MELD for IWMP in Maharashtra

V. Giriraj
Principal Secretary, WC & EGS and Chairman, Vasundhara- SLNA
MELD in Maharashtra

- Impressed by Karnataka presentation in Delhi (Vigyan Bhavan-June 2012)
- Felt it most essential for the massive project in Maharashtra (40 lakh hectares, Rs.5000 cr+)
- Third party concurrent evaluation
- Visited Karnataka to learn how it was all done (December 2012)
MELD – Approach

• There are eight agricultural divisions in Maharashtra (34 districts).
• In Maharashtra context Division has a critical role (State-District-Project)
• It was decided to invite bids separately for each division
• Not to put all eggs in one basket
• It was new to both us and bidders (they are also learning!)
MELD- Approach (contd)

• Essential criteria:
  ✓ M&E experience of 3 years
  ✓ Annual minimum turnover of Rs. 50 lakhs for last three years
• Technical Capability cum costs:
  ✓ 70 marks technical (56 proposal & 14 presentation)
  ✓ 30 marks financial (weighted score)
  ✓ ‘Cost per hectare’ as criteria for financial bid
1. MELD – Approach (contd)

- Weightage for earlier experience and available manpower – *what the agency has done in past and just not what it intends to do*

- Transparent process throughout – *communications on website and also through email, queries and representations considered with empathy*
2. MELD – Tendering Process

• Call for proposals: [Mar to Apr’ 13]
  – Advertisement in two state level and two national level newspapers and on website (26 to 30 Mar)
  – Pre-bid meeting (16 Apr)
  – Submission date (30 Apr)

• Total 54 proposals received.
2. MELD – Tendering process

– Presentation before committee of ten members
– Technical score not shared with members for un-baised assessment
– Eligibility criteria 65% of 70 marks i.e. 46 taken together
– Sixteen agencies qualified in technical assessment

• Final evaluation and division allotment:
  -- Eligible sixteen invited for financial bidding
  – Division wise list declared-one per division
  – Rs.125 per H as average cost- final bidders quoting above were reduced to this rate
## 2. MELD – Empanelled Agencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S No</th>
<th>Name of Division</th>
<th>Name of MELD Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>AFC India Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Amravati</td>
<td>Nabard Consultancy Services (NABCONS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Latur</td>
<td>Water &amp; Power Consultancy (WAPCOS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aurangabad</td>
<td>Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>Dilasa Janvikas Pratishtan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>Action for Food Production (AFPRO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kolhapur</td>
<td>Action for Agricultural Renewal in Maharashtra (AFARM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>Gramin Vikas Trust (GVT)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What does MELD do?

Concurrent monitoring -
- a. Process and progress monitoring,
- b. Community based monitoring

Periodic Evaluation –
- a. Phase-wise evaluations
- b. Impact assessment

Learning & Documentation
- a. Thematic studies,
- b. Case studies on significant change
MELD-organisational structure

• Core Team of at least eight subject specialists at division office of the agency

• Two-member Team of Field monitors - technical and social discipline – one team for every 10 projects

• Independent office at divisional headquarters & field offices

• MELD to train their own staff
• Covers all projects every month

• Assessing achievement vis-à-vis plan (progress) and process followed at WC level

• Parameters & indicators will depend on project phase and approved by VWDA

• Observation report on qualitative & quantitative aspects

• PIAs to submit compliance to WCDC

**Deliverables:**
- Monthly concurrent process monitoring reports.
- Quarterly concurrent progress monitoring reports.
- Annual Performance monitoring reports.
Community based monitoring

- **Qualitative assessment** of achievements against plan & community action.
- Half yearly Joint Review exercise of WC & PIA.
- **Community monitoring** by MELD in one WC village per project and facilitation support in one more WC village

**Deliverables**:  
- Two Half yearly reports
Periodic Evaluation – Phase Wise

• Batch wise evaluation for Preparatory Phase & Watershed Work Phase as per DoLR guidelines.

• Coverage- **all projects with 30% sample villages / WCs**, 

• **All activities undertaken during the phase with 20% sampling in sample WC.**

• Parameters & indicators provided by DoLR

• **WCDC and VWDA to submit Action Taken Report to DoLR**

**Deliverables :**

- Evaluation report of all projects in a batch within the district indicating performance of each project & recommendations
Impact Assessment

• Batch wise impact assessment **thrice during project cycle** – **baseline** (first year), **mid term** (second year of works phase) and **end term** (last quarter of consolidation phase)

• Coverage - **15% sample projects**

• Use of **GIS/RS, participatory tools and scientific tools**

• Based on **verifiable indicators**

• Support of **MRSAC** for impact studies

**Deliverables** :

- Impact study
- Suggestions and recommendations
• **Identify and document** learning events, success stories, most significant change, etc.

• **Wide range of themes** like community mobilisation, efficacy of EPA, reasons for shortcomings, women empowerment, approaches for livelihood, etc.

• Maintaining all required data and information

• Print and electronic documentation for larger dissemination

**Deliverables** :

- **Thematic studies** – Every project is covered in minimum two thematic studies. Five studies per half year.

- **Case studies** – Two case studies per half year from second year for village or cluster of villages
Reporting and payments

• Reporting levels-
  • District – Collector & Chairman, WCDC
  • Division – Jt Director Agriculture
  • State – Commissioner Agriculture & CEO, VWDA

• Payments based on milestones achieved and reporting
Tasks undertaken by MELD agencies

• **Concurrent Monthly Monitoring** – (Jan’14 to Aug’14)
  – 453 projects visited 8 times
  – 99 projects visited 6 times
  – 381 projects visited 4 times

• **Preparatory Phase Evaluation** – (Oct’13 to Aug’14)
  – Batch I 167 projects covered
  – Batch II 359 projects covered
  – Batch III 215 projects covered

• **Community based monitoring** – (Jun’14 to Aug’14)
  – 516 projects out of 933 operational in Batch I to IV
Major observations of Preparatory Phase Evaluation

• Feedback on EPA is good- but ‘maintenance’?
• High turnover of WDTs.
• SHGs and UGs need to be strengthened.
• Trainings of other WC members weak/ ignored.
• NRM - ridge to valley is not followed in all projects.
• Convergence with other schemes weak
Decisions taken on PPE observations

- Ridge area treatment should not be compromised
- WDT honorarium increased to reduce turnover
- Training should be conducted for all WC members
- Involvement of MAVIM for 9% livelihood component
- Animal Husbandry department actively being involved in livelihood component
Important outcomes of concurrent monitoring

• Unspent balance of EPA in Batch I & II diverted to Watershed Works

• WCs and SHGs have become more active (UGs need more improvement)

• Monthly work planning being done with active involvement of WDT

• More awareness on IWMP due to regular visits

• Village level records which were neglected earlier are being written

• Many success stories identified and 40 documented
What is our experience so far?

• It took a while for the agencies to settle themselves
• It is as much new for them
• Things take longer than we think it will take
• ‘R-A-M-A’ factor in the field
• Things are quietly changing
• Independent feedback
• Still feedback loop needs to stabilise
• Evolving concept
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Feedback</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>Improved processes and policy. Unbiased feedback.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time span</td>
<td>It took us seventeen months. Drawing on our experience (cut &amp; paste) others can do in four months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Level should be ideally above district</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource requirement</td>
<td>Budget provision available in IWMP. Capacitated human resource with MELD agencies and its continuity is crucial.</td>
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# MELD – Experiential Feedback

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Feedback</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Replication up-scaling</td>
<td>Adopted in NABARD funded watershed programmes in Maharashtra.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Replicable in almost all flagship programmes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge transfer</td>
<td>Monitoring reports are rich in observations related to processes and helpful for cross-learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Documentation of learning events, success stories and thematic/ case studies for larger dissemination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Funds Management- a new initiative in pipeline

• There are over 1000+ projects
• About 7000+ watershed committees
• Funds management is a challenge
• Surplus in one place, shortage elsewhere
• EFMS is ideal solution-but it may take time
• We are working towards ‘view rights’ of WC and PIA accounts at higher levels
• The funds balance will be professionally monitored
• Hope to achieve it in 2-3 months time.
Concurrent Process Monitoring- District level report

INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (IWMP)

Summary report of (Batch - I to IV)
Concurrent Process Monitoring
Kolhapur-District

Submitted To:
District Superintending
Agriculture Officer & District
Project Manager, Watershed
Cell cum Data Centre
Kolhapur

Submitted By:
Action for Agricultural
Renewal in Maharashtra
(AFARM) Pune

JUNE 2014

CONCURRENT PROCESS MONITORING REPORT OF
INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (IWMP)
BATCH-I (2009-10), II (2010-11) & IV (2012-13)
DISTRICT-WASHIM
DIVISION-AMRAVATI

Submitted To
VASUN DHARA WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (VWDA),
CENTRAL BUILDING, PUNE-411005

Submitted By
NABARD Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd.
(A Wholly Owned Subsidiary of NABARD)
Plot No. C-24, "G" Block, 3rd Floor, "C" Wing, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East)
Mumbai-400 051, India
JULY-2014
Field visit during concurrent monitoring

IWMP 13, Jambhe, block Shahapur, dist. Thane

IWMP-10, Manikwada block Ashti, dist. Wardha

IWMP-13, WC Mohi, block Dahiwadi, district Satara

Visit to NRM Works – IWMP-1, WC Kapashi, block Akot, district Akola
Review Meeting - WCDC and PIA

PIA Review Meeting, Jalgaon district

PIA Meeting by MELD team, Dhule district
Divisional review meeting addressed by Hon. Minister (Dept. of Water Conservation & EGS)
Community Based Monitoring visit

Mr. Ravikant Sinha, CEO, West Bengal visited WC Nawlewadi, IWMP-14, Purandar block, Pune
वसुंधरा

जागतिक प्याविर दिन विशेषांक
एकादिक गाण्डोट व्यवस्थापन कार्यक्रम (IWMP)

वसुंधरा

प्रेसिडिउम आयोजन (नवीनतम भावनांक)

प्राणली तंदुळ को शोधा, वारा विज्ञानी उपर काही गाळणे

लेखक : बैलानी वाढवानक, राजस्थान, निष्क्रिय

सहभागिता बांधणी

विद्यार्थी, महास्थान, क्षेत्रे सहभागिता

सहभागिता विभाग

In House training for Masters trainer at IFP, DPR level.
Social Mobilization Training.
Masters Trainer Field Visit.
Agriculture Engineering Training.

कारावासी विभाग:
महाराष्ट्र काराकागडी
वसुंधरा पाण्डोट विकास संस्था तेजपूर (पुली) महाराष्ट्र राज्यात आपण
कार्यासाठी शहरात, पूले - 431001
हेल्फ: 0210-2276529, 2276532, 2276533
कॉम्युर्नेव: http://mahiwmp.gov.in, email: vaisnapune@gmail.com
केंद्र शासन, भूसंसाधन विभाग
महाराष्ट्र शासन, कृषि विभाग

इलेवेंद्र जलशक्तिकरण प्रकल्पाची वयोगाठा

( JWMP-28/2010-11)

साक्षात्कार विवरण -
- साक्षात्कारकेंद्रात जलवक्षेत्राची समीक्षा करणे अन्तर्भावित झालेल्या विवरणांचे साक्षात्कार म्हणजेच विविध वेळींत समाजातील लोकांना होती.
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संविधान सादर

वसुंधरा पाणिलोट विकास यंत्रणा, ग्राम विकास व जलसंधारण विभाग

मार्गदर्शन : डॉ. स. ल. जाधव, विभागाची कृषि सहसंबंधी संचालक पुणे विभाग व
श्री. एस. न. शिवदेव, तंत्र अधिकारी पाणिलोट शाखा

लेखन : किरण लोहकरे, समूह संपादक तेंदु, विभागाच्या पुणे विभाग
Shri. Shankar Tukaram Karande, a landless poor householder of Devrashtri village, Tal. Kadegaon, Dist. Sangli, is a fruit seller. He belongs to SC category and living in village with his wife and two sons. Earlier, he was working as pigmy agent in local credit cooperative society during year 1985 to 1997. Unfortunately he had left his job. There was no any source of income to Shankar, so he started business of fruit selling stall at main square in village itself, earlier it was crucial period to Shankar & his family to survive due to low benefit, he wanted to buy moving fruit selling vehicle but there was no enough money to expand his business & he had to satisfy in low benefit. He could able to earn around Rs. 100/- to 150/- per day by sale of 8 to 10 dozens of banana. His wife was helping him in fulfilling daily needs through labor work within village.

After intervention of watershed project under IWMP in Devrashtri village during year 2010-11 (batch II), he came to know about programme and especially livelihoods interventions. He was one of the villagers who participated in project activities and meetings regularly. Based on wealth ranking exercise conducted in village for identification of beneficiaries under Livelihoods Action Plan, his family came under poor category of poor landless beneficiary. He has been assisted through revolving fund of Rs. 10,000/- to buy moving fruit selling vehicle in month of March 2014. He purchased and started selling fruits in nearby village viz. Askad, Mohite Vadgaon etc. He sells bananas worth Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 per day, out of which he earns Rs. 250 to 300 as profit. Along with banana, he used to sale other seasonal fruits to add vigor in his income. Risk of perishing of fruits due to sale at one place and reduced due to moving vehicle.

Shankar has started for repayment of revolving fund on monthly instalments of Rs. 55/- since April 2014. He has paid three instalments till the time and wishing to repay entire amount within period of 18 months. Short duration benefits through increased income visualizes for better future of his children and reduction of drudgery of her wife from labour work. Since, her wife is getting free time from labour work; she started to focus on study of her sons. His elder son got admission in 11th Science and younger son studying in fourth standard.

Now Shankar is very happy and hopes that his children will become good citizens of the country and serve the society. Shankar and his wife had expressed their gratitude to watershed project, watershed committee, WDT and PAs for their kind support.
Thanks