

WELCOME

TO

S D D P A

EIGHTEEN YEARS
WITH
THE RURAL POOR OF MAHABUBNAGAR

*Society for Development of Drought Prone Area
H.No. 42-189/1, Vengal Rao Colony,
Wanaparthy – 509 103
Mahabubnagar District, A.P., India.*

SOCIETY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DROUGHT PRONE AREA

(S D D P A)
(Regd. No. 195/76)

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FIELD OFFICES

Pangal Village
Pangal Mandal

Koderu Village,
Koderu Mandal,

Mahabubnagar District, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Vision

A Socially, Economically, Politically and Environmentally Healthy, Harmonious and Just Society

Mission

To enable the powerless and deprived to participate in building up such a society.

Objectives

Siding with the powerless to unleash their fettered but inherent dynamism and strength to place themselves in the broad way of growth, amply fueled and fired, to move ahead and build up pro-progress environs, ensuring a harmonious society where social, political, economic, environmental, educational, cultural, in-family, inter-family and gender justice, equity, possible equality and play of good governance rule the roost.

Approach

Integrated, Participatory and Sustainable

Strategies

Organizing and federating the neglected powerless for collective strength;
Education and awareness building for enabling conscious and active participation;
Facilitating social, political and economic self-reliance with status and bargaining power;
Emancipation and empowerment of the weaker to ensure gender equity;
Enhancing credibility and bankability of the deprived;
Upgradation and localization of service facilities;
Promoting eco-friendly agriculture and bio-diversity preservation and development;

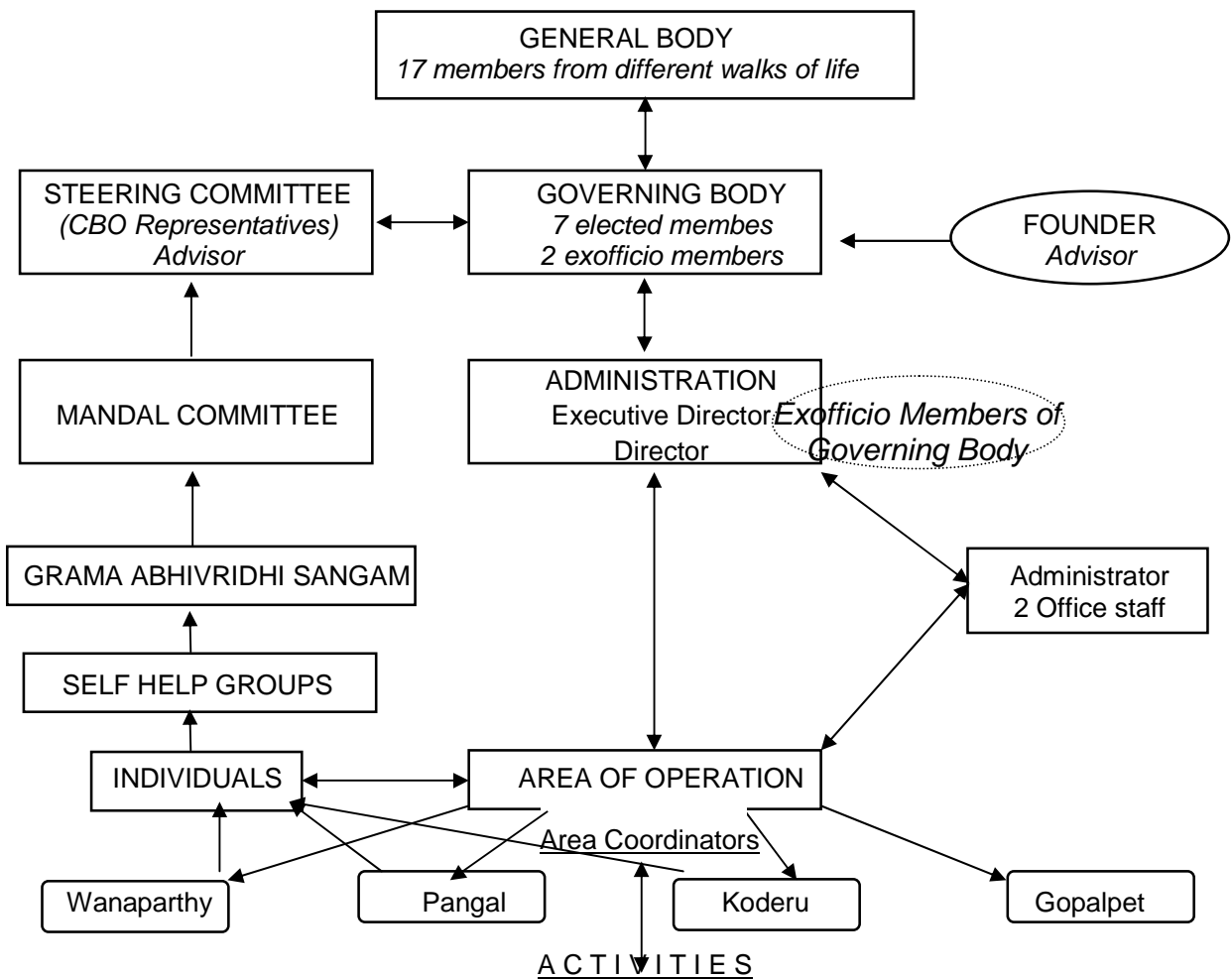
Drought mitigation and calamity preparedness;
 Subscribing to eradication of social evils;
 Ensuring organizational and program sustainability.

Operational Area

Environment	Rural
No. of villages	150
Mandals	Wanaparthy, Pangal, Koderu and Gopalpet – intensive Bijinapally, Gooty, Guntakal and Pamidi - less intensive
Districts	Mahabunagar (intensive) and Anantapur (less intensive)
State	Andhra Pradesh

Human Resources:

ORGANOGRAM OF SDDPA



FUTURE PLAN

- Further strengthening of CBOs and Furtherance of higher level gender equity;
- Eradication of child labor & promotion of literacy;
- Promoting Sustainable Integrated Area Development with more CBOs & VOs in the district;
- Further strengthening of district level CBO network;
- Promoting district, state and interstate network of CBOs;
- Value addition, skill up-gradation & livelihood promotion;
- Market linkage development and marketing support;
- Promotion of Bio-farming practices in all villages;
- Production, promotion and propagation of bio-pesticides & fertilizers including establishment of rural laboratories;
- More intensive drought mitigation measures;
- Expansion of CBR program to all operational area villages;
- Mobilization of resources for micro finance and micro enterprises.

Strengths and Weaknesses

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☺ Trained, experienced, motivated & dedicated staff; ☺ Collective planning & action; ☺ Good rapport at grass root level and with local and district administration; ☺ Access to experts, research institutions, scientists, etc. ☺ Member of various networks of VOs & CBOs; ☺ Credibility, wide recognition and publicity; ☺ Selected as District level Resource Organization for CO, CB, IPM, organic & bio farming; ☺ Aspiration for higher goals; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☹ Lack of own financial resources for sustainability of the organisation and continuation of programs; ☹ Lack of sufficient infrastructures; ☹ Non conducive atmosphere for innovative ideas and experiments; ☹ Not enough flexibility in project budgets.
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Some realizations of SDDPA :

SDDPA : A secular legal entity, apolitical but deeply political in the original sense of being for the nation's good, voluntary and non-governmental but associating itself with governmental development programmes, driven by social responsibility and ethical convictions affecting civil life and relating to intra-human responsibilities towards the deprived, suppressed, dehumanized and humiliated "community" within the larger community, in the context of Indian interior villages, especially those of the most backward areas of Telengana region in Andhra Pradesh, more particularly, presently, Mahabubnagar District.

SDDPA exists to provoke integrated participatory sustainable and emulating development process among the poor and neglected of the areas where it gets itself involved. Its main thrust being the optimum development and utilisation of the resources of the poor and of the nature surrounding them.

SDDPA : Genesis and Status :

It is the irresistible humanitarian and humanist concern of Rev. Fr. Francis D'Cruz, a dedicated, tirelessly active and lovable clergy of Kurnool Diocese, to champion the cause of the poor and destitute of the fellow beings, through authenticated democratic, secular and legal structure, which resulted in founding the organisation. The organisation obtained the status of a juristic person in the year 1976, by registration under Charitable Societies Registration Act, 1860. It has a General Body having socially committed men and women, drawn from different walks of life. Its overall management is with the Governing Body, elected and constituted by the General Body. The executive responsibilities to carry out the decision of General Body and Governing Body, in furthering its objects, are shouldered by an Executive Director, in close conjunction with another Director, both being ex-officio members in the Governing Body.

Methodology of Empowerment :

First SDDPA has to establish its credibility, legitimacy and its mission with and for the poor. This is a process concurrently with the task of bringing the poor to the basic realization that they have the right and might to be different for better, provided they come out of the present socio-economic and cultural preconditions and predicaments, where they find themselves due to historic impositions of various nature and the realization that near to all fetters and barriers that stand against their development can be removed and overcome by deliberate self-actions and joint-actions. This obviates them to be organized in groups where community action is found necessary to improve their lot identifying problems of their life in all its aspects, be those of their economic, social, educational, cultural or and health care areas and the like ones.

Once such a community dynamism is aroused among the poor, calculated steps are taken to tackle issues giving priority to the areas the people themselves feel emergent and, overt actions are taken up to start the process of development, exploiting the potentialities of the poor to the maximum, for their own good and supplementing to overcome their inabilities, wherever such are identified, resulting in comprehensive involvement in the field of agriculture, land and water management, education of the adult, the young and the children, organizing men, women, youth, children, caring for the health of the whole community, aptitude development and cultural involvement for restructuring the psyche of the poor, mobilizing resources that are in the community of the poor and from outside sources such as from departments, financial institutions and aid agencies.

And all these processes suddenly show out the need for structural sustainable systems and institutions like schools community organs like sangam self Help groups, co-operative societies, cultural fora, library, reading rooms, community health centers and health team, Land and Water management committees, Eco-awareness building and eco-conservation teams etc., etc.

The development process is with the poor from despair and surrender to hope and resurgence, from inertia to action and SDDPA with its experienced staff and social engineering expertise will have its benevolent involvement with the poor for the poor and to see ultimately that they are by themselves not as the poor but as prospering partners and are in the main stream of development of themselves, their village/s and be conscious partners in the forward march of the nation assertively and determinedly.

With over 25 years' experience in working with the poor sections of the rural community in different districts of Andhra Pradesh, right now, we are with the poor of Mahabubnagar District, with the following activities, achievements and approaches.

Area of Operation :

1976 - 1989 : Guntakal, Gooty & Pamidi Mandals of Anantapur Dist.

Activities : Intensive economic development and welfare measures.

1990 - 1995 : Wanaparthy Mandal, Mehabubnagar District (Intensive activities),
Gooty and Pamidi Mandals (Less Intensive),
Pangal Mandal of Mehabubnagar District (Initiation of intensive activities)

Activities : Facilitation of social, political, economic, agriculture and environment development through active participation of community organizations.

1994 - 1995 : Wanaparthy, Pangal, Kodair, Gopalpet, Bijinapally Mandals of Mehabubnagar District.

Activities : Organizing women for formation of Self Help Groups on behalf of State Government and UNDP.

1996 - 1999 : Wanaparthy, Pangal (Intensive) and Kodair (Less Intensive) Mandals, Mehabubnagar District.

Activities : Facilitation of social, political, economic, agriculture and environment development programmes; Watershed development in two mandals; Promotion of vermiculture & organic farming;

2000 - till date : Wanaparthy, Pangal, Kodair, Gopalpet and part of Bijinapally Mandals (Intensive programmes)

Activities : Facilitation of comprehensive development measures; Watershed Development; Agro-forestry; Vermi-compost & organic farming; National Child Labor Program; Promotion of Micro Enterprises; Community Based Rehabilitation of the disadvantaged; Human Resource Development; Field experiment of bio- fertilizers, pheromone pest traps, Production and marketing of bio-pesticides, Skill trainings, solar power utilization, group production centers, marketing and market linkages, Network for Sustainable Integrated Area Development.

Highlights of SDDPA's Contra-poverty stance :

Siding with the poor for their development and understanding their lot - POVERTY - as the humanity old, obsequious and un-surmountable malady or disease of human society and realizing, perhaps, that the word "**POVERTY**" stands for an abbreviation, to be taken for its subsisting syndromics as,

P	eo <i>ple</i> <i>with</i>	Those inert and marginalized sections of humanity or our society
O	ppressed <i>and</i>	by all spheres of oppressive structures and persons inhibiting due growth and development to the 'people'
V	ulnerable	By hunger, disease, destitution, debt, discrimination and a host of other innumerable derivations
E	Xistance	Of ever being in sub-human or pseudo-human conditions
R	epressingly	By the anti poor multitude of forces
T	rambled <i>and</i>	By oppressive structures and vested interests
Y	Oked	To labor for the interest of their enemies, at the cost of their own peril.

And rallying with the poor, to bring out their intrinsic but interred resources and harness them in terms of development environs, which, left to itself, shall obliterate the cause of the weakest and the poor. In the emergent economic scenario of the country, as never before, resources at the village level, both in terms of man and material, clamor for class management. And to build into the community of the poor the required resource, management competency, ranks highest as we think of their sustainable development. Any imaginable amount of input and efforts in this line would prove only inadequate, considering the magnitude of the task ahead.

The efforts of the Governments to blunt the sharpness of the weapon - poverty - if not to destroy it, got to transcend from the position of a provider to that of an enabler, backed by serious thinking, planning and effectuating, propelled by committed execution mechanism, taking into confidence, the poor and those who stand with and for them (NGOs worth their salt) with no further pro-castigating start and pursue a force of strategies to insert a new vertebra in the rural economy, to be more vibrant, responsive to face the new situations for the greater advantage of the poor village community. Any delay in this regard, doubtlessly, be halted for the village community poor, on whom the very future of the nation basically depends. The present poor should be effectively assisted to build ability to carve a niche for themselves in the emerging economic power constellation.

Achievements :

SDDPA stands today, having got convincingly empowered and experienced, imparting and inducing empowerment and sustainability amidst the poorest, for the last 25 years of its sojourn, through the roughest and toughest terrains of poverty's manifestation in their worst forms and was constantly in search for viable solutions in its historical context of existence to the worst of the invincible enemies of humanity, through out the human history - **POVERTY** -, in which all the tens and thousands, with whom it has been and is traveling, have the most dreaded hereditary, share with.

Learning with and from the poor results in revived and revealing visions to go ahead with, all the same, it has been keeping abreast with the ever evolving and devolving concepts of development for the years that has gone by, giving it the courage without boasting to affirm that it is capable of bringing about the, more or less, best results in empowermentally integrated, harmonious and sustainable development process, for the targeted poor, particularly and generally of its operational areas.

SDDPA presently stands, having completed 25 years' of service to the poor and to the village community, quantitatively and qualitatively grown and moving ahead with infatigable competency to meet the challenges to be encountered in its pursuit of facilitating balanced, participatory, sustainable and integrated development of the poor in its operational areas, fighting poverty in all its ramifications and dehumanizing manifestations across the village community, comprising majority of our countrymen, with which SDDPA chances to work with, keeping in mind the village community is the building blocks of the District, State and the larger National Community. As the villages, so the State and the Nation - SDDPA has no doubts.

Since 1990 its facilitation in Mehabubnagar District has resulted in organizing and federating over 25000 men and women from 125 villages of 5 Mandals, consciously and actively participating in balanced, integrated and sustainable development of the poor, after being considerably empowered to take up the responsibility.

