

## Project Update: July 2010

I am selected as a member of the district vigilance and monitoring committee of District Rural Development Authority (DRDA). DRDA is a body of government that disburses funding for the development in the rural area. Most of the funding is for watershed development and conservation of natural resources. Through this opportunity it is possible to monitor effective implementation of the various government projects for development.

The local member of the state assembly Mr Prakash Dahake is very much impressed by the conservation work going on in Adan river basin. He is helping in the effective implementation of the project.

We have sensitised policy makers and officers of the government department by repeated meetings about sanctioning cooperative fish organization. Cooperative societies are very much important to take water bodies on lease for fish culture. Previously there was widespread corruption and discrimination in the allocation of the cooperatives.

Karanja city is dependent on domestic water supply. Near Karanja city there is a land of the about 1000 ha, completely barren. In association with forest department we are developing it as natural forest. This will help in the recharge of water for city and will lower pressure for water on river Adan.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2010 we arranged a study tour for the local fishermen. From Dhamani village 40 fishermen participated in the study tour. The study tour has been arranged to SUVIDE foundation's field station. The field station is famous for the fish culture and breeding centre.

On 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> August 2010 we arranged a 2-day workshop for fishermen to explain scientific fish culture. 60 people attended the workshop. The workshop has been arranged at local K.N. College.

The resource person for the programme was Mr Manohar Bhrushundi, former joint director of fisheries and Mr Ravindra Kale. First day was to explain holistic fish culture and role of native culture of the fishes in fish fauna conservation. In very much simple interactive language Mr Bhrushundi and Mr Kale explained various aspects of the aquaculture.



Left: Discussion with local fishermen regarding culture of local fishes in community pond.  
Right: Fish culture workshop for local fishermen. 4 and 5 August 2010.