

Project Update: December 2017

Enthusiasm runs high as new villages, new members and new targets get added to our work. After our initial meetings, we decided on our next lot of six villages, Jawhar colony, Bidhan Colony, Luxbagan and around, Chargheri, Netaji Sardarpara and Kagmari to restore our community mangrove forests. Interestingly, as per our survey, these villages present tall targets, with areas to be restored ranging between 17 and 22 ha. However, armed with determination, our members are moving ahead with zeal.



Setting New Work Targets in Various Village Meetings

Simultaneously, we are also completing the left over patches from our previous lot of villages, while our members are nurturing the growing plantations.



Left: Members at Work in a Plantation Site. Right: Nurturing the Developing Mangroves

Our community ponds developed during our previous projects are paying rich dividends. Apart from fish and crab culture, besides growing small plots of paddy nearby, there is a new addition. The villagers are experimenting with agroforestry. They are combining various kinds of vegetables as gourds, ladyfinger, tuber vegetables, potato etc. while cultivating plants as floating water spinach in the ponds. This is not only taking care of their food requirements but also supplementing their income. The left over vegetables are sold off in the market.

Most importantly, such vegetation are adding to the biodiversity of the region. Various birds, butterflies, insects, mollusks and indigenous fish are flourishing in these paddy fields and puddles.



Left: Water Spinach and Vegetables near Pond. Right: A Developing Paddy Field by Pond side

With tourist season in full swing, our teams of artistes presenting folk culture for awareness programmes, are also performing in various resorts and lodges. Four of these teams with ten members each are particularly active this season. We are also working towards setting up few children's folk teams this season.



Upcoming Children's Folk Culture Team