

## Community Forestry Project

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*Sponsored by: Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Mumbai*

The first phase of the Community Forestry Project supported by Sir Dorabji Tata Trust was completed on December 31, 2007. The project was running since 2001 and the major achievements of the project were that it had covered over 100 villages through 12 demonstration and field sites across 7 states of India. The project had produced 6 short term research fellowships and 122 publications in forms of research papers, project reports, training materials, training, conference and workshop proceedings and newsletters. 5 International, 53 National and 38 field level trainings and workshops were conducted on various aspects of community forestry like Joint Forest Management, micro planning, sustainable NTFP Harvesting, ecological monitoring, value addition and enterprise and business model development, NTFP Certification and various income generation activities. 12 exposure visits was carried out and a central India NGOs network partnership was established with 43 members. 27 International, National and public private partnerships were developed in these seven years. 8 NGOs/CBOs were provided funding under ICCF's small grant programme.

During the current year the following activities were undertaken:

### 1. Research and Documentation:

- Review and Documentation of Community Based Ecotourism Efforts in Southern Indian States of Kerala and Karnataka
- Institutional Sustainability in JFM: Challenges Ahead
- Action Research on Collection, Value Addition and Trade of NTFPs and Involvement of Women



*Director, IIFM Prof. D. K. Bandyopadhyay and Prof. P. Bhattacharya visit to Jharkhand*

## 2. Field Extension Activities

- **Andhra Pradesh:** ICCF have entered with the MOU with LAYA for providing technical expertise in community forestry, livelihood intervention and related areas and field visits were also undertaken for this purpose.
- **Assam:** Under the small grant programme of the CF project, ICCF had signed an MoU with Nowgong Girl's College to carry out a project on "Research Initiatives in Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in North East India: an effort to integrate policies, processes and outcomes".
- **Chhattisgarh:** ICCF has taken steps to initiate a new research site in the Dhamtari forest Division under Dugli Range where a series of activities including training on sustainable harvesting.
- **Jharkhand:** NTFP processing unit cum herbal centre strengthening was done, which was monitored by the field visit of Director, IIFM. Community Participation in forest protection and its conflict with UICL was also addressed.
- **Madhya Pradesh:** In Madhya Pradesh NTFP based enterprise development and value addition along with sustainable NTFP Harvesting was the key focus.
- **Orissa:** Under the CF Project ICCF had renewed its MoU with IRDWSI for providing technical assistance for developing integrated Agroforestry models and micro-planning of the local natural resources in the villages of Semiliguda.
- **West Bengal:** NTFP processing, medicinal plant based herbal practitioners network with sustainable harvesting of NTFP was carried out in the JFM areas of West Bengal field sites Sal leaf plate making machine and sabai rope making machine were provided to women SHGs..



Women of West Bengal learning to make rope of sabai grass using improved technology.

## 3. Exposure Visits and Networking

- **Traditional Herbal Health Camp:** An Herbal Health camp was organized at IIFM Campus from November 17- 26, 2007.
- **Van Mela:** During this year it was held on December 11- 16, 2007.



Mr. G. Yadav facilitating the community members in marketing their products at ICCF stall in the Van Mela.