

Development Research Communication and Services Centre, Kolkata



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

---

Dear DRCSC Supporters,

You have helped us make 2018-19 wonderful year! Thanks to you – our donors, partners, academicians, research institutes and volunteers – we've been able to make an impact in the lives and livelihoods of about 1.5 lakh marginalised population from small & marginal farming and landless households across West Bengal and other 7 states of India. We have been able to aware and train about 10000 children in ecology and environment awareness. You have helped them to live their life with dignity. You have ensured that they can use the natural resources sustainably to get their food baskets diversified, to get a secured livelihood by being with their families. You have helped them to build their capacity to adapt with the changing climate and ever changing society & environment. You have made all of this, and so much more, possible simply by lending us your unwavering support. A heartfelt thank you for everything you have done for us. Together, we're confident that we'd be able to continue transforming the lives and livelihoods of the marginalised population in the years to come!

On behalf of the Executive Board



(Secretary, DRCSC)

---

Development Research Communication and Services Centre (DRCSC) is a 37 year old organisation and working in the sector from 1982. We are working with about 13000 small and marginal farming families directly in order to ensure their food, nutrition and livelihood security with sustainable natural resource management. We are at present nurturing about 825-850 groups of women in about 7 districts directly and building capacity of grassroot organisations to work with vulnerable poor households in about 3 districts of West Bengal.

DRCSC provided capacity building support to 8 organisations in 4 states of India last year with the collaboration of the organisations like Swiss Aid, CASA, Swayam, ITC, Anjali etc.

DRCSC's focus has always been on the small and marginal farming households so this year also.

We have been able to increase their production and productivity from their small patches of land which are generally much less than an acre. They are now able to make a little surplus on an individual level after consumption. The work is also going on to diversify the livelihood opportunities and empower the farming families to become climate adaptive so that they can bear with the changing climate scenario. The weather information and crop advisories in advance helped the farmers in Purulia and Bankura to save their production from the erratic behaviour of rainfall. Our collaboration with the Jadavpur University has helped to identify the appropriate places for developing irrigation facilities which has helped the farmers to extend their growing season and increase their total production of different crops and vegetables. A detailed report will be printed and shared with other community based organisations, NGOs, networks, working on soil & water conservation at district-block levels. One weather station has also been installed in Patharpratima, Sundarbans and a trial is going on if farmers / volunteers themselves can provide data from the machine as forecast and based on that if the agro-advisory can be generated by them only.

Our **vision** is to work for a Sustainable future free from poverty, hunger and environmental degradation.

Our **mission** is to ensure food, nutrition and livelihood security of the resource poor population through skill development, action research, and networking oriented to collective self

Changes in the land shape has often helped the farmers in Sundarbans (North and South 24 parganas) to combat with salinity and get ensured and increased production. The diversification of sources of income through small animal and bird rearing, introduction of alternative income generation programmes (honey processing, jaggery making and value addition to farm products, aquaculture, bee keeping, crab fattening etc) have unleashed an additional income opportunity for the families. Orientation and rigorous trainings on climate change impacts and how to increase the adaptive capacity is going on in both the districts. The rainwater harvesting is providing a scope for irrigating the nutrition gardens and do aquaculture which in turn is helping to diversify their food baskets.

The surplus production from the farmers are being aggregated and marketed through different channels. The demand from Kolkata market has been increasing day by day due to the intensive consumer awareness programmes. A platform could be created where farmers/farmer producer company and retailers are being connected which can create a scope to enable the farmers to sale their produces and earn a good price. The challenge remains in pricing the materials as the quantity remains small and provide a good packaging for the materials. DRCSC has been provided two spaces in Kolkata market (one in Keshtopur and one in NABANNA) from the Government of West Bengal where our farmers are able to sale their products directly to the consumers. We are also grateful to Government of West Bengal, Agriculture department for providing us a mini truck for carrying different organic production to the markets which has enhanced the mobility very much. This is to

mention that now there are 5-6 retailers in Kolkata who keeps our farmers products (mainly non-perishable) for sale.

2 Farmers Producer Company are in the process of registration (one in Purba Medinipur and one in Bankura) which will help the farmers to establish a banner under which the organic and natural production can be sold. Bankura farmers groups are also applying for FSSAI registration. This year in 5 blocks of Purulia 192 Detailed Project Reports have been submitted to MGNREGs with facilitation of DRCSC. Among these 23 model patches have been identified, and the plans were revised and implementation is being happening through direct supervision of DRCSC. The handholding and capacity building trainings have been organised and conducted for MGNREGs officials in blocks and gram panchayets. More than 100 farmers (in semi arid region) have received Participatory Guarantee Certificates which they can use to sale their organic produces in open domestic market. The bulk sales of products especially jaggery is also facilitated to shops like Balaram Mullick.

We have been able to extend our work with ultra poor beneficiary families of two other GPs of Nabagram and Bhagobangola blocks. 800 women have got engaged with us in this phase who have been supported with productive assets (livestocks, land etc). They have been given capacity building trainings to plan how they can increase their family income with the use of these assets. They have been helped to form their groups and are getting regular handholding support for their empowerment. Facilitation has been made to enable them to know their rights and entitlements and access the same together.

3 womens cooperatives formed (in Murshidabad and Birbhum) in the first phase, last year, are running successfully. Women are taking loans from the cooperatives and paying it back with interest. They are getting engaged with the government officials on a regular manner and has received leadership training to successfully manage the cooperative. All the three cooperatives have engaged a staff member to keep accounts of the cooperatives following the rules and regulations. DRCSC's close monitoring & handholding support is still there as the members needs continuous motivation and information to run the cooperatives successfully.

The natural resource based skill development programme for the underprivileged youth is continuing especially in Purulia, Bankura and Birbhum through Green Colleges. During last year, we had imparted training to about 2000 youth among which 1600 youth have started working. Of them about 300 youth are earning within the range of Rs. 5000-10000 additionally per month, 1000 trainees are earning within the range of Rs. 2500-5000 per month and the income of rest has also increased but below Rs. 2500 per month. The Green College in Purulia is also conducting trainings for small and marginal farmers under ATMA project of GoWB. The process of registering the training centre under Utkarsha Bangla (Paschim Banga Society for Skill Development – initiative by GoWB) is going on. We will be registering to deliver 3 courses at present eg. 1. Organic Grower, 2. Paddy Farmers, 3. Vermi Compost Producer. We are hopeful that these Training Centres will become self-sustainable eventually. This year we have been able to generate Rs. 635,462.00 from the training centres which has helped us to bear part of the administrative and maintenance costs of the centres. This is also to mention that we need to relook at Jhargram Training Centre because this remained underutilised throughout the year although the property is really work with residential capacity for 20-25 participants alongwith a reasonably large farm surrounding it.

DRCSC this year has organised different fairs as part of the consumer awareness programme. The Safe World Festivals provided a platform where the producers, retailers and consumers met and learnt about the organic produces, about safe food, how adulteration is made etc. In this festivals other cooperatives like Sundarini, Badaban etc also attended who mainly deal with safe food. The natural handicrafts and recycled products produced by the marginalised families are also sold in the festivals. Traditional cooked food tasting was done and this has helped us to reach Consumers who

are enquiring now for safe food. The guests from WE 21 also attended the fairs and brought recycled products from Japan to display and taught general audience easy processes of making useful products by recycling. DRCS is also facilitating the running of the stall in Bankura market provided by the Government of WB, the volunteers are mainly managing the same.

Climate Resilient Indigenous Seed systems Project (CRISP) supported by Swiss Aid has been duly completed. In the project we mainly worked among a network of organisations working in Sundarbans. In the process, 7 nos. of Community Seed Bank (CSB) has been established covering 3 Districts. 30 nos. of CSB cadres (seed producers) share their knowhow and experiences to other groups and farmers for popularization of traditional seeds- Reached nearly 450 farmers. Seed Diversity of West Bengal & Plant Propagation Manual were published as part of the project. Negotiation for new phase is going on.

This year we have been able to establish contact with Climate Justice Relief Fund (international donor). We have submitted projects to Japanese Fund for Global Environment (JFGE). We have also submitted a project to Azim Premji Philanthropic Institution (APPI). We have helped ITC to assess the need of small and marginal farming families in Howrah and Murshidabad. Negotiation has also been initiated with Oak Foundation. A long term negotiation is going on with Khadi Village Industries Board & Commission (KVIB & KVIC) with regard to formalising the Palmyra and Date Palm value added production work in Purulia and Bankura – it is a very lengthy process and we are providing different documents etc as and when needed.

DRCS currently has 150 staff members which includes Head Office and Field Offices and also includes full time, part time and apprentice staff members. About 50 volunteers are engaged with us and helping us in different manner. Several trainings on concepts, development sector etc had been organised for new as well as old staff members. Staff welfare is continuing successfully. This is to mention that DRCS has been registered with EPF and providing the same to its staff members. This year we have attended several workshops, meetings etc – to mention a few like we have attended Community Based Adaptation 13 workshop in Ethiopia, workshops on sustainability of Green Colleges organised by WHH, Review meetings organised by NETz, capacity building workshops organised by NABARD etc. A workshop was also organised in collaboration with Swiss Aid and MASIPAG (in Haldia) for the farmers of different region on pollination of rice.

Several bureaucrats visited our working area in Purulia and Bankura - PS to MIC Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal, Project Director, State ATMA Cell, DDA (Admin), Dept.ofAgri, Purulia. Project Director,ATMA, Purulia, SAO Raghunathpur, ADA, Dept of Agri, Kashipur Block.

Negotiation is going on regarding the scaling up of Weather Prediction & Crop Advisory, A cost estimate (Proposal) has been submitted to Dept. of Agriculture and also PS to MIC, Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal.

NABARD is showing their interest to advocate with MoRD (under MGNREGs) and also GGGI has recommended the model of micro planning through GIS, IFS,etc.

Department of Environment, Govt of WB has visited our AWS and observed the benefits of Weather forecast & crop advisory services and included the concept in their Green Climate Fund project. Department of Agriculture, Purulia collected various types traditional variety seed from DRCS for multiplication purpose.

Regular sharing of project activities, learnings is done with panchayet, block and district officials in all our project area.

DRCSC has also been invited to share its work experience with the Government officials in many occasions. We had been invited by ATC Fulia, BIRD (Lucknow) etc. The Department of Vocational Education and Skill Development (GoWB) had formed a committee to assess the infrastructure and curriculum of the vocational education institutions where agriculture is a subject, our Secretary is also a member of the committee and advising the Government on improvement.

Society's income from membership during the last year increased to Rs. 4200.00 and local donations of Rs. 169,020.00 were received during the year.

DRCSC has received the renewal of its FCRA registration for 5 years till 2021. It has duly complied with the Income Tax Rules and had been able to submit zero return.

We are thankful to Honb'le Minsiter Sri PurnenduBasu, Prof Prabir Bhattacharya, BCKV, Dr. Prasanta Biswas, Jadavpur University, Dr. Sugata Hazra, JU, Dr. Joyashree Roy, JU, Prof. T.K. Bose, Professors of Siddho Kanho University, Sri Pratap Bhattacharya, Sri Dinanath, representatives of our donor agencies, our partner organisations and others for their immense support and encouragement towards achieving a sustainable future free from poverty, hunger and environmental degradation.

This year, the total amount of local grants received is Rs.2,10,73,667.47 and the foreign grants is Rs. 7,51,49,208.51.

## Projects in Progress

### Climate change adapted food, nutrition & livelihood security programme

#### **In collaboration with NABARD supported from Adaptation Board fund from May 2015**

Area of work: Parts of rainfed, red lateritic soil area 5000 households living in 40 mouza villages.

Main interventions (i) rainwater harvest and low water irrigation, (ii) Choosing nutritious & drought tolerant field crops/ trees/ bushes and vegetables, (iii) Small scale animal husbandry on group basis for dry season livelihood especially for women. Improved supply of animal feed, better health care & collective shelters, (iv) Tree planting & community managed woodlots, (v) Localised climate data collection & dissemination of weather prediction, (vi) Environment education among children & youth, (vii) 5 days crop advisories and weather prediction.

The project has been period has completed May this year. But as we have only received two years fund therefore the project has been extended for 18 months more to complete by November 2020.

Till March 2019, the total receipt was Rs. 1,43,14,585.00 and the expense made during last year was Rs. 220,77,360.00, It had an opening balance of about 272,00,000 during April, 2018.

#### **In partnership with Sign of Hope, Germany from January 2018**

Area: Sunderban coastal islands, South 24 Parganas district, 16 villages in Patharpratima block.

Main interventions: (i) Restoring/replanting mangrove forests mainly by groups of women, (ii) Rain water harvest & climate resilient nutrition gardens, (iii) Local animals/bird and aquatic organism based livelihoods, feed production, (iv) Climate change awareness among youth & children, (v) Food processing using both farm & forest products using solar dryers, (vi) Efficient smokeless stoves for kitchens.

Now we are in 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project. Some models has been established, the groups has been built and are in the process of strengthening, mangroves plantation has been done..continuous motivation, staff training etc are being carried out.

Till March 2019, the total receipt was Rs. 234,12,400.00 and the expense made during last year was Rs.18172271.00.

#### **In partnership with a USA based fund focusing on Climate Justice (CJRF) from August 2018**

Area: Sunderbans coastal region (8 Village Panchayets under 4 Blocks of South and North 24 Parganas district covering 1600 most vulnerable households)

Main interventions: (i) Restoring/replanting mangrove forests mainly by groups of women, (ii) Rain water harvest & climate resilient nutrition gardens, (iii) Local animals/bird and aquatic organism based livelihoods, feed production, (iv) Climate change awareness (v) small farm improvement – promotion of Integrated Farming System, (vi) Creation of Alternative Livelihood opportunities, (vii) local level institution building and strengthening.

One year is completed. The PVCA were done, beneficiaries were selected, and implementation of project activities are going on.

A workshop on “Community Based Adaptation Strategies – CBA13” was attended and the learnings from different adaptation strategies, voices from the areas were shared with participants from all over the world.

Till March 2019, the total receipt was Rs. 145,94,530.81 and the expense made during last year was Rs. 41,18,309.70.

### **In partnership with a CASA and Bread for the World**

We are working for **Promoting Climate Resilient Sustainable Livelihood through Capacity Building and Information Sharing** among the 10 grass root organizations in Costal Sundarban of West Bengal. We have been doing training and awareness on different climate change adaptation models. We have done hand holding training of context analysis, participatory vulnerability assessment and micro planning for sustainable livelihood promotion, workshop on data analysis and prepare micro planning, training of NRM base sustainable livelihood etc. We have follow-up field visit for hand holding technical assistance and also helped to establish demonstration cum learning model plots about climate resilient livelihood models.

More than 100 participants including organization's senior management members, implementing project staffs, community resource persons have participated in different training programmes. Partner organizations also developed different effective models on climate change adaptive livelihoods, saline tolerant agriculture etc.

The 1<sup>st</sup> phase is going to complete this year. The preparation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase is going on.

Till March 2019, the total receipt was Rs. 396689.58 and the expense made during last year was Rs 816681.00.

### **Work with Children**

#### **Improving environmental awareness and linking it with hands on activities (mainly related to Child Rights & Nutrition)**

In collaboration with Save the Children, India their Partners abroad (25 schools)

Interventions: Improving Teaching Learning methods, Environmental awareness, vegetable gardens and integrating with core curriculum.

2 years of the project has been finished. Here we mainly work to Ensuring quality education for drop out and irregular children from urban slum and squatter colonies in Kolkata. 625 children has been reached.

Till March 2019, the total receipt was Rs. 45,88,391.00 and the expense made during last year was Rs. 45,51,398.55.

#### **School Garden Programme supported by Sign of Hope, WE 21**

School gardens were developed in 8 primary schools of Minakha block and in 1 Orphanage in Sabang. About 945 children could be reached through the project. The gardens have been used as a learning tool about environment. Different teaching learning materials could be popularised in the schools so that children can learn about environment. Even the gardens helped the children to learn mathematics, science, language etc. The children could also harvest about 8-10 types of leafy vegetables from their gardens and consumed it in their mid day meals. Children themselves are taking care of the gardens. Parents have also been made aware about developing nutrition gardens at their homestead through different workshops.

In the Orphanage, the pond along with the garden also used and fishery was initiated. The harvest from the garden (at least 4-5 kgs) per week along with fish are used in their meals.

## **Vocational Training and Safe Food Programme**

### **Awareness about food safety & develop urban agriculture & Green colleges**

In collaboration with WHH India with their German partners and WE 21

Interventions: i) Training for young farmers to start enterprises or joining them to provide Agriculture + Animal Husbandry services, ii) Organizing 'Safe food Festivals' to introduce traditional food to consumers, restaurants, shops etc., iii) Encourage & support farmers to form collectives, to sell their produce both raw & processed involving about 1000 farmers. iv) Create School Gardens in 15 Schools involving 1500 children and promote urban gardens. v) Support for Palm Sugar Units. Part support has been received to establish a Common Facility Centre. Infrastructural support has been received for establishing a Training Centre in Purulia. vi) About 2000 rural & marginal youth have received vocational training support from the college on different subjects and also about 3500 farmers have received training on different aspects of ecological agriculture through Farmer's Field School approach.

Status: Most activities completed, The Green College project to be finished by end of 2019. During last year, we had imparted training to about 2000 youth among which 1600 youth have started working. Of them about 300 youth are earning within the range of Rs. 5000-10000 additionally per month, 1000 trainees are earning within the range of Rs. 2500-5000 per month and the income of rest has also increased but below Rs. 2500 per month. We had also been providing training on Urban Gardening. We have trained about 70 trainees this year and they have developed their own rooftop / balcony gardens. 2 producers group have got registration as Farmer Producer Company (in PurbaMedinipur and Bankura). Activities for Safe Food Campaign project is going on. Consumer awareness is going on through different fairs, school programs, cooking competitions etc.

Till March 2019, the total receipt was Rs. 123,79,607.31 and the expense made during last year was Rs. 124,05,761.00.

## **Livelihood Programme**

### **Usharmukti Program: Regenerating degraded soils & fallow lands.**

BRLF, a national network is our partner and we are actively responsible for 5 blocks – one intensive block and 4 non-intensive blocks covering all the villages.

Intervention: Create micro-watershed maps and conduct baseline surveys on water situation + develop plans for rejuvenation of rainwater harvest ponds, create earth dams and contour bunds + tree planting plans. Assist people to prepare plans & submit to local Govt. for support.

Status: 24 months work completed and 24 months work remaining. More new villages/areas may be taken in phase 2 of the project. DRCSC has already been successful in submitting DPRs for intensive block to MGNREG Cell through block officials. The monitoring of the implementation is also done by DRCSC in close coordination with Block and GP.

This initiative is being directly monitored by MGNREG Cell, BRLF and the lead partner PRADAN. Along with this DRCSC has been entrusted with the responsibility of documenting the work of all the partners of this project (7) including DRCSC which is of a volume of about Rs. 10 Lakh a year in addition.

Till March 2019, the total receipt was Rs. 39,65,050.00 and the expense made during last year was Rs. 51,11,053.00.

### **Ultra poor livelihood project**

NETZ Germany & their Bangladesh counterpart are our partners. About 160 groups with 2400 members are participating in 6 blocks of 2 Districts. Most families are landless.

Intervention: Most families have developed with part grant-part loan to raise small animals, start small business, raise nutrition gardens, lease lands etc. All groups have bank Account and have created considerable amount of revolving funds.

Status: A phase of 6 years project has been completed. 1600 members are continuing on their own with our technical support only. Still the continuous nurturing, motivation and handholding support is being provided in both the areas.

Till March 2019, the total receipt was Rs. 85,87,525.39 and the expense made during last year was Rs. 55,71,565.13.

Another project named **Eradication of Extreme Poverty and Hunger in Structurally Disadvantaged Areas of Bangladesh and India (DABI)** has been started to extend the work in new villages of Nabagram and Bhagobangola blocks of Murshidabad. 800 ultra poor beneficiary families have been selected and asset support have been provided to them. 44 groups have been formed with these beneficiaries and continuous nurturing, awareness generation with regard to safe and nutritious food, disaster preparedness, about their rights and entitlements etc are going on.

### **Farmers Institution Building – Kisan Swaraj Samity**

AID India is our partner. 6087 small and marginal farmers, landless labours, tenant farmers, bargadars (with 21% women) are members now across 6 districts of West Bengal.

Main activities are Campaign, Capacity enhancement, Interface with officials for access of schemes, services and facilities of Government, IEC Materials, Networking, Advocacy.

The project is renewed every year. Yearly budget of the project remains 6-6.5 lakh every year.

The objective is to Ensure Income and livelihood security for all farmers, so that producers find viability and dignity in their profession and are not forced to leave agriculture out of distress; Ecologically sustainable farming systems to preserve productive natural resources so that livelihoodscanbesustained, People's control over resources such as land, water, forests and knowledge as a key to viable and sustainable livelihood, Established rights of women as a farmer, Non toxic, diverse, nutritiousandadequatefoodfor all.

This year 26 AVs on 16 SA techniques, 4 Case studies on IFS, 5 Interviews on Agrarian crisis and its alternative, GM seed and its implication on ecology, the status of water in West Bengal, Farmers Movement, Sustainable Agriculture Concept and one narration on myths of MSP have been uploaded on youtube channel.

Till March 2019, the total receipt was Rs. 3,52,20,000and the expense made during last year was Rs.9,79,524.00

### **Research work with Shieffield Halam University**

A research work is going on with Sheffield Halam University on creative communication, the main objective is to evaluate the climate volunteer model. How this model can have active participants within the information system has a significant impact on villagers personal agency, scientific understanding and their human capabilities to respond to the challenges posed by climate change. The collaboration is with the University and Linus, who works with DRCSA voluntarily on many aspects is doing this research.

## **New Projects are about to start from April 2019**

### **Project Title : Promotion of Agroforestry practices in different ecosystems and its sustainable management and utilization in Birbhum district, West Bengal**

Donor : Japan Fund for Global Environment (JFGE) – Regular Grant  
Period : 3 years, renewed every year basis based on performance  
Amount : 4500000 JPY equivalent to Rs. 28 Lakh

Summary : Promoting environment conservation as well as livelihood improvement by Agroforestry tree plantation in 5 different land ecosystem (Common waste lands, Road side, River or Canal side, Pond /Rice filed sides, and Homesteads) through participatory way with 30 SHGs of 600 households, marginal or small scale farmers also landless households in 2 blocks (Labpur and Moharmmadbazar) of Birbhum district. Also ecological agriculture concept will be introduced to encourage sustainable use and management of Agroforestry as food forest along with introducing appropriate technologies. For sustain the activity in future we are making sure growing awareness and capacity building among SHGs' through trainings and experts' field visit and guides.

### **Project Title : Organic School Kitchen Gardens**

Donor : Swiss Aid  
Period : 7 months (short term assignment, having an opportunity to scale depending on the performance)  
Amount :Rs. 15,20,000

Summary : The organic School kitchen Garden project is being implemented by SWISS AID partner organization Bittibhumi at Odisha. The project was found to be attractive and based on the request of their fundraising department at Switzerland this additional credit has been raised. This additional phase is being planned with DRCSA. This project will be implemented at Hingalganj Block, North24 Paraganas District, in West Bengal. The objective of the main project will be to raise school garden, impart the students with knowledge and skill of ecological agriculture, and make the students aware regarding gender discrimination and strengthening the SMCs (School Management Committee). Since this additional credit phase is only for 7 months, so the major focus will be on raising the garden and supplying the vegetables to the school Mid-Day Meal and also imparting knowledge and skill of ecological agriculture to the school children.

To achieve the objectives of the additional phase, 8 Government schools has been identified by our partner organisation. 1600 students from all these 8 schools will be benefitted by this project. 80 students will be further selected from each schools, and 640 students from all schools will be imparted with training on ecological agriculture. 10 sessions in each school has been planned which will be a mixture of theoretical and practical classes. To learn more about ecological agriculture, an exposure visit of the students in the neighborhood area will also be organised. Our partner organization will also prepare several IEC (Information Education Communication) materials for creating awareness among

the students regarding various components related ecological agriculture. A stake holder workshop will also be organised where potential donors will be invited to scale up this project further.

## **Support Service Programmes**

### **Capacity Building**

This year we continued providing **technical support on ecological farming** to Swiss Aid partners in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh. This was the last year of the agreement. The cost was covered by Swiss Aid with the objectives to increase capacity of the staff and cadres of AAAS, GK, PRERAK and NIWCYD in addressing ecological farming i. e. Soil and water conservation, bio pesticides, improved agronomic practices in crops and linkages with different components of ecological agriculture so that they in turn can train the beneficiary farmer families. We have published a case study booklet which can be referred to for the details. Shooting has also been done in different phases and the final film is about to get published.

We have imparted training to SWAYAM officials on livelihood diversification.

DRCSC has started to support Anjali (working for mental health care) in training the patients of mental hospitals for developing gardens in the hospitals. This is a unique experience for DRCSC and it is going on quite successfully. Negotiation is going on to start the work in Lumbini Mental Hospital in Kolkata as well.

### **Publications and Audio Visuals**

We have published monthly news services 12 issues and supplied 200 district level local language Newspapers and these news and articles were reprinted by 129 newspapers regularly.

Basbhumi booklet which is always in high demand has been digitised and the e-version can be used now. 2 booklets (vegetable and waste) have been reprinted this year.

The following booklets have been published this year :

- Pushtibagan manual
- Handbook of plant species of Sunderbans... (Imposition and print)
- Flip Chart on Project activities for Panchayet.
- Booklet on Crop Rotation, Circle Garden, Pitcher Irrigation, Seed Preservation
- PGS-India Manual Bengali, Composition & Design completed. Ready to print.
- Video journalism Manual for Training
- Krishi O Kishan-swarajneeti manual
- PushtiBagan (Hindi Flip Chart)
- Ecological Farming (Hindi Flip Chart)
- Soil & Water conservation (Hindi Flip Chart)
- Plant Propagation Manual
- Seed Diversity of West Bengal (Bi-lingual)
- GharoaMurgipalan-Redesign & Reprint
- ChagalPalan- Redesign & Reprint
- MachaerKhabar Manual ongoing

- Baro Mach Mach Chas ongoing
- Case studies on Ecological Farming

Several other awareness materials and print stationaries have been published.

This year, under Usharmukti project we have documented the implementation activities of 7 partners. We have done the research, content preparation, shooting, animations for the 8 AV publications on different concepts of soil & water conservation. The publications will finally be produced by next financial year.

We have also published an awareness film on climate change adaptation work and on food adulteration.

AV documentation was done on the activities of NIWCYD and Gramodaya Kendra in MP and Chattisgarh as part of Ecological Agriculture project supported by Swiss Aid.

Regular AV documentation has been done for capturing different workshops, awareness programmes, theatre campaign, safe world festivals etc.

#### **Our donor agencies (2018-19)**

- AFB through NABARD-India
- Welthungerhilfe, Germany co-funding with BMZ & GIZ
- Save the Children,UK
- WE21, Japan
- Sign of Hope, BMZ
- Climate Justice Relief Fund
- Swiss Aid
- Aid India, Boston; USA
- NETz co-funding with BMZ
- NABARD, WB,India
- CASA & Bread for the World
- Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation, India
- Sheffield Halam University

**Development Research Communication and Services Centre** got established in the year 1982 and is registered under Societies Registration Act, 1961. DRCSC is also registered with FCRA, IT12A and Niti Ayog.

## **Vision**

To work for a Sustainable future free from poverty, hunger and environmental degradation

## **Mission**

Ensure food, nutrition and livelihood security of the resource poor population through skill development, action research, and networking oriented to collective self sufficiency

## **Values**

- We are a learning organisation
- We ensure that our decision-making is open and transparent
- We follow principles of mutual cooperation and social justice
- We undertake participatory actions that are environment friendly, economically feasible, socially equitable & viable.
- We remain accountable to the people for whom we work and for effective utilisation of the resources entrusted to us
- We are committed to protect the planet's scarce resources for the sake of future generations
- We encourage equal participation of women in all decision making forums

## **Strategies**

1. Discuss and suggest policy changes with planners & administrators in favour of small & marginal farmers as well as forest dwellers, artisans & animal herders.
2. Build projects and implement them for extension of proven models to address ecological problems of coastal and saline zones, semi-arid zones, river bank erosion zone and terai region of West Bengal for ensuring food and livelihood security of the poor and the marginalised sections of population living in these areas.
3. Build capacities of vulnerable communities and encourage them to get involved in participatory action research to develop climate change adaptive models in agriculture and allied sectors in the ecologically fragile zones.
4. Assess the possibilities of resources available in the semi arid region and build capacities of the adolescents and youth through short term courses on natural resource based vocations so that they can process such resources and develop small enterprises either individually or collectively or earn livelihood as instructors.
5. Support small and marginal farmers engaged in producing organic products to establish backward and forward linkages in marketing.
6. Consolidate our identity as a Resource Organisation for ecological agriculture and extend capacity building services at all levels like farmers, field workers, organisers, individuals and organisations interested to promote organic farming in South and South East Asia.
7. Support local institutions and CBOs in West Bengal and strengthen their existing capacities in order that they may carry forward the efforts to sustain food and livelihood security among the poor and marginalized.
8. Facilitate formation of networks/forums of organic farmers in West Bengal and provide training and other technical support for improving their production & marketing strategies.
9. Work for identification of child leaders who are leading the environment actions in the villages, and for ensuring rights towards free and compulsory education
10. Distribute the published results of the actions to the government and non-government agencies, convince the state government to up-scale the successful models and inspire change in the area.

11. Promote public participation in informed discourses on ecological agriculture and natural resource management, which critiques public policies and generates demands for appropriate public policy and legislation.
12. Promote school gardens, particularly in primary & secondary schools and develop garden based learning materials.
13. Document knowledge of indigenous resources and how they are utilised. Help in developing efficient collection method & processing technology of under-utilised or lesser known plants & animal resources.

The 9 member Executive Council of DRCSO during 2018-19 was as follows:

Sri Samir Kr. Bhattacharya	President
Sri ArdhenduSekhar Chatterjee	Secretary
Sri Dilip Kr. Sarkar	Treasurer
Smt. SomjitaChakraborty	Member
Sri Raja Xavier	Member
Smt. Bulbul Bakshi	Member
Sri Subhasish Banerjee	Member
Sri SujitMitra	Member
Sri Tapas Mondol	Member

The Executive Council met four times last year to discuss several issues concerning the organisation. We are in the process of forming sub-committees to look after the work of different teams.

Our work has received appreciation from various government departments, donors and individuals. Dedication and spirit of the staff members and volunteers is highly appreciable, which has helped us to grow.