

Success Story

Ambadi Processing: A Source of Income for Tribal Women

Gadchiroli a rich district in natural resource is backward in financial terms. It has substantial number of tribal population. These people fetch lot of resources from forest for their living. However lot of resources collected from the forest is sold to traders in its raw form. Every raw material has a hidden potential in it. If a mechanism is transferred amongst rural poor to harness this potential, than there is likelihood that they may earn more money from natural resources.

Keeping this aspect in consideration “Centre of Science for Villages”, Wardha organized a training program, sponsored by “National Institute of Rural Development”, Hyderabad to transferred appropriate technology to process Ambadi (*Hibiscuss subdariffa*) herb for preservation, product diversification and value addition. Technologies transferred were ecologically sound, economically vial and socially just.

Mrs. Manda Gedam of village Sakhara was one of the 25 trainees who took part in the training program in the subject of “Food Processing”. She already had a shop where she used to sale tea and snakes. But she was not able to earn enough money for her family from the existing business. However, after introduction of Ambadi squash in her shop, more and more people and BSF Personnel (living in the camp located near her shop) started visiting her shop for enjoying Ambadi Squash and her income rose by a margin of Rs 500/- to 700/- per day. Because of high income she shifted her shop in the vicinity of Government offices located near City. For accomplishing this task she got help of DRDA.



Mrs. Manda Gedam of Sakhara village selling Ambadi Squash from her shop

Success Story

Production of Vermi Compost: An Organic Farming Input

In the eastern most district of Maharashtra i.e. Gadchiroli, “Centre of Science for Villages” conducted a training program for a duration of five days () and trained a group of 40 trainees in the subject of “Vermi Composting”. Training was provided primarily to address the need of managing nutrient requirement in a sustainable manner in the field of the farmers. In the this tribal district there is great potential to promote Organic farming as it has plenty of natural resources.

More than 80% of trained entrepreneurs started manufacturing Vermi compost using a method taught to them in the training program. However the work done by Mrs. Jaswanta Chouke is outstanding. Traditionally her family use to plant onion in their farm however after training program she made vermi compost and applied it in her vegetable farm for managing nutrient requirement of the crop.

Since the compost was made in the farm and almost all the resources were available locally the cost of production of vermin compost was negligible. However when this compost was administered in the field it gave bumper yield of onion to Mrs. Jaswanta Chouke. As against 30 quintals per acre she got almost two times (i.e. 58 quintals) more yield. This was primarily because in last one decade or so the farming family did not put any kind of organic matter in the field hence its productivity declined considerable and the productivity of the farm reduced considerable. Once the nutrient rich organic matter was administered in the field its effect was visible in the yield of the crop i.e. Onion. If the same method is applied year after year there is possibility that the yield of Onion may touch highest levels i.e. 100 quintals per acre. In monitory terms the income from the farm has more than doubled. This was primarily because in the given season the rate of Onion in the markets were zooming too high.



Success Story

Paper Conversion: An Income Source for Women in Periurban Areas

Centre of Science for villages (CSV) organized a training program for SHG members of periurban areas of Gadchiroli district during (). The program was sponsored by National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD).

In the training program methods of converting paper and boards in to value added utility items was transferred to about 40 women trainees. They learned to make following items

- Envelops
- Bags
- Pen Stands
- Magazine Containers
- Dust Bins
- Office files of different shapes and sizes
- Decorative items as wall hanging, flowerpots etc.

The production of these items was taken up on commercial basis by many women and we are quoting the success of Mrs. Sunita Sidam. She made envelops and supplied it to medical shops, Cloth Merchants; Grocery Shops, Government Offices and Private offices. In the beginning she had limited market but after putting in lots of efforts she is now able to earn about Rs. 4,000/- per month.

Mrs. Sunita Sidam gets opportunities to give technical training to other women through a quasi government office known as Mahila Arthik Vikas Maha Mandal or MAVIM. It gives her additional income.

