



# WIRFP Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation System in Gramin Vikas Trust

*The paper presents the views and processes practised in the Western India Rainfed Farming Project.*

A Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) System developed and implemented by Western India Rainfed Farming Project (WIRFP) Gramin Vikas Trust (GVT) has elicited ideas and views from the community that have been incorporated into the system.

## ★ Different Levels of Monitoring



### ● Self-Help Group (SHG) / Village Level

The initial monitoring is done by the community organisers (COs) at the group level. The process of monitoring is initiated by the Group Jankars. The monitoring is done on a routine basis with the community and with support from the records kept by the group, i.e., Meeting Registers, Loan and Recovery Registers, Resolution Registers, etc.

### ● Cluster Level

A cluster consists of 5-6 villages with a team of 2 COs (male and female), preferably with a background in Social and Natural Sciences.

A team of COs monitors the information collectively at cluster level, reviews the process, and prepares monthly progress reports separately for each group/ village. The progress covers the in-depth monitoring of the ongoing activities, i.e., physical and processes.

### ● State Level

The main function of the monitoring cell (which constitutes a multidisciplinary team of specialists) at state offices is to consolidate, monitor, and send the analysis report, along with

Western India Rainfed Farming Project (WIRFP) - is managed by Gramin Vikas Trust (GVT) with the support from Government of India, State Governments, Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) and Department for International Development (DFID) United Kingdom. This is a participatory, poverty and gender focused farming systems, livelihoods project located in seven districts i.e. Jhabua, Dhar & Ratlam (M.P.) Banswara & Dungarpur (Rajasthan) Dahod and Panchmahals (Gujarat). The project aims to improve the long term livelihoods of poor women & men farmers in the region, most of whom are tribal people from the Bhil community.

the details, to Project Office and feedback to the community/ groups and COs on regular basis. The sustainability aspect of the programmes is emphasised.

### ● Project Level

The project monitoring unit reviews, analyses and consolidates the information at project level for each of the state. The progress is shared with various stakeholders, i.e., community, donors, State government organisations, non-government organisations (NGOs), project state offices. A copy of the report is sent to GVT Head Office for their comments, feedback and onward submission to other agencies.

### ● Head office level

The consolidated reports from the project are tailor-made to meet the needs of stakeholders. Also periodic financial status of claims etc. are lodged at respective levels and information is shared with GVT Board Members, Donors; Partners and Government of India.

### ★ Feedback System and Changes / Modifications in the Project Strategy

- ➡ Shifted to SHG approach from village institution concept.
- ➡ Decentralisation of management systems.
- ➡ Changes in training / exposure systems and methodology.
- ➡ Review of training modules on regular basis.

**REGISTERED OFFICE** : Chief Executive Officer, Gramin Vikas Trust, House No. 79, Sec. 15A, Noida-201301 Distt. Gautambudh Nagar (U.P.)  
Tel. : 011-(84) 511654, 513722, 513720, Fax : 513726 E-mail : gvtdelhi@now-india.net.in

**PROJECT OFFICE** : Project Manager Gramin Vikas Trust, 63, Sardarpura, Meera Hotel Lane, Udaipur  
Tel. : 0294 - 523412, 529214 (Fax) 523403 E-mail : gvtudr@bppl.net.in Website : <http://www.gvtindia.org>

## ★ Types of Monitoring

Monitoring is a regular collection of information to assess the progress in (delivering inputs) and the achievements of the project objectives. The project firmly believes in, 'what gets measured gets done'. (Patton)

### ● Activity / Routine Monitoring

Monitoring of the ongoing activities or programmes are carried out regularly, i.e. use of funds; timely completion.

### ● Output Monitoring

More emphasis is given to monitoring the outputs of the project, in terms of quantity, quality and time frame (QQT). During monthly/ fortnightly team meetings, emphasis is laid on cost benefit analysis and the impacts from the activities on a sustainable basis. It demonstrates a system that "if you can't measure it, you can't manage it".

## Monitoring, Evaluation, and Impact Assessment Model in the project.

Stage	Type	Method
Project Implementation	Impact assessment	Livelihood asset status,* monitoring and reviews
	Output monitoring	Group assessments, Jankar (village specialist) system assessment, Participatory Planning Process (PPP)
	Tangible    Intangible	
	Activity Monitoring	Qualitative and quantitative (target free) critical evaluation and process monitoring
Post Implementation	Sustainable impact assessment	Livelihood asset status,* continued monitoring and impact evaluation studies

(\* Assess the changed livelihood asset status, eg. access to money lenders or banks, increased agricultural productivity, change in size and composition of herd, and jewellery.)

### ● Process Monitoring

Process documentation is the method by which a historical perspective of the developmental initiatives in a particular village can be drawn. The interventions, right from the introductory meeting in the villages to the implementation of the village work plan, including participatory planning systems, process of the group formation, involvement of women and poor, and the difficulties and constraints faced are documented. Sources of information for this are the village records, CO's diary, fortnightly logs, monthly and quarterly progress reports, etc.

### ● Impact Assessment

Impact assessments are done regularly with the help of external and internal agencies to assess the impact of the



Community members explain Village Workplans to DFID Officials

interventions in a particular village. The assessment is done against the indicators developed at the project level. The project believes in "count what is countable, measure what is measurable and what is not measurable, make it measurable" (Galileo).

## ★ Participatory Tools Developed and Used for Monitoring and Evaluation

### ● Monitoring formats

Different formats are used for the monitoring of ongoing activities to see both the qualitative and quantitative progress in the activities.

### ● Village Profile

The village profile is developed for every village. It consists of the base line information of a particular village, illustrating the developmental options identified by the village community. Village profiles are used as basis for the qualitative and quantitative changes made in the village during the implementation of development priorities

### ● Group Profile

The group profile keeps the information of every group since its inception. This is used for the evaluation, assessment and the progress made by the group and also monitors the roles, responsibilities, and decision-making processes in the group.

**Developmental options are the possible solutions to problems identified by the community. These options are developed by the people.**

### ● Jankars Profile

Jankar profiles are developed at group/village level, once the process of jankars identification and selection is completed. The objective of developing the Jankar's profile

is to monitor the better use of jankars. Capacity- building programmes for jankars and community members are planned and executed to ensure that opportunities are given to women and the poor.

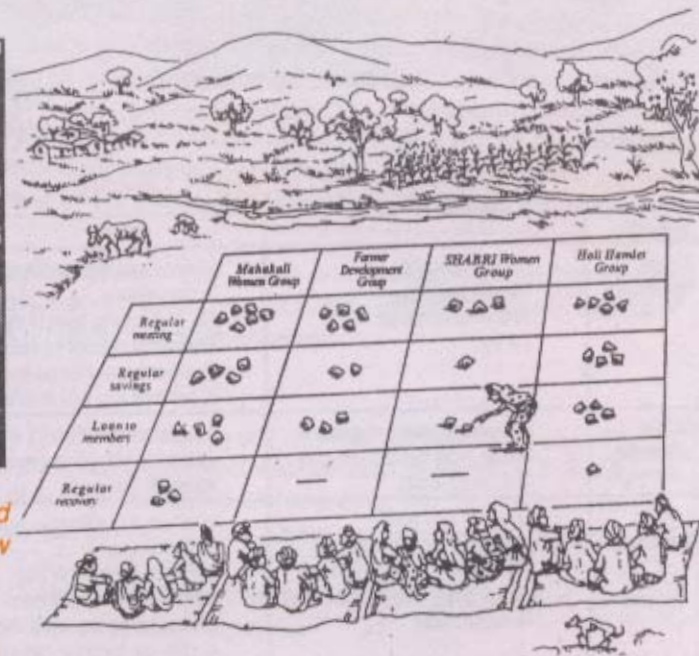
accountability of the Jankars, participation of women, and people from different socio-economic categories in decision-making. Moreover, the inputs in terms of time and resources are accordingly planned for the group.

### ● Group Assessment

Group assessment is done jointly by the community and the project staff at six month intervals against the indicators developed for the group progress. The aim of progress assessment is to monitor the progress from different angles, particularly the role of group members,

### ● Review PRAs

Review PRAs are conducted after 2-3 years of project implementation to review the work plan initially developed jointly with the village community. The process of the review PRA is to understand the impact of the interventions through the community's eyes.



Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and Meetings are organised and facilitated by CO/FS on specific GVT Programmes to review progress and incorporate learning for coming years.

### ● Project's log frame used for output monitoring

Narrative summary	Objectively verifiable indicator (OVI)	Means of verification (MOV)	Risk and assumptions
<b>Goal</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>			
<b>Outputs</b> Sustainable participatory farmer-managed groups, Jankars, and PPP system is operational in 'Z' number of villages	Group savings and credit system established as 1 necessary in X No. of villages by the end of 2nd year of the project	Group assessments, impact assessment reports, group records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Favourable Climatic conditions for farming systems</li> <li>Market trends remain unchanged</li> </ul>
<b>Activities</b> Village entry, household contacts, transect walk, etc.	Identification of X No. of affinity groups done by the end of the 'Y' month of the project entry	CO's diary, meeting records, etc.	Community remains in the village

### ● Project model

The project model has been developed by the project as a guiding tool, based on the past experiences working with the communities. The project model is developed on the three major strategies of the project : (1) Participatory Planning System (Knowledge); (2) People's Managed Groups (Institutions); and (3) Participatory Farming System (Livelihoods). The relationships between the inputs and outputs are the major features of the tool. It is used both for the activity and output monitoring in the project on continual basis.



*DFID Officials, Govt. of M.P. and other partner organisations in discussions to review Programmes*

● **Indicators developed at Different Levels**

Monitoring	SHG	Cluster	State Offices	Project / Head Offices
Activity Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular meetings</li> <li>- Regular savings,</li> <li>- Follow-up of norms set up</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women and men participate in discussions</li> <li>- No. of accounts open in the bank</li> <li>- Frequency of bank transactions</li> <li>- Participation of women and poor in trainings and exposure visits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of groups formed and plans developed for interventions</li> <li>- No. of loans granted to very poor and women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Groups formed and plans developed</li> <li>- Group management system established</li> <li>- Increased participation of women and men in training and exposure visits</li> </ul>
Output Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reduced numbers of cases to Bhang Jadia (local court) and Bhopas (quacks)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access to bank credit</li> <li>- Liaisoning with government and access to resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased savings</li> <li>- No. of loans availed from government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased sources of income</li> <li>- No. of loans availed from government</li> </ul>
Process Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Changes with time (Problems faced &amp; ways to overcome)</li> <li>- School going children increased</li> <li>- Reduced debts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiatives and innovations by the community</li> <li>- Active involvement of non-participants and participants</li> <li>- Women go on exposure visits alone</li> <li>- Alcohol consumption reduced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New ideas emerging</li> <li>- Systems developed and implemented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ideas agreed widely disseminated</li> <li>- Systems developed, modified and agreed</li> </ul>
Impact Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased numbers of friendly visits from 'tadvi Patel' (village leader) within the village</li> <li>- Proposal from literate brides or rich families</li> <li>- Women use soap for bathing</li> <li>- Use of edible oil in daily diet</li> <li>- Increased bride price in the area/village</li> <li>- Easy to get the job at migration site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Adoption of technologies in nearby villages</li> <li>- Experiences shared with outsiders/ villagers</li> <li>- Cost/ Benefit of technologies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased skills and confidence</li> <li>- Access of resources from other sources</li> <li>- More funds by other sources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Change in migration pattern from labourers to skilled workers</li> <li>- Change in gender roles</li> <li>- Increase and change in the mobility of women</li> <li>- Increased area under cultivation</li> <li>- Changed herd size and composition</li> <li>- Village-based federations coming up</li> <li>- Strong representation of SHGs in Panchayat/ Raj. Institutions (PRI)</li> </ul>

The contribution have been made by P. S. Sodhi; Meera Shahi; Akhilesh Parey; Vijay Nag and Madhura Rawat and all team members.



**STATE OFFICE :** Western India Rainfed Farming Project, GRAMIN VIKAS TRUST, Madhukar Tower, Ramkrishna Colony, Sardar Patel Marg, Jhabua-457661 (M.P.) Tel. : 07392-44289, 43555 Fax : 44324  
E-mail : jbagvt@bom6.vsnl.net.in

**STATE OFFICE :** Western India Rainfed Farming Project, GRAMIN VIKAS TRUST, 143, Taldar Building, Subhash Nagar, College Road, Banswara (Raj.) 327001, Tel. : 02962-46888, 47888 Fax : 46889 Resl. : 48999  
E-mail : gvt\_bsw@usa.net

**STATE OFFICE :** Western India Rainfed Farming Project, GRAMIN VIKAS TRUST, Kanchan Kunj, Anand Bhawan Compound Chakaliya Road, Dahod-389151 (Gujarat), Tel. : 02673-30984, 21311 Fax : 30392 Resl. : 30155  
E-mail : gvt Dahod@ad1.vsnl.net.in