

Community based rehabilitation projects

Green Coast initiated community-based rehabilitation projects through micro, small and large grants. By September 2006 already 59 projects have been approved and partly started operations.

Green Coast assessed the impacts of the tsunami and identified options for green coast reconstruction. Based on the outcomes, Green Coast initiated community-based ecosystem rehabilitation and livelihood reconstruction.

The projects are being implemented in 164 tsunami affected villages of Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. In designing and implementing these projects, special emphasis was laid on mainstreaming gender needs and targeting dalit communities.

Areas and objectives

Key areas and objectives of the projects are:

- Restoration of critical ecosystems that support livelihoods and provide ecological and economic security to the coastal communities.

- Development of alternate livelihood options to reduce the pressures on natural resources as well as augment the household incomes.

- Promote good management practices in natural resources management, particularly for agriculture and water resources.

- Awareness generation on conservation and management of coastal resources.

Results

The community-based initiatives intend to support the ecosystem based livelihood reconstruction of 20,400 households through:

- Ecosystem restoration through the plantation of 3,45,000 saplings of tropical dry evergreen forest species, economically important species and mangroves in 125 ha, and the conservation of 15 ha of sand dunes in Manakudi estuary.

- Alternate livelihoods to 5,600 tsunami affected households, including 280 women Self Help Groups and 20 dalit groups through: nursery raising, vermi composting, coir making, fish processing and drying, apiculture and palm fiber processing.

- Shelter belt plantation in 10 ha demonstration plots, providing protection to 600 households as an alternate to the conventional casurina or palm tree shelter belts.

- Sustainable agriculture: enhanced productivity in 60 ha of agricultural land through application of System of Rice Intensification (SRI).

- Safe drinking water for 300 households through rainwater harvesting and rejuvenation of village water sources.

- Awareness generation on sustainable coastal resources management to 6,200 households.

To know more about the community-based projects, please download the brochure: SGF Leaflet