

Khunti district of Jharkhand was selected as a ATMA district in the year 2008- 09 and was Notified on 29.01.2009 under extension reforms programmes of ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. An autonomous institution registered under society act in the name of Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) to carry out the project activities in collaboration with different line departments like – Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Plant protection along with the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), NGOs and representatives of various stakeholders of the agricultural production system. The participatory methodology to reflect the issues, needs and expectations of farming community. The main steps followed for preparation of strategic Research and Extension Plan (SREP) are as follows.

The strategic Research and Extension Plan (SREP) of Khunti district is the outcome of the integrated efforts of all the stakeholders involved in the process of development in the field of agriculture and allied sectors of the district. Several management tools have been used to ensure active participation of the stakeholders and to develop a participatory methodology for preparing the SREP of the district. The present document has been prepared through application of participatory tools in representative villages by selected multidisciplinary teams of Khunti district. While preparing the SREP, major thrust was given of farming system innovations/success stories, available farmer groups and organizations, serious technological gaps and natural resource base of the district.

The SREP has basically two sections namely "diagnostic section" and "strategic section" Diagnostic section has two sub-sections namely Information and Analysis. In the Information "sub-sections", information from different line departments, NGOs are gathered and recorded along with the detailed data of the representative village under each AES.

Under diagnostic section, information like general features of the district, agro-climatic and agro-ecological situation, land based systems, demographic pattern, on-

going development, extension and research activities along with other information was collected from the representative villages and analyzed.

The strategy section spells out strategies for research and extension issues of each AES with respect to different programme components. In this section, strategies were developed on the basis of prioritized strategic issues separately for extension and research activities. The Block Action Plan (BAP) in consultation with farmers Advisory committee (FAC) on the basis of SREP for (BTT) in consultation with Farmers Advisory Committee (FAC) on the basis of SREP for implementation of Extension Reform in Khunti district.

Training

1. A state level orientation workshop on "Extension Reforms" and "Development of SREP" was organized by SAMETI, Ranchi in Collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad and Department of Extension Education BAU Ranchi for ATMA Khunti district of Jharkhand state from 28-31st January 2010 at Kisan Bhawan ,Khunti to develop specific skills in preparation of Strategic Research and Extension Plan. Following topics were discussed in the above workshop.
 - i. Extension Reforms – an Overview
 - ii. Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms.
 - iii. Experiences of ATMA Model.
 - iv. Orientation of SREP.
 - v. Content.
 - vi. Methodology.
 - vii. Farmers Organization & Federations.
 - viii. Research – Extension – Farmer Linkages – Market.
2. SAMETI, Jharkhand in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad organized a 3-days master Trainers Training Programme on "Development of SREP" from 8-10st March 2010 at Kisan Bhawan ,Khunti . In this training programme following topics were covered:
 - i. Farming System Approach
 - ii. Participatory Rural Appraisal

iii. Farming System based Extension.

Following participants participated in the Master Trainers Training Khunti District.

- i. D.A.O., Khunti
- ii. D.H.A.O., Khunti
- iii. D.S.C.O., Khunti
- iv. D.F.O., Khunti
- v. D.C.O., Khunti

2.1 Role of SAMETI , Jharkhand in Preparation of the SREP

SAMETI, Jharkhand, Ranchi Provided Technical backup and support to project at state level and capacity building of AES core team member of ATMA in Particulars. Faculty member /Facilitator of SAMETI, Jharkhand, Ranchi oriented from 3-05-2010 to 5-05-2010 Following participants participated in the "Training Programme on SREP" for AES Core Team Members.

- i. B.A.O.s
- ii. B.A.H.O.s
- iii. B.C.E.O.s
- iv. V.L.W.s
- v. Farmers of each A.E.S. village.

2.2 Orientation of District Level Officers and Scientists

SAMETI, Jharkhand in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad organized state level training programme on " District Level Officers training for development of SREP - ATMA Model and Operationalization of SREP" from 10th to 12th January 2011 at SAMETI, Jharkhand. Altogether, Soil Conservation Officers along with scientists of BAU, Ranchi participated in both the programme. Participants were oriented to the concept and philosophy of Extension Reforms (ATMA Model), need and purpose of O & M. plan for the district, existing and expected O.& M. plan under Extension Reforms and the procedure to develop the SREP of ATMA, Khunti.

Following participants participated in the "Training Programme on SREP" for District Level Officers.

- i.. Deputy Project Director ATMA ,Khunti
- ii. SMS, Khunti
- iii. SMS Torpa
- iv. SMS Rania
- v. SMS Karra

2.3 Selection of members for AES Core Team.

Representatives of different Government Development Departments like Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Dairy, Fishery, Co-operative and Scientists from BAU, Ranchi were selected as AES Core Team member . The selection was Notified on 22.02.2010 and it was done to provide them with basic training/orientation about the Extension Reforms for preparation of SREP.

2.4 Formation of Multi Disciplinary Team (MDT)

Core team of SREP was constituted consisting of the following.

- (a) Officer's/Supervisor at block level from various line departments.
- (b) The Scientists of BAU, Ranchi.
- (c) The selected NGOs, who have considerable work experience of working in remote areas.

A three days training programme of the Core Team was organized during the month of May, 2010at SAMETI, Ranchi in which around 30 persons participated. In this trainees were basically exposed to the need and the procedures of SREP and were trained by the SAMETI Facilitators, Master Trainers and Training Organizer, SAMETI Ranchi/BAU Ranchi on the various techniques of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA).

2.5 Identification of representative village for each AESs

There are three AES in the district and in each AES there is a one representative village. There were three representative villages spread over the whole district. The AES Team members were called for a short briefing and input in PRA tools, formats for gap analysis in adoption of improved practices, primary information and prioritization of

research & extension issue in line department With BAU Recommendation was given by experts and the SAMETI Facilitators. The 26 trained participants were grouped into three AES teams to take up final exercise and participatory probing in the representative villages in the 1st phase. They were devoted to interaction with farming community and collecting information by staying at the villages. Team members assembled at the BAU and were oriented to the mode of re-arranging the information and experience gathered from representative village for presentation before farmers, district administration and scientists of BAU. Ranchi. For this two farmers from each representative village were invited to join the AES teams in the above exercise for the greater involvement of the farming community thus actually practicing the bottom up approach and hence to involve them the SREP is actually prepared.

2.6 Collection of Secondary Information

Secondary information used for preparing SREP was collected from different publications, from the records of the District of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Dairy, Fishery, Co-operative, NIC and officer of the Directorate of Agriculture, Khunti, Jharkhand.

2.7 Summarization and Presentation of Data

A core team comprising ten members from the AES teams facilitated by the Training Organizer & Scientist of BAU Ranchi undertook the job of tabulation, analysis of data collected by various AES teams and preparation of first draft of SREP to be presented in AGB, Ranchi for submission to SAMETI Jharkhand.

The data from each representative village, collected by the respective group was discussed in detail with the scientists of BAU. Ranchi, before its summarization. Draft conclusions were prepared for presentation before the farmers, scientists officers of different line departments and the AGB and AMC members of ATMA, Ranchi During the presentation of SREP, emphasis was on diversification, value addition, agro-processing, post harvest management of the produce, public-private partnership, formation of FIG, developing committed army of service providers and marketing aspects so as to make the "SREP" a useful document for the different stakeholders and for all those interested in the overall development of agriculture in Khunti district.

The district Core Team and Facilitators involved in drafting SREP with vision and mission of leading farmers of Khunti District.

2.8 Approval of SREP

After thorough scrutiny by the ATMA Governing Board with constituent official and farmer members, the SREP is submitted for approval as an authenticated plan document. This document forms the basis for agricultural development in the district. Further, it helps ATMA to put forth its demand before the Government of India for release of funds.

2.9 Preparation and implementation of Action Plans

Keeping in view the strategic thrust in SREP, annual/seasonal block action plans are prepared by BTT to facilitate technology dissemination using processes like exposure visits, technological and managerial training, demonstrations, field days, IT support etc. through the farmer groups. Simultaneously, a research action plan consisting of on farm trials is prepared and carried out in support of the research strategies spelt out in SREP by the Scientists of KVK to assess and refine the existing generalized technologies.

2.10 Role of MANAGE, Hyberabad & SAMETI, Jharkhand

National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyberabad & State Agricultural Management and Extension Training Institute (SAMETI), Jharkhand the premier institute in the field of agricultural extension has been providing technical backstopping to the Extension Reform. Further, continuous interaction with state level SREP Coordinator and MANAGE Consultant and frequent telephonic conversations have been beneficial for preparing the manuscript. The constant efforts put forth by the Training Organizer & Scientists of BAU, Ranchi and **Project Directors of ATMA, Khunti** have been a source of inspiration.

Table 2.01: AES team members involved in participatory data collection**AES – I (TAMBA)****AES Name- Rainfed Undulated Eroded Soil & Dense Forest.****Soil Type - Red laterite sandy / Sandy loam Soil**

SI. No.	Name of team member	Designation
Team Leader		
1	Sri Dr. Seeba Palit	B.A.H.O. Torpa.
Team Member		
1	Dr. Manoj Kumar	B.A.H.O. Rania
2	Dr. Binod Kumar	T.V.O. Khatanga
3	Dr. Shashi	BAU, Ranchi
4	Smt. Shipra Shalini	S.M.S. Khunti.
5	Sri. Ganpat Bhagat	Farm Asistant, Arki
6	Sri. Krishna Mahto	Plant Protection
7	Sri. Soma Oraon	B.A.O. Rania.
8	Sri. Girdhari	Pradan.
9	Sri. Mansid Guria	Krishak Mitra , Torpa

Table 2.02: AES team members involved in participatory data collection**AES – II (CHAMPI)****AES Name - River / Well Irrigated Eroded Soil & Partial Forest.****Soil Type - Red laterite sandy / Sandy loam Soil.**

SI. No.	Name of team member	Designation
Team Leader		
1	Sri. Sanjay Kumar	B.A.H.O. Karra..
Team Member		
1	Dr. Sanjay Kumar	T.V.O. Govindpur
2	Smt. Sunita Nilmani Minz	S.M.S Karra
3	Dr. Ashok	B.A.U. Ranchi
4	Smt. Neera Sabita Jojo	S.M.S. Torpa
5	Sri, Lakhan Prasad	Farm Asistant, Karra
6	Sri. Rajdevji	Plant Protection
7	Sri. Chame Tirkey	B.A.O. Karra
8	Sri. Avinash	Pradan
9	Sri. Birsa Dhan	

Table 2.03: AES team members involved in participatory data collection

AES – III (DANDOL)

AES Name- Rainfed Undulated Sandy Loam Soil.

Soil Type - Red laterite sandy / Sandy loam Soil

Sl. No.	Name of team member	Designation
Team Leader		
1	Sri V. K. Sinha	B.A.H.O. Khunti.
Team Member		
1	Dr. Ajay Kumar	B.A.H.O. Murhu
2	Dr. Shakuntala Soren	T.V.O. Murhu
3	Dr. Binay Kumar Manjhi	Entomologist, BAU, Ranchi
4	Smt. Kalen Khalkho	P.P.I. Khunti
5	Smt. Beronica Tirkey	S.M.S. Murhu
6	Sri. Rajita Lal Beck	Farm Asistant, Khunti
7	Sri. Kamal Oraon	B.A.O. Khunti.
8	Sri. Abhijeet Yana	Pradan.