

Reviving Traditional Pasture Routes in Dry and Arid Parts of the Country

Monthly Report

February 2021



For clarification/ communication

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As per the revised timelines discussed during the virtual review meeting of Reviving Traditional Pasture Routes in Dry and Arid Parts of the Country held on 15th May 2020, following is the status of project activities for the month of February 2021.

SUMMARY OF STATUS OF MONTHLY ACTIVITIES AS PER THE (JUNE - APR) ACTION PLAN			
S.No	Activity with sequence	Status	Remarks
1	Identify & develop feasible package of support services	Ongoing	Submitted for approval and peer review.
2	Fencing and sign boards installation	Completed	NA
3	Construction work to begin from June 2020	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funds worth 1Cr 56 Lakhs secured through MGNREGA. Sustainable architecture and enhanced built environment principals deployed for the CFC development. Construction of CFC at Kalu completed. The construction of CFC at Kelan progressing at high rates.
4	Dialogue with animal husbandry department for veterinary care at the CFC	Completed	<p>Activity Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 6 health camps organised with 14,975 animals including sheep, goats, cows, camels and buffaloes organised with support from veterinary doctors and paravets from animal husbandry department. Convergence support from Azim Premji Foundation for vaccines valuing to 2 lacs. Distribution of free vaccines worth INR 50,000 to pastoralists under the COVID relief fund.
5	Seed procurement and plantation discussions initiated. Plantation to start on the onset of monsoon	Completed	Seed procured and the first round of plantation completed. However the low monsoon hampered the growth. Will plant another round on the onset of monsoon.

*The project materials can be accessed on this [link](#)



6	Solar plant installation in the unit	Pending	Post the construction of CFC, solar plants would be installed in both these units. Due to our convergence efforts, Selco Foundation has committed support for installation of solar power plants in both the CFCs. Aiming at installation in March 2021 in both the CFCs.
7	Procurement of provisions, tools and equipment for setting up the resting and meeting places for the pastoralist in the CFC	Ongoing	High grade shearing machines of global brand Heigniger procured. Once the unit is ready the machines shall be set up. Aiming at March installation.
8	Water structures in the identified CPRs to be renovated in collaboration with Gram Panchayat*.	Completed	Activity Completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification and construction of 3 water reservoirs in Kalu, Kelan and Dhani Bhopalaram completed.• 2 existing water reservoirs at Rajasar Bhatiyar CPR have been brought to use and construction of one new reservoir uptaken by MGNREGA.
9	Plantation to start in the fodder nursery and setting up drip irrigation system	Completed	NA
10	Labour force secured under MGNREGA with support from Panchayati Raj Department	Completed	NA
11	Baseline survey of 394 pastoralists has been conducted and their responses mapped.	Completed	NA
12	Summary sheet and knowledge materials developed. Developing a Pastoralist Passport; a travel essential diary with all the required information for the pastoralists and posters for awareness.	Ongoing	Summary sheet developed and shared. Passport printed. Being shared with the pastoralists in the coming migration cycle.

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13	Support through programme and organisational convergence to ensure programme sustainability	Ongoing	In continuous dialogue with stakeholders to ensure support to the programme.
14	Regular dialogue with policy makers at different levels- sarpanch, MLA, CEO- Zila Parishad, Animal Husbandry Department, other State and Central Government Departments	Ongoing	<p>Ongoing discussion with stakeholders including Gram Panchayats, Block Officers, District Administration for updating them on the programme progress and requesting support.</p> <p>Selco Foundation has contributed INR 4,00,000 to support construction of CFCs and INR 4,00,000 for procurement of a wool cutting machine.</p> <p>Azim Premji Foundation had garnered support with INR 50,000 for provisioning vaccines for the veterinary camps.</p>
15	Report on COVID lockdown effects on pastoralists and recommendations document for relief support	Completed	NA



Brief description of the activities

1. Construction work to be initiated from June

Post completion of the CFC at Kalu, the construction work for the second CFC at Kelan has been initiated. With the support garnered through Panchayat under MGNREGA worth 1.56 Crores, the construction work has been steered. Sustainable architecture and enhanced built environment principals have been deployed for the CFC development.



(Above) The CFC at Kalu



(Above) Ongoing construction of the CFC at Kelan

2. Training of Pastoralists with RAJUVAS

In the month of February, one training workshop was conducted for pastoralists in Bikaner with support from Rajasthan University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Bikaner on February 1 and 2, 2021. Pastoralists were informed on improved rearing, nutrition, veterinary and breeding practices for their herds. The workshop also focussed on helping increase the pastoralist's income and its sustainability. 15 pastoralists participated in the two day meeting.



(Above) Ongoing meeting with pastoralists at RAJUVAS

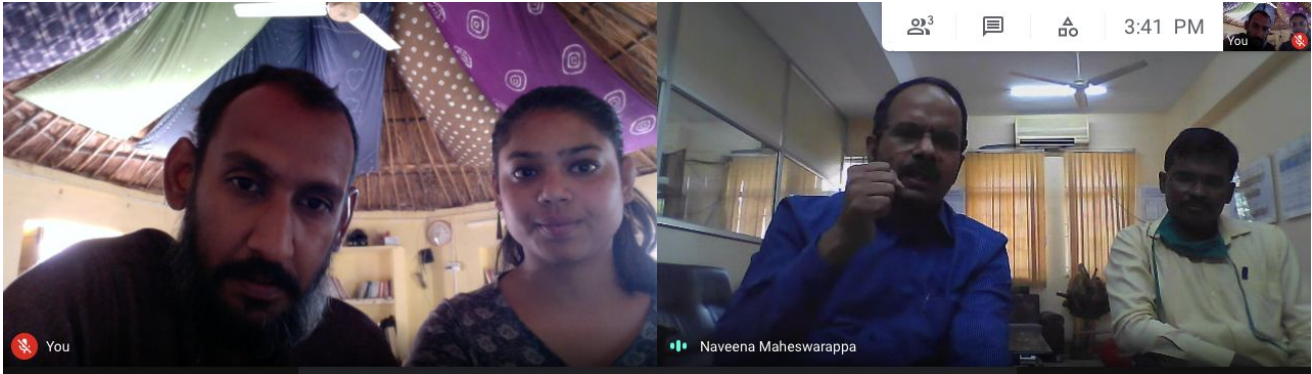
3. Meat Value Chain Discussions with NRC

An online meeting was held between ICAR-National Research Centre on Meat and the programme team. The discussion was joined by Dr. Naveena BM, Principal Scientist, ICAR-National Research Centre on Meat, Hyderabad and Dr. Yogiraj Meena, Senior Technical Assistant, CSWRI, Avikanagar along with Mr Anshul Ojha, Director Desert Resource Centre and Ms Aakriti Srivastava, Manager Knowledge and Communication, Desert Resource Centre. The team requested for support and guidance in development of a meat value chain for the pastoralists. Also to establish prospective market linkages to ensure fair prices for the sale of pastoralist animals.

Dr Naveena shared the details of the various training programmes that are conducted by NRC for pastoralists to build their skills around animal nutrition, setting up slaughter houses and development of a range of products like sausages, meat balls, minced meat, etc. He suggested conducting a three days training for our pastoralists at Avikanagar and also support for setting up slaughterhouses. Additionally, he offered to link the pastoralists with businesses like Licious to ensure fair sale prices.

Dr Yogiraj shared CSWRI's work on goat milk, cheese and sheep wool. He also suggested planning an exposure trip to Avikanagar, CSWRI campus to check the processes and techniques.

*The project materials can be accessed on this [link](#)



(Above) Screenshot of ongoing meeting with NRC-Meat

4. Capacity building training with pastoralists

A series of capacity building training sessions were held at villages Sehrajsar, Lodera, Dhani Bhopalaram, Ravasar, Chandsar, and Kelan between February 11- 26 where 125 pastoralists participated. Details were shared on the various programme interventions. The pastoralists were trained on improving rearing, trade and health practices. Sharing the tabulated details of the training below:

S.No	Village	Date	Number of Participants
1	Sehrajsar	11 February	16
2	Lodera	13 February	26
3	Dhani Bhopalaram	16 February	16
4	Ravasar	17 February	31
5	Chandsar	24 February	12
6	Kelan	26 February	24
Total Participants			125

*The project materials can be accessed on this [link](#)



(Above 1&2) Ongoing training sessions with pastoralists

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Way Forward

The team is now actively focusing on the setup and initiation of the work at Kalu CFC. Alongside completion of the construction of CFC at Kelan is to be completed by March 31st. Also, the process of setting up a wool and meat based value chain is in full swing. Dialogue with stakeholders to garner the required technical, resource, knowledge and partnership support in this regard is to be undertaken.

Convergence would be further strengthened and capacity building of pastoralists would be undertaken in the coming month.

*The project materials can be accessed on this [link](#)