A Training Program on

NTFPs based Livelihood Promotion for the Tribal and other Forest Dwelling Communities

27th February - 3rd March 2017

Forestry is the second-largest land use in India after agriculture, covering about 641,130 square kilometers, or 22 percent of the total land base. Roughly 275 million poor rural people in India—27 percent of the total population— depend on forests for at least part of their subsistence and cash livelihoods, which they earn from fuel wood, fodder, poles, and a range of non-timber forest products (NTFPs), such as fruits, flowers, bark, roots and medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs). The forest dwelling communities, especially the tribal gather various NTFPs from the forests but very little value addition is done at their level. In addition, lack of aggregation of forest produces due to absence of community collectives, poor value addition, remoteness and inadequate facilities for transport and communication, restrains access of the poor forest produce gatherers to higher markets which results in terms of poor price realization at community level.

Various organisations- Government, NGOs, corporates and multi-lateral and bi-lateral agencies have taken initiative for NTFPs based value chain development with focus on sustainable management of NTFPs and their production through domestication. However, it was found during the situational analysis study on NTFPs based livelihood promotion conducted by ILRT in central and north-eastern India that the professionals engaged in NTFPs based livelihood promotion do lack adequate understanding, know-how and skills on planning and implement NTFPs value chain development interventions so as to achieve the dual goals of conservation of forest resources and ensuring livelihood security of the forest dwelling communities in holistic manner.

Keeping his is view, the present course designed in such a manner that it orients and build capacity of the development professionals on various critical aspects related to livelihood promotion of the forest dwelling communities through value chain interventions.

Our training experience

Over the last 9 years, ILRT (formerly the Livelihood School) has offered a variety of capacity building services to livelihood promoting organizations and other stakeholders. The content and approach to capacity building is enriched by a number of allied activities such as research (ex-poste and ex-ante), case documentation, thematic consultations and public policy analysis. Knowledge products offered by ILRT therefore, also reflects the varied lessons from activities of the Basix Social Enterprise Group as well as ground breaking developments across the sector. This programme focuses on cognitive, effective and conative aspects of learning. Over the years ILRT has trained 20,000 livelihood professionals from India and close to 30 countries.

On NTFPs theme, ILRT has organized series of training programmes since 2015 and these courses were attended by professionals of around 35 organization which includes Government Agencies, NGOs, CSRs & Consulting Firms engaged in NTFPs based livelihood promotion activities in 15 states of India.

Objectives

The broad objective of the present training programme is to enhance understanding, know-how and skills of practitioners in design and implementation of NTFPs based value chain development interventions. The specific objectives of the training are as follows:

- Concept of NTFPs, their production areas, critical role in tribal economy, scope and gaps in the sector.
- NTFPs value chain analysis, value chain intervention design, entrepreneurship development, application of cluster approach around NTFPs.
- Designing and implementation of NTFPs based livelihood interventions- sustainable harvesting, in-situ and ex-situ conservation, production, value addition, certification, role of technology, marketing management, etc.
- Business development planning for NTFPs enterprises.
- Legal and policies aspects related to NTFPs and their implications on tribal livelihood.
Who should participate

The course is designed to enhance the knowledge base as well as skills on NTFPs based value chain development and/or integration for enhancing the livelihoods of primary forest produce gatherers. Field level project managers of LPOs viz. NGOs, Government Agencies, Mission and Programmes, CSRs and other, key functionaries responsible for design NTFPs based value chain initiatives, staff of NTFP enterprises would find this programme suitable.

Pedagogy and medium of instruction

The course is designed following the principles of adult teaching. Multiple teaching methodologies of learning, including interactive lecture, experience sharing, case analysis and discussions, small group work and presentation, audio-visual aids, simulation exercises and field visit to understand various aspects/dimensions of NTFPs based livelihood intervention and their analysis, etc. will be used. The medium of instruction will be in English and Hindi.

Learning Outcomes

The course will help the participants to enhance their understanding and skills to enable the primary forest produce gatherers to actively get into the NTFPs based value chain activities. The course can become a platform for the participants to reflect and share the difficulties experienced in promoting NTFPs based livelihoods and to find out solutions for the same through cross learning with other participants and also through case analysis of various NTFPs based livelihood intervention made by different agencies across the country (case studies on different aspect of NTFP based livelihood promotion will be part of the current course). After acquiring the training, the participants will:

- Build perspective on NTFPs and their significance in the ensuring livelihood security of the tribal and other forest dwelling communities,
- Appreciate the need for NTFP value chain development for livelihood enhancement of the primary collectors and build understanding on value chain analysis for NTFPs,
- Build perspective on various types of NTFP related livelihood interventions through case analysis and would be able to adopt and apply adequate models for NTFPs based livelihood interventions in their respective areas.
- Develop understanding and skills on value chain development of NTFPs including various models for NTFPs production, good harvesting practices, processing and storage processes for NTFPs, enterprise promotion for NTFP value chain development, cluster model for NTFPs business development, business planning of NTFP enterprises and marketing planning and management for NTFPs including brand development and promotion, certification of NTFPs, etc.
- Understand legal and institutional aspects related to NTFPs and livelihood promotion.
Duration and fees

The 5 day programme is fully residential in nature. A payment of Rs 25,000 + Service Tax as applicable needs to be made via: Demand Draft/cheque drawn in favour of “Institute of Livelihood Research and Training” payable at Hyderabad. The Course fees includes training material, accommodation (on a twin-sharing basis) and boarding. Any cancellation of nomination should be informed at least 7 days in advance to avoid cancellation charges of 50% of the fee. The travel costs to and from the venue, however, has to be borne by the participant.

Registration process

The filled in nomination forms must reach info@ilrtindia.org. Nominations will be confirmed only on receipt of fee by mail or courier at the address given below on or before 17th February 2017, ILRT, BASIX, 3rd Floor Surabhi Arcade, Troop Bazar, Bank Street, Koti, Hyderabad- 500 001.

For registration related queries please contact Ms. Anitha anitha.b@ilrtindia.org/+91 93900 57426.

For further enquiry on the course, please feel free to send an e-mail to rajendrasingh.gautam@ilrtindia.org or call Dr. Rajendra Singh Gautham at +91 9406661012.

Venue

Hotel Amar Vilas, 183, Near Milan Sweets, Zone –1, MP Nagar, Opposite of DB Mall, Bhopal—462 011

Resource team

The resource persons of the programme will include eminent professionals in the field of NTFPs based livelihood promotion with excellent academic, field and training background from within Basix SEG and other organizations. The team members will be having experiences in the field of:

- Forestry especially NTFPs conservation, production and management,
- Tribal livelihood promotion especially through NTFPs based livelihood interventions,
- NTFPs based value chain analysis and development, NTFPs cluster development, prioritization of NTFPs, NTFPs enterprise development, business planning, marketing management, etc.
- Value addition of NTFPs, product development and diversification, application of technologies in NTFPs, certification processes, and managing supply chain including transportation, legal and policy aspects related to different NTFPs, etc.