

Horizontal Learning Fact Sheet

Validated Good Practices in FY08

Eco-Friendly Village

Context: After the successful achievement of 100% sanitation, the people of Baladangi village in Khansama sought to make their village environmentally friendly respecting everyone's rights to education, hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, livelihood, cultural heritage and social harmony.

Description: The eco-friendly village concept brings together many local actions to transform the lived environment. This includes:

Drainage: All citizens working together to construct drainage systems using bamboo, plastic sheeting, ropes, PVC and concrete.

Composting: of all biodegradable waste is producing organic fertilizer to reduce synthetic fertilizer dependence and a clean environment.

Sanitation: The elimination of open defecation, disposing of child's faeces & washing of hands with soap is resulting in reduced diarrhea.

Water management: Households construct tubewell platforms and drain water to home gardens or ponds (cultivating Thai Magur fish).

Environment: All roads are repaired, trees planted by the roadside with ponds cleaned and renovated.

Social: Village declared as free of child labour, early marriage, women abuse, polygamy and divorce. All children in the village attend school.

Nutrition: Improve mother & child health via cooking demonstration to prepare low cost food, kitchen gardens & mushroom cultivation.



Low cost drainage and compost facilities



Indicators:

- 100% of households & schools are using sanitary latrines.
- 100% of households compost biodegradable waste and sanitary disposal of wastewater.
- 100% of households have a homestead garden.
- 100% children are enrolled in school and home based learning centers.
- 95% of tube wells are protected by a sanitary platform.
- Everyone has a birth registration card and access to a clean 'lived environment'.

Strengths:

- Many low cost replicable practices combine to transform the lived village environment.
- Good integration with different programs.

Challenges:

- Sustaining the practices of the community.
- Linking this local village-led initiative with the mainstream development agenda.

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