, has awarded the monitoring work of projects under RSVY in 147 backward districts of the country for a period of three years. Nabcons/NABARD will be sending quarterly reports (as per the designed formats) on various attributes covering physical, qualitative, social and economic data to the Planning Commission based on the field visits, interaction with the beneficiaries, as also data analysis. The responsibility devolved is quite demanding and the concerned officers will have to accomplish the work with full commitment and alacrity to facilitate smooth and quality implementation of the projects under RSVY, which will have far reaching effects in overall development of these backward districts.

Concurrent Evaluation of National Project “Assistance to States for Piggery Development”

Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Minister of Agriculture, Government of India, was implementing a project titled “Assistance to States for Piggery Development” for the development of piggery in the country during VII to IX plan period with 100% central assistance. An amount of Rs.15.21 crore was sanctioned during the IX plan period itself for this scheme.

The evaluation of the impact of the project, is assigned to Nabcons for the States of Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh. The work has been completed and the report has since been submitted to the Ministry. Apart from assessing the impact of the earlier scheme, a comprehensive development plan for the piggery sector is also being recommended.

Agri-export Zones – Goa State

Nabcons has successfully completed a Detailed Project Report for establishment of Agri-Export Zone for Cashew nut in the state of Goa. This project is likely to help thousands of Cashew nut farmers in the state in stabilizing their income flow and getting remunerative prices.

Thank “You” We feel encouraged!

Encouraging responses have been received from the readers on the issues of ‘Suvikalpa’. NABCONS expresses gratitude to all the readers for their suggestions and views. Excerpts from some of the feedback received are reproduced below:

“.....such a newsletter is the need of the hour when much is being spoken of for increasing the farm finance and giving fillip to growth in rural areas.”

Indian Overseas Bank

“.....the issues will certainly help bankers improving the quality of farm and non-farm lending

Bank of Maharashtra.

Visit of delegation from Ethiopia and Iran

Nabcons organized International Visitors programme for very senior level delegates from Ethiopia, including Chairman of a commercial bank and Deputy governor of Central Bank, from 21 to 28 November 2004. A study visit of an All Women delegation from the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Islamic Republic of Iran on micro Finance was organized from 13 to 24 December 2004. The delegations visited different parts of the country to understand various concepts of Wadi, Rural Banking, SHGs etc.

Our Services

- Project formulation, appraisal
- Feasibility studies and potential surveys
- Restructuring of development Institutions
- Monitoring and evaluation of projects
- International visitors programme
- Capacity building and HR development

Area of Expertise

- Agriculture and allied activities
- Rural Infrastructure
- Development of Rural Non-farm Sector
- Turn around of Rural Financial Institutions
- micro Finance,
- Poverty reduction Programmes,
- Tribal and women Empowerment
- Workshops, Seminars and Training

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