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Working Paper

Role of Institutions for Livelihood Strategies in Forestry: An Analytical study in the context of National Afforestation Programme in Madhya Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

In the umbrella scheme of National Afforestation Programme, the developmental Authority i.e., Forest Developmental Agency (FDA) has been a registered body formed by selected Joint Forest Management committees in order to fulfill the goals of livelihood generation and developmental interventions. For the community participation sustainable livelihoods (SL) approach is an attempt in tune with the basic intention of the scheme in which role of formal and informal institutions insignificant. In this case on the basis of the above background the attempt was made to fulfill the following objectives:

1. Social equality in participatory process in the institution affecting NAP.
2. Personal empowerment to SL under NAP.
3. Community mobilization in participatory process.

The study was conducted in Hoshangabad Forest division in Madhya Pradesh adopting methodology of purposive sampling and techniques like focused group discussions and structured interviews. The major findings are that the role of Forest Department (FD) in economic empowerment is negligible and no initiatives for capacity building for micro-enterprise development. The role of FD in social empowerment is insignificant and political empowerment as a means of decentralization in decision-making, implementation and upkeep has not been achieved.

Keywords: Forest Development Agency, Sustainable Livelihoods, Capacity building, Micro-enterprise, Empowerment

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