

## ACT Alliance Case Study on CCA and DRR

### Requirements;

<b>Organization</b>	Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT)
<b>Project name</b>	STEER (Rural) Puri Unit
<b>Country</b>	India

No.	Questions	Answers
1	What are the primary disasters or climate-related issues or problems that the project is addressing?	Floods, cyclone, storm surges and negative effects of climate change are being addressed by the project with different package of program interventions.
2	Can you explain the natural/human-induced hazard or climate-related hazard that the project addresses in more detail, specifically the vulnerability and exposure of people facing the hazard?	<p>Under the project title STEER (Social Transformation, Economic Empowerment &amp; Risk Reduction) of Lutheran World Service India Trust being operational in rural areas, this project aims at to address various social, cultural, economic and environmental problems/ issues. Besides, this project is very much proactive to address rights issues of underprivileged, marginalized, minorities and most vulnerable sections of people.</p> <p>However, the primary focus of this project is to address the issue of disaster risk as well as climate risk since there is increasing trends of natural disasters such as floods, cyclone and storm surges have experienced by the targeted communities. So, this project aims to build community resilient in the disaster prone areas through various means like formation and strengthening of Disaster Management Team along with capacity building training programs to different task force members such as early warning, search rescue and evacuation, first aid and psychosocial counseling, shelter management, WASH, voluntary police and lifeline restoration, etc. With building confidence and having knowledge base with these task force members, they will be capable enough to respond various disasters timely and effectively without waiting for outside support. They are the first responder and actions can be taken from the time of early warning information being received from Meteorological Dept., govt. administration and from media information on the probability of</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>disaster. Similarly, this project is very much proactive to tackle the issue of climate change through various adaptation and mitigation measures to reduce carbon foot print and build resilience among people to cope with changing climate that is being faced by people in the operational communities. Through these measures, it has been envisaged that, people have developed knowledge on climate change issues, changing into low carbon life style through necessary awareness programs. Tree plantation has increased green coverage and is in the process to absorb carbon from the atmosphere to reduce the increased amount of CO2.</p>
3	<p>What are the main outcomes that the project seeks to achieve, related to climate change adaptation, mitigation, and/or disaster risk reduction, and what measurable results have been achieved to date?</p>	<p>The main outcomes that the project seeks to achieve related to climate change adaptation and mitigation includes; to ensure tree plantation, nurturing and growing them for longer term benefits, wasteland development through tree plantation program, enhance green coverage, release oxygen to the atmosphere while absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere by the planted trees. As of date, the project has facilitated waste land development through tree plantation, creation of water harvesting structures, awareness on climate change, support for disaster and climate resilient crops, using energy efficient lights (CFL, LED &amp; Solar) both at program and organizational level, etc. Besides, improved cooking oven are assisted to families by which there is drastic reduction of use of forest wood and cow-dung cake. This saves not only natural resources but also decreasing different smoke related diseases among people and saved money as they used to spent lot of money for health treatment.</p> <p>People are conscious about the use of water, energy, paper, etc. by which they are economical and judicious of its use and conservation. Green coverage has increased due to hundreds of acres of waste land being used for tree plantation program. Through their hard work to develop community forestry at the vicinity of their village, people have shown the result by developing this forestry which</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		has been well recognized and acknowledged by govt. administration.
4	How is the project unique or innovative?	<p>This DRR &amp; Climate Change integrated project is very much unique in terms of technical and geo-feasibility aspects. This project is very much involved in green coverage through tree plantation program and planting trees at the coastal areas of the project operational communities as shelterbelt plantation. In this project, emphasis has been given on planting wind breaker trees like casuarina which acts as the means to reduce the high velocity of winds that is formed in the Bay of Bengal due to cyclonic storm or low depression. Similarly, these trees also prevent storm surges in the wake up of high tide during full moon nights and also no moon nights across the coastal community where this project is operational.</p> <p>In future, the program will be more scientific and techno feasibility in the sense that, there are scope for sand dune plantation in a number of operational communities in order to prevent high tidal waves and storm surges. This will also reduce the intensity of these unforeseen factors across many of the coastal communities. It has been observed that, in the coastal communities where there are thick forest, mangroves, shelter belt plants, wind breaker trees with massive scale, are well protected from tsunami that occurred in South India of Tamil Nadu state. Through various means of tree plantation, the impact of disasters like cyclone, tsunami, floods and the negative effects of climate change will be addressed and there will be helpful to people, their livelihood and ensure environment sustainability in future.</p>
5	How will the results of this project change the lives of the local communities?	Climate Change adaptation and mitigation project has already shown a tremendous result in local communities since they have improved coping capacities by adopting indigenous, low cost, and appropriate practices to combat and recovered from disasters those are being faced by them. It is also clearly harvested the information that, through different adaptation measures to climate

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>risk, the farmers in the local communities have better yield from agricultural crops and related income out of it. There are mitigation measures to climate change has already implemented in the communities i.e., energy saving and energy efficient lights are being supported on cost sharing basis in which people are now paying less for energy consumption and use of electricity. This also paves the way to save energy for future generations and meticulously as well as judiciously using natural resources like coal through which thermal plants generate electricity. Through tree plantation program, community people are harvesting minor forest produce and leaves as fuel. This project interprets the climate change initiatives as cause and effect relationship while comparing it with mitigation and adaptation measures of climate change.</p>
6	<p>What effect has the project had on men and women, girls and boys, and on other vulnerable groups?</p>	<p>During the project period it is observed that, there are many changes observed in the lives of women, men and children within the operational communities through this project intervention.</p> <p>As community people are entirely involved in this tree plantation program and build ownership of it, they are also fetching benefits by collecting fallen leaves and pruning the branches to grow faster than normal. Though it is a very meager benefit in comparison to what they have given services to grow these trees, still this has given a kind of enthusiasm and encouragement to protect their forest that they have developed.</p>
7	<p>What impact has the project had on the environment, including carbon emissions (if applicable)?</p>	<p>Over the years, the planted trees have grown up and they provide oxygen to the atmosphere immensely. Since the plants have grown well, they are also factoring to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The patch of land where the trees are growing looks very green and ensured ecological balance. The agro-forestry have been developed by the concerned community, while plant, animal, birds and other living being also taking shelter and harmonize their relationship with one another and create interdependency too.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
8	How has the local population, including local authorities, been involved in the project?	<p>Right from the beginning of the project intervention, women and men were involved in the participatory planning, implementation and monitoring process. In tree plantation program, entire community people were involved in all these phases of the project by which there are hundreds of acres of land are under green coverage and ownership has been built among them. Even one of the community having 57 women members of the SHG Federation have given coastal protection of casuarina trees to the extent of 7 km along the coast line. This indicates the environmental commitment by people towards tree loving and protection of their community. Community people are very much involved in nursery raising, digging pits, planting trees, watering and caring them including maintenance and putting fence to protect the growing trees from outside cattle as it is close to grazing lands. Thus, in many places of the project operational communities, village development committee, CBDMT and self-help groups have drawn strategy to provide necessary protection through rotation basis by watching the village forest by 2 persons each day. This has ensured the survival of trees to the extent of 90% and mortality of other 10% trees being replanted. Local authority is overwhelming towards communities since they are also getting recognition from govt. administration that their villages are awarded for environmental protection.</p>
9	How have local communities' capacities been built?	<p>Project has capacitated the local communities on forest management and taking care of planted trees, caring them and protect from external forces. Such sensitization has immensely helpful to them by which they have developed necessary rules and regulations to protect village forest.</p>
10	Is the project replicable by other communities? How will it be sustained after the end of funding support?	<p>Yes, the community forestry developed by LWSIT has been well replicated by other partner communities in the adjoining villages and even other projects of the organization. Since, the community forestry owned by the concerned</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		communities, they are taking more responsibilities to protect them. Hence, even the project would phase out from these area, concerned communities will take it forward and ensure its sustainability.
11	How has the project contributed to the overall strategy/plan of government of your country.	The program interventions particularly massive tree plantation in the operational communities is very much aligned with the National Action Plan of Climate Change, Govt. of India. Thus the efforts taken at the local level has largely contributed to the cause at national and global context as part of climate action plan.
12	How has the fact that you are a Faith-Based Organisation (FBO) contributed (extra) to the success of the project?	LWSIT is highly partnering with local communities and contributed towards mitigation measures of climate change.

**Please submit no more than 5 digital pictures (high quality jpg) of your project with your case study.**

Photos (Please insert the project photos in this table)	Photos by (sources)
---	---------------------



**Government recognized the efforts of community for Tree Plantation**

LWSIT Team




**Community Involvement in protecting the forest**

LWSIT Team



LWSIT Team



<p><b>LWSIT encouraged massive Tree Plantation as climate change mitigation measures</b></p>	
 <p><b>Wind breaker trees grown to break the intensity of strong wind in coastal communities</b></p>	<p>LWSIT Team</p>