



Quarterly Progress Report

April to June, 2017



Submitted to:

**Department of Industries & Commerce
Government of Tripura**
Shilpodyog Bhawan, Khejur Bagan, Agartala

Submitted by:


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INTRODUCTION

1.1. ABOUT TRIPURA BAMBOO MISSION

Tripura is the first State to adopt a State Bamboo Policy in 2001. Tripura Bamboo Mission (TBM) was launched by the Government of Tripura in 2006 as an initiative to strengthen bamboo based industries in the state. The Mission's objectives of scaling up turnover of Bamboo sector and to simultaneously increase the livelihood opportunities are sought to be achieved through cluster development approach involving institution building, industrial linkages, better market and credit facilities coupled with resource up-gradation, working on a mission mode.

In 2012, the institutional structure of TBM was strengthened by registering it as a Society under S.R. Act 1860.

Govt. of Tripura has engaged IL&FS Cluster Development Initiative Ltd as Project Implementing Agency. IL&FS Clusters has deployed a multi-skilled team in Tripura and has built a network of partners and domain experts to undertake the implementation.

Uniqueness of the programme

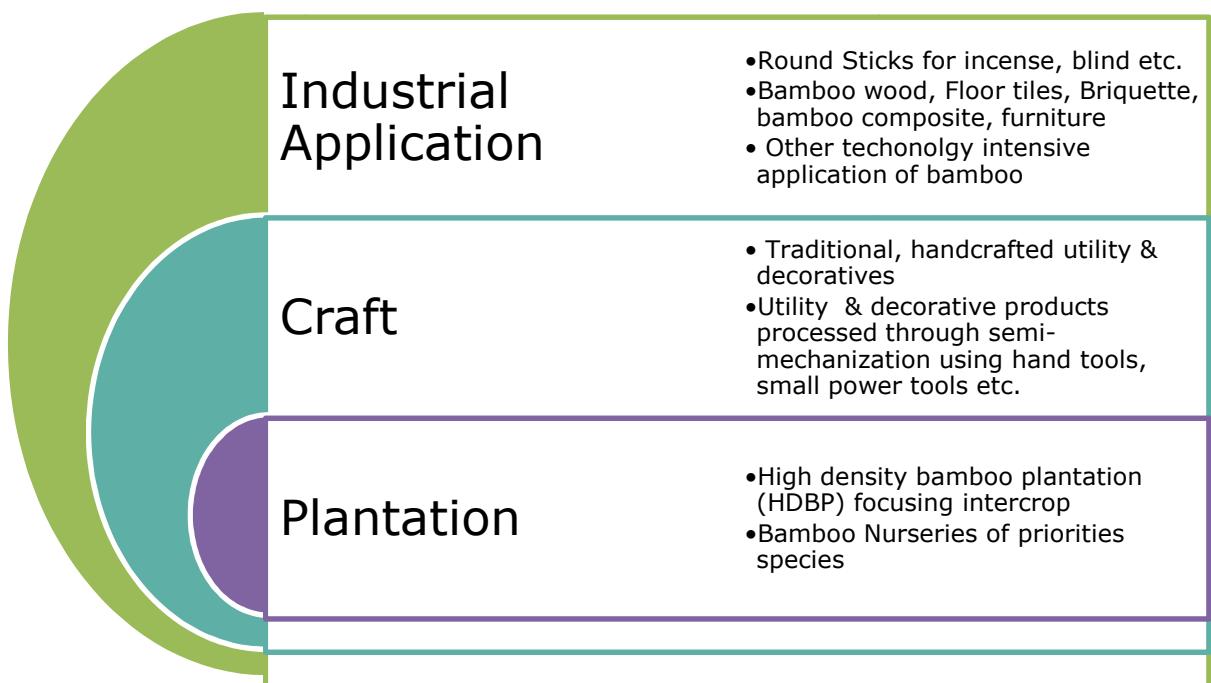
- PPP framework: Private partner implements the entire programme with dedicated manpower
- Lean Govt. team headed by Mission Director
- PIA has the responsibility to mobilize funds to implement the project
- Convergence with several line departments and schemes
- Runs on a mission mode with clear targets & timeline that ensures effective project delivery with visible impact
- More than 95% of beneficiaries are women

1.2. FOCUS BAMBOO SUB-SECTORS

Since its inception, TBM focused mainly on sub-sectors namely Incense Stick, Handicrafts, Furniture, *Dhari* (Mat), Industrial Application and Resource Generation. Over the years, the bamboo sector has undergone significant change with respect to product portfolio, technology, consumer preference etc. impacting both global and local economy. In order to keep pace with global bamboo economy and to sustain the local industries, TBM has also revised its strategy following recommendations from third party evaluation and advice of its Governing Body.

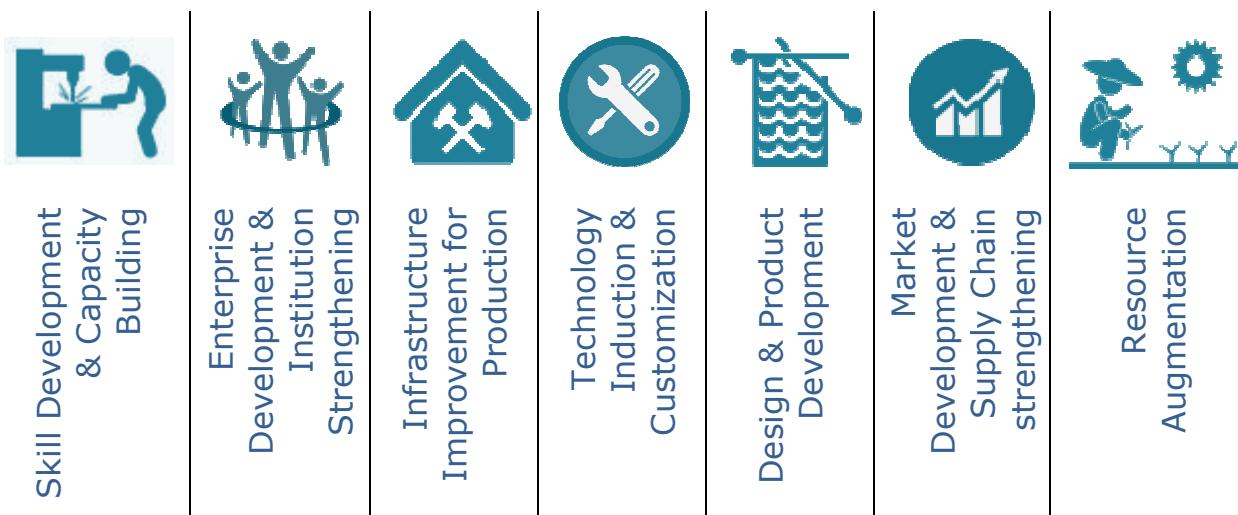
The focus is now more on mechanization & semi-mechanization processing of bamboo to scale up production, obtain quality of product at par global standard, increase per capita productivity etc. which would help in attaining sustainable

development of bamboo sector with proper utilization of resources. The revised bamboo sub-sectors being intervened by TBM are as given below.



1.3. KEY INTERVENTIONS & STRATEGIES

With an integrated & holistic cluster based approach, TBM's interventions are planned and executed to ensure a sustained impact on economy & ecology.



2. KEY MANDATES & PROGRESS ACHIEVED FY17-18

The annual action plan of Tripura Bamboo Mission for the FY 2017-18 was approved by the Governing Body on its fourth meeting held on 2nd March, 2017.

2.1. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED VIS-À-VIS TARGET

TARGET for FY 2017-18	ACHIEVEMENT till Q1 (Apr-June 2017)
A. Industrial Application of Bamboo	
a. Promotion of Bamboo round stick production: 2 medium scale units (50 m/c each) and 20 micro units (2-3 m/c each) to be set up	<p>Machines set up: 51</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 51 machines have been installed at Kumarghat I.E. as a plug-n-play mode under Govt. of Tripura supported project. Another 51 machines are to be set up as second phase of round stick cluster development at Kumarghat. The proposal has recently been sanctioned by NE Council 6 small units of 5 m/c each will be set up under NERLP supported project in North, Unakoti, Khowai, West & Sepahijala districts. Land identification for the units is in process.
b. Bamboo Pellet making (waste recycling): 1 unit to be set up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 briquette unit has been established at Bamboo Park to utilize the bamboo wastage generated from round stick unit Proposal submitted to MSME under MSE-CDP for establishment of 1 pellet unit at Kumarghat Concept Note submitted to NE Council through the state government for establishing an integrated unit at Bamboo Park where pellet making will be undertaken for waste utilization
c. Agarbatti Masala Unit: 1 unit to be set up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement of equipment is under process The unit is proposed to be set up at Kumarghat I.E. or Bamboo Park
B. Bamboo Resource Generation	
a. High Density Bamboo Plantation: 1000 Ha to be covered	<p>Mobilized: 889 Ha; Planted: 381.96 Ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBM mobilized 889 ha of land covering 1020 farmers in 6 districts, 8 Blocks, 27 villages under MGNREGA and proposal submitted to the respective BDOs & DMs. However, scarcity of fund under MGNREGA, TBM could complete 381.96 ha of HDBP in 25 villages in 7 Blocks in 6 districts under MGNREGA

TARGET for FY 2017-18	ACHIEVEMENT till Q1 (Apr-June 2017)
b. Planting Material: 10 lakh to be arranged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planting material arranged: 11.95 Lakh - 7.44 Lakh in stock in nurseries - 4.51 Lakh utilized/ distributed for plantation
C. Skill Training	
a. Handicrafts: 5000 to be trained	<p>Approved: 750</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MSDE has approved training of 750 candidates - Establishment of 3 training centers (TCs) under process. Post establishment, the TCs will be affiliated under HCSSC to become eligible for undertaking skill training under various schemes of MSDE
b. Industrial Application: 300 to be trained	<p>Trained: 80; Approved: 320</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 80 candidates trained in bamboo round stick under DSD supported project - 120 more candidates to be trained under DSD supported project - 200 candidates to be trained under CB&TA scheme of MDoNER as approved by MSDE
c. Bamboo Plantation: 2500 to be trained	<p>Trained: 239</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 239 candidates trained under DSD supported project
d. Enterprise Development: 100 to be trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be taken up under NERLP project where the micro enterprises are to be trained in strengthening their grassroot institution
e. Training of Trainers: 100 to be trained	<p>Approved: 33</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - List of 20 candidates (under HCSSC) and 13 candidates (under ASCI) has been finalized and shared with respective SSCs. The SSCs are yet to finalize the date.
D. Handicrafts & Furniture	
a. Consolidation and promotion of the existing Community Production Centers: 16 CFCs/CPCs to be supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As per revised business plan of the apex company promoted by TBM, SHPPL has mandated to support the CFCs/ CPCs in providing market support through access to premium market, order generation, market feedback & promotion through e-portal - The CFCs/ CPCs are being continuously monitored and supported to improve their competitiveness and scalability of production

TARGET for FY 2017-18	ACHIEVEMENT till Q1 (Apr-June 2017)
b. Market Promotion: Apex company to achieve Rs. 50 lakh sales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Order received: Rs. 2.73 Lakh - Order executed: Rs. 1.64 Lakh - Order in pipeline: Rs. 1.80 Lakh

E. Fund Mobilization

a. Plantation: Rs. 11 crore	<p>Total Mobilized: Rs. 4.85 crore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rs. 2.65 crore sanctioned under MGNREGA from 4 districts - Rs. 0.53 crore under the sanctioned MSDE supported project for skill training on bamboo round stick - Rs. 1.67 crore under the sanctioned NERLP supported project for development of bamboo Agro Forestry
b. Industrial Application: Rs. 4.5 crore	<p>Total Mobilized: Rs. 9.27 crore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rs. 4.99 crore sanctioned by NE Council for revival of Bamboo Sticks Cluster at Kumarghat - Rs. 0.24 crore under the sanctioned MSDE supported project for skill training on bamboo round stick - Rs. 4.04 crore under the sanctioned NERLP supported project for development of bamboo round stick clusters
c. Handicrafts & Furniture: Rs. 4 crore	<p>Total Mobilized: Rs. 4.95 crore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rs. 2.97 crore sanctioned under SFURTI- West Tripura Bamboo Mat based Cluster - Rs. 0.79 crore under the sanctioned MSDE supported project for skill training on bamboo handicraft including furniture - Rs. 1.10 crore under the sanctioned NERLP supported project for development of bamboo furniture cluster - 0.09 crore sanctioned by Directorate of Skill Development for establishment of training centers
d. Skill Training: Rs. 8 crore	<p>Total Mobilized: Rs. 2.61 crore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rs. 1.56 crore sanctioned under MSDE - Rs. 0.93 crore under the sanctioned NERLP supported for skill training in bamboo value addition and agro forestry - Rs. 0.12 crore under the sanctioned SFURTI- West Tripura Bamboo Mat based Cluster for soft skills

2.2. FINANCIAL PROGRESS

Sl. No.	Project	Total Project Cost/ Sanctioned amount	Fund Released to PIA
1	Integrated Development of Bamboo Handicraft Clusters in Tripura supported by NE Council	4,41,25,000	3,98,30,000
2	Design & Technical Workshop supported by O/o the D C Handicrafts, MoT	9,00,000	4,50,000
3	Integrated Development of Incense Clusters in Tripura supported by NE Council	7,79,90,000	72,434,000
4	Development of Bamboo Round Sticks Cluster at Kumarghat supported by Govt. of Tripura	2,67,00,000	2,13,50,000
5	Directorate of Skill Development, Govt. of Tripura	36,19,300	36,19,300
6	Bamboo Mat based utility Product Cluster- Major Cluster under SFURTI	2,97,22,000	12,00,000
7	High Density Bamboo Plantation supported by MGNREGA	2,65,06,000	2,65,06,000
8	Skilling of unemployed youth under CB&TA scheme of MDoNER supported by MSDE	1,56,00,000	-
9	Revival of Bamboo Sticks Cluster at Kumarghat supported by NE Council	4,99,29,000	-
10	Technical Services for Development of Bamboo based Clusters in Tripura supported by NER Livelihood Project	8,01,44,000	-
	Total Rs.	35,52,35,300	16,53,89,300

3. KEY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN

3.1. DEVELOPMENT OF ROUND BAMBOO STICK CLUSTER AT KUMARGHAT

Project Cost: **Rs. 267 lakh** | **Sanctioned in:** **August, 2016** | **Duration:** **1½ years** | **Supported by:** **Govt. of Tripura**

Government of Tripura has sanctioned the proposal for development of Bamboo Round Stick industrial cluster at Kumarghat, Unakoti district. The project entails establishment of common facility center equipped with required machines with installed capacity of around 800 MT sticks per annum. It is expected that there will be livelihood generation of about 650 persons (150 direct, 500 indirect), mostly women, in the units to be set up under the project.

- The project is being implemented at Kumarghat Industrial Estate in collaboration with Tripura Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., who have arranged the required worksheds for housing the round stick units. This is a plug-n-play facility and is one of its kind in the region to be operated through private-public-partnership mode.
- For running the units, an expression of interest was invited by Tripura Bamboo Mission. Unakoti Agarbatti Sticks Cooperative Society Ltd. was selected to operate the units.
- Out of total 153 machines (including 51 round stick machines) to be procured, 118 machines have been received from suppliers and installed at project location. Balance machines have already been dispatched from suppliers' location and are expected to reach by first week of July, 2017
- Trial run of the machines has been done presence of technical team of the machine suppliers. Unakoti Agarbatti Stick Cooperative Society have started trial production on the machines.
- 120 candidates have been mobilized already to work in the units. Skill Training for the candidates is expected to start from second week of July, 2017

SI no	Allocation of unit	Cross cutting	Splitting	Slicing	Round Stick	Sizing	Polishing	Tool Grinder	Weighing	Welding	Total
1	Stick Unit - 1 (Shed No. 7)	2	1	6	8	2	2	2	2	1	26

SI no	Allocation of unit	Cross cutting	Splitting	Slicing	Round Stick	Sizing	Polishing	Tool Grinder	Weighing	Welding	Total
2	Stick Unit - 2 (Shed No . 3)	2	1	6	8	2	2	2	2		25
3	Stick Unit - 3 (Shed No . 1)	2		6	8	2	2	2	1		23
4	Stick Unit - 4 (Shed No . 4)	2	2	6	9	2	2	2	2		27
5	Stick Unit - 5 (Shed No . 2)	2		6	8	2	2	2	2		24
6	Stick Unit - 6 (Shed No . 15)	2	1	6	10	2	2	2	3		28
Total		12	5	36	51	12	12	12	12	1	153





3.2. INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF INCENSE CLUSTERS IN TRIPURA

Project Cost: **Rs. 779.90 lakh** | **Sanctioned in:** **November, 2013** | **Duration:** **4 years** | **Supported by:** **NE Council**

The project aims to develop integrated incense clusters at 30 locations in the state of Tripura. It entails establishment of incense stick production centres, introduction of community friendly technology, skill development of artisans, capacity building of the producers to run their own grass root organization and establishing linkage with mainstream markets.

The Key activities/interventions under this project are- Mobilizing & identifying beneficiaries, organizing beneficiaries into group & institutionalizing them as incense stick producer groups, Technological intervention including skill development and capacity development, Marketing interventions- exploring different marketing channels and penetrating into mainstream & upscale markets.

Sl. No.	Component	Physical Target	Target Achieved	Balance Physical
1	Mobilization, Baseline and Institution building	2560	2226	334
1.1	Mobilization& Baseline -(No. of participants)	1760	1533	227
1.2	Institution building (Exposure, Accounts Management, Workshop- Entr. Dev.) -(No. of participants)	800	693	107
2	Capacity Building	2745	1599	1146
2.1	Capacity building on semi mechanized incense stick production -(No. of participants)	1500	730	1500

Sl. No.	Component	Physical Target	Target Achieved	Balance Physical
2.2	Capacity building on Mechanized Incense Rolling -(No. of participants)	900	662	238
2.3	Capacity building on Jigget extraction, charcoal making & masala mixing -(No. of participants)	100	0	100
2.4	Capacity Building on Agarbatti perfuming and packaging -(No. of participants)	40	30	10
2.5	Capacity Building on Agarbatti Raw Material Banking and Branding (ToT & ToE) -(No. of participants)	205	177	28
3	Marketing Interventions	100	60	40
3.2	Organizing Seminar and Symposium cum Buyer Seller Meet -(No. of participants)	100	60	40
4	Technological Intervention	2137	658	1479
4.1	Slicing cum Stick Making tools to be installed -(No. of machines)	225	187	38
4.2	Cross Cutting machine to be installed -(No. of machines)	15	4	11
4.3	Stick Making tools to be installed -(No. of machines)	1050	269	781
4.4	Weighing machine to be installed -(No. of machines)	15	15	0
4.5	Polishing machine to be installed -(No. of machines)	15	2	13
4.6	Pulverizing machine to be installed -(No. of machines)	4	0	4
4.7	Masala Mixing machine to be installed -(No. of machines)	4	3	1
4.8	Pedal Type agarbatti rolling machine to be installed -(No. of machines)	900	900	0
4.9	Masala Mixing machine to be installed -(No. of machines)	15	15	0
4.10	Weighing machine to be installed -(No. of machines)	15	15	0
4.11	Chairs for rolling	900	665	235
4.12	Rack for drying to be installed - (Quantity)	150	38	112



3.3. REVIVAL OF BAMBOO STICKS CLUSTER AT KUMARGHAT

Project Cost:
Rs. 499.29
lakh

Sanctioned in:
June, 2017 (fund
yet to be released)

Duration:
2 years

Supported by:
NE Council

This is a new project for revival of bamboo stick cluster at Kumarghat by introducing mechanization, building required infrastructure with equipments, capacity building of cluster stakeholders and providing necessary market exposure to entrepreneurs.

The project has recently been approved by NE Council, though fund for implementation is yet to be released. The project will further strengthen the capacity of the cluster and will help Kumarghat to become the largest industrial cluster for bamboo round stick in India.

3.4. INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF BAMBOO HANDICRAFT CLUSTERS IN TRIPURA

Project Cost:
Rs. 441.25 lakh

Sanctioned in:
March, 2012

Duration:
3 years

Supported by:
NE Council

The project aims to develop integrated bamboo handicraft clusters at 6 locations in the state of Tripura. It entails establishment of bamboo craft production centres, development of new designs, skill development of artisans, capacity building of the producers to run their own grassroot organization and establishing linkage with mainstream markets. The major craft category includes basketry, mat, mat based utility, carving, pasting, furnishing crafts.

Sl. No.	Key Project Mandate	Progress Achieved
1	<i>Mobilization & Baseline</i>	
	Mobilization & Baseline	12 camps(two camps in each cluster)
2	<i>Technological Intervention</i>	
	Design & Technical Development Workshop - 15 days	480 artisans
	Skill Development Training for Handicraft Artisans- 4 months	330 artisans
	Integrated Design & Technical Development Programme- 6 months	400 artisans
	Organizing Seminar and Symposium	1 State level Seminar
		105 Participants
3	<i>Institution Building</i>	
	<i>Institutional Development</i>	Formation of Artisan owned producer organization
4	<i>Marketing Interventions</i>	
	Organizing Exhibitions & participations in Fairs	4 exhibitions(2 outside the state & 2 within the state)
		Participation in State level SARAS Fair, Industry Fair. IITF- New Delhi, Kerala Bamboo Fest, Look East Business Show, Global Bamboo Fest at Indore, Home Expo 2016 at Knowledge park, Greater Noida, Bangladesh India Friendship Festival and business summit North East Business Summit

Sl. No.	Key Project Mandate	Progress Achieved
	Publicity through printing and electronic media	Printing of Catalogues, Brochures, Folders, Craft Maps, Craft Directory, B2B e-portal, CD Rom, Video Film, Printing of Books on Craft, advertisement through posters

Exposure Cum Study Tour	Exposure Visit Outside the State- 20 artisans	20 artisans participated in Study Cum Exposure Visit at Industree Crafts Foundation, Bangalore
Enterprise Development Programmes	2 training Programme	2 training Programme

5 *Financial Intervention*

Margin Money Support	650 artisans	610 artisans
Wage compensation to Cluster Manager	Wage of 6 cluster managers	6 cluster managers deputed

6 *Cluster Specific Infrastructure*

CFC Building	CFC at 6 locations	Construction of CFC at Narsingarh, Salema, Khas Chowmuhani, Dharmanagar and Matabari Completed and are operational. Construction of Mungiakami has been completed
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3.5. BAMBOO MAT BASED UTILITY PRODUCT CLUSTER WEST TRIPURA

Project Cost: Rs. 297.22 lakh | **Launched in: April, 2017** | **Duration: 3 years** | **Supported by: SFURTI, Ministry of MSME**

The project entails establishment of 1 (one) cluster level Hub and 9 (nine) village level Spokes along with soft interventions of Design, Skill & Marketing for strengthening of Bamboo Mat based utility product cluster of West Tripura district. The project is funded under SFURTI scheme of Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India. Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati is the Nodal Agency and IL&FS Clusters is the Technical Agency for the project.

- SPV has been formed in the name of "RANIRGAON BAMBOO CRAFT WELFARE SOCIETY" Registered under the sub section (3) of the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Registration NO-7063 of 2017. Village- Ranirgaon, PO- Ranirbazar, Majlispur, Jirania, West Tripura -799035
- Cluster Development Executive (CDE) deputed by IA (TBM) on 24th April, 2017
- Inauguration of West Tripura Bamboo Mat was held on 25th April, 2017 in Agartala
- Agreement between Land owners & the SPV has been completed for 7 Spokes
- Tender document for procurement of Bamboo processing machines has been finalised
- Selection of machine procurement committee has been completed.



3.6. TECHNICAL SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BAMBOO CLUSTERS IN TRIPURA

Project Cost: Rs. 801.44 lakh | Sanctioned in: May, 2017 | Duration: 2 years | Supported by: NE Rural Livelihood Project

The project entails development of bamboo based (value addition and resource generation) clusters at selected North East Rural Livelihood Project (NERLP) intervened areas of the state. Role of TBM is to provide technical support to NERLP in implementing the project. Approximately, 2920 households are expected get benefitted directly through this project to be implemented in the districts of West Tripura, Sepahijala, Khowai, Unakoti & North Tripura. The project mandates are,

- Bamboo Value Addition
 - Establishment of Bamboo Round Stick units at 6 locations
 - Establishment of Bamboo Furniture unit at 1 location
- Bamboo Agro-Forestry
 - Establishment of Bamboo Nursery at 6 locations
 - High Density Bamboo Plantation (HDBP) with intercrop covering 1200 ha

The project includes required hard interventions for setting up of CFC, equipment, nurseries etc. and soft intervention for capacity building of beneficiaries & enterprises. It also entails bringing in necessary convergence for holistic development of the proposed clusters.

A meeting was held on 26th May, 2017 at project office of Tripura Bamboo Mission and the project mandate, role of NERLP & TBM and implementation plan was discussed in length. Teams from all NERLP intervened districts in Tripura were present at the said meeting. It was decided that, to take the initiative forward, respective NERLP district teams will identify the required land and beneficiaries in consultation with Tripura Bamboo Mission. TBM has deployed required human resources for undertaking the project in the field. The TBM team, in collaboration with respective district teams of NERLP, is in the process of identifying suitable land & beneficiaries for both bamboo value addition and agro-forestry interventions.

3.7. SKILL TRAINING ON AUTOMATIC STICK MAKING M/C OPERATOR- PHASE I

Project Cost: | Sanctioned in: | Duration: | Supported by: Directorate of
Rs. 5.10 Lakh | January, '17 | 1/2 years | Skill Development, GoT

40 candidates are to be trained in the job role Automatic Stick making M/c Operator (QP code HCS/Q7803) following the Qualification Pack approved by National Skill Development Corporation. 40 candidates have been successfully trained in Kumarghat, Unakoti district and were assessed by third party as recommended by Handicrafts & Carpet Sector Skill Council. Successful candidates were offered employment opportunities at the round bamboo stick units operated by Unakoti Agarbatti Sticks Cooperative Society Ltd.



3.8. SKILL TRAINING ON AUTOMATIC STICK MAKING M/C OPERATOR- PHASE II

Project Cost: | Sanctioned in: | Duration: | Supported by: Directorate of
Rs. 20.41 Lakh | March, '17 | 1/2 years | Skill Development, GoT

160 candidates are to be trained in the job role Automatic Stick making M/c Operator (QP code HCS/Q7803) following the Qualification Pack approved by National Skill Development Corporation. During the quarter, 40 candidates have been successfully trained at different round stick units at Kumarghat, Unakoti district and were assessed by third party as recommended by Handicrafts & Carpet Sector Skill Council. Successful candidates were offered employment opportunities at the round bamboo stick units operated by Unakoti Agarbatti Sticks Cooperative Society Ltd. in Kumarghat Industrial Estate.



3.9. SKILLING OF UNEMPLOYED YOUTH OF NORTH EAST

Project Cost: Rs. 156.00 Lakh | Sanctioned in: February, '17 | Duration: ½ years | Supported by: CB&TA, MDoNER, through MSDE

Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has approved skill training for unemployed youth under Capacity Building & Technical Assistance (CB&TA) scheme of Ministry of Development of North East Region (DoNER). The project aims to train 1550 candidates under the NSQF aligned job roles namely Bamboo Utility Handicraft Assembler (300 candidates), Bamboo Mat Weaver (300 candidates), Bamboo Furniture (150 candidates), Automatic Stick making m/c operator (200 candidates), and Bamboo Grower (600 candidates).

- Establishment of training centers for the job roles as per MSDE guidelines is under process
- Affiliation of the training centers under respective sector skill councils (SSCs) will be done soon after establishment of training centers. Necessary communication with the respective SSCs is being done regularly

Finalization of candidates for Training of Trainer (ToT) for identified job role has been done. Respective SSCs has given their consent to conduct the trainings, however are yet to declare the date of training

3.10. ESTABLISHMENT OF TRAINING CENTERS AS PER MSDE GUIDELINE

Project Cost: Rs. 9.05 Lakh | Sanctioned in: May, 2017 | Duration: ½ years | Supported by: Directorate of Skill Development, GoT

TBM, being the key agency in the state to deliver skill training on bamboo based activities, has proposed to set up training centers as per the guidelines of MSDE so that skill trainings can be conducted under various schemes under Skill India Mission. Directorate of Skill Development, Govt. of Tripura has supported

financially in setting up three training centers at Narsingarh CFC (West Tripura), Dudhpatal CFC (West Tripura) and Matabari CFC (Gomati) where the necessary equipment and arrangements are to be made to match the infrastructural requirement as per guidelines under MSDE.

Establishment of training centers at the above mentioned three locations is in process and the centers are expected to be ready by July, 2017. Post establishment, the training centers will be affiliated with Handicrafts & Carpet Sector Skill Council (HCSSC) so that skill training programmes can be undertaken at these centers.

3.11. SKILL TRAINING ON HIGH DENSITY BAMBOO PLANTATION

Project Cost: | Sanctioned in: | Duration: | Supported by: Directorate of
Rs. 7.32 Lakh | March, '17 | ½ years | Skill Development, GoT

385 candidates are to be trained in high density bamboo plantation at selected clusters under intervention by TBM. Out of these 145 candidates were already trained in last quarter, i.e. during January-March, 2017. During the quarter, 239 candidates have been trained. The candidates were assessed by a third party Centre for Forest Livelihood & Extension (CFLE).



3.12. CREATION OF HIGH DENSITY BAMBOO PLANTATION- MGNREGA

Project Cost: Rs. 265.06 Lakh | **Sanctioned in: June, 2017** | **Duration: 1/2 years** | **Supported by: MGNREGA**

TBM mobilized 889 ha of land covering 1020 farmers in 6 districts, 8 Blocks, 27 villages under MGNREGA and proposal submitted to the respective BDOs & DMs. However, scarcity of fund under MGNREGA, TBM could complete 381.96 ha of HDBP in 25 villages in 7 Blocks in 6 districts under MGNREGA.

Number of Blocks	Number of VC	Number of Groups	Sanctioned	Mobilized Area (ha)	Beneficiary (no's)	Planting Material Supplied	Area Completed
1	6	32	0	242.24	348	166620	166.62
2	7	14	150	141.55	161	180985	133.82
1	2	6	0	45.82	60	19204	19.204
1	2	9	95	94	94	31720	31.72
2	8	28	70	325.32	317	30601	30.601
1	2	4	40	40	40	0	0
8	27	93	355	888.93	1020	429130	381.96

Detail of Fund Sanctioned:

Sl. No.	Sanctioning Agency	Sanction Date	Amount, Rs. Lakh
1	DM, Unakoti	9 th June, 2017	20.65
2	DM, Unakoti	14 th June, 2017	54.39
3	DM, Sepahijala	13 th June, 2017	73.28
4	DM, Dhalai	30 th June, 2017	91.33
5	BDO, Panisagar	13 th July, 2017	25.41
Total			265.06



4. OTHER KEY INTERVENTIONS FOR STRENGTHENING BAMBOO SECTOR

In addition to the various projects undertaken with financial support from various sources, TBM is continuously striving to strengthen bamboo sector in the state through various interventions which are not directly covered specifically under a project but are imperative for growth of the clusters.

4.1. DESIGN & PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

Design development is an important activity of TBM to keep the clusters updated about the latest trends in handicraft. An exclusive 'Design Cell' (TBM-DC) has been set up at the TBM Craft Skill Resource Centre at A. D. Nagar where dedicated designer and master artisans have been deployed to develop very trendy yet user friendly craft ideas and prototyping of the same. The reasons behind setting up the Design Cell are to provide design prototype support to the clusters as well as improve marketing intervention. The designs are tested in the market and transferred to potential producers/entrepreneurs after prototyping.

A glimpse of new products developed by TBM Craft Skill Resource Centre, A. D. Nagar, which have been produced during the quarter in the clusters, is given below:-

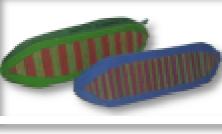


4.2. MARKET DEVELOPMENT & STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO MAINSTREAM MARKET

To facilitate the marketing of the bamboo handicraft and other products manufactured by the rural artisans of Tripura, a company namely Simanta Handicraft Products Private Limited (SHPPL) was constituted by lead artisans in the year 2015.

SHPPL is focusing on bamboo based handicraft and handloom products to meet the need of the different customer segment. The priority product category is mat based value added products like table mat, gift box, purse, clutch, file cover & folders, ladies hand bags etc. The other products are home décor bamboo products like lamps, lamp sheds etc.

Key products marketed during the quarter

Sl. No.	Product Image	Product Category	Product Name
1		Mat	Table Mat Set
2		Coiling	Bowl
3		Coiling	Dish
4		Mat	Specs Pouch
5		Mat	File folder
6		Mat	Sheetal Pati File Folder

Sl. No.	Product Image	Product Category	Product Name
7		Mat	Shopping Bag
8		Basketry	Basket (All types of baskets)

Major Buyers during the quarter

Sl. No.	Buyers
1	Purbasha, Agartala
2	Tripura Cottage Industry, Agartala
3	Craft Emporium, Agartala
4	Sukanta Handicraft, Agartala
5	Pinkesh More, Vadodara
6	Giftabled.com, Bangalore
7	Meenakshi Techno Solutions, Hyderabad

4.3. BAMBOO PLANTING MATERIAL CREATION THROUGH NURSERY DEVELOPMENT

Availability of quality planting material of commercially important bamboo species is being intervened by Tripura Bamboo Mission by creating central nurseries to grow and nurture the planting materials and supplying these to high density bamboo plantation sites across the state.

Sl No	Supported by	Nursery Location	Species	No. of Planting Material		
				Created	Utilized/ Distributed for Plantation	In Stock
1	SEEDS- ITC	Hezamara	Mritinga	356161	166620	189541
2	MGNREGA	Mohanbhog	Mritinga	37000	13710	23290
3	MGNREGA	Mohanbhog	Barak	77000	17765	59235

Sl No	Supported by	Nursery Location	Species	No. of Planting Material		
				Created	Utilized/ Distributed for Plantation	In Stock
4	MGNREGA	Jampuijala	Kanakkaich	116730	116730	0
5	MGNREGA	Jampuijala	Betu	19400	19400	0
6	MGNREGA	Jampuijala	Rupai	10000	10000	0
7	MGNREGA	Jampuijala	Mritinga	72000	0	72000
8	MGNREGA	Salema	Mritinga	34000	34000	0
9	MGNREGA	Kumarghat	Mritinga	30601	30601	0
10	MGNREGA	Pecharthal	Mritinga	23000	23000	0
11	MGNREGA	Satchand	Rupai	20000	20000	0
12	SHPPL	Bamboo Park	Barak	100000	0	100000
13	SHPPL	Bamboo Park	Mritinga	300000	0	300000
Total				1195892	451826	744066



4.4. EXPOSURE VISIT TO VIETNAM & PHILIPPINES BAMBOO INDUSTRIAL CLUSTERS

In its endeavour to promote bamboo sector in the state, Tripura Bamboo Mission is promoting large scale bamboo round stick manufacturing in Tripura. The state wants to reclaim its lost production volume of bamboo stick through mechanization production of round stick. It has established one round stick industrial park at Kumarghat by installing more than 150 machines to produce around 63 MT of round bamboo stick per month. TBM is encouraging around 28 local entrepreneurs to setup round bamboo stick units. North Eastern Council, Shilling has also supported TBM to establish one big round stick setup with monthly production capacity of 63 MT of round bamboo stick at Kumarghat. On this context, it is very important for the TBM team and the local leading

entrepreneurs to have an exposure visit to the countries who are performing better in bamboo sector particularly in making round bamboo sticks for the incense industry. Similarly, some of the South East Asian countries are also doing very good work in production and marketing of the bamboo handicraft to all over the world.

Purpose of the visit:

- To understand the overall bamboo sector
- To understand bamboo round stick manufacturing and the production techniques
- To understand the production process of Bamboo handicraft cluster
- To understand the technology used in manufacturing of bamboo products
- To explore the design perspective in bamboo handicraft
- To understand the raw material (bamboo) procurement chain

Learning from the visit

Bamboo round stick manufacturing: The bamboo stick making process in Vietnam is a worth visit for any entrepreneur and agency working in promotion of bamboo stick manufacturing. The clusters are mostly Micro and Small Enterprises involving around 10 to 50 workers having 3- 10 round stick making machines. The sorting and grading of stick is very effective and engage 30% to 50% less number of workers compared to Tripura. The techniques they are using sorting grading and cleaning of bamboo stick are

- Use of Bucket for sorting according to size
- Hand rotation of the stick to remove weak stick
- Hitting the bundle of stick in the plane surface to remove unequally on non-uniformly split

Techniques used in the Vietnam clusters for cutting, sizing, polishing etc are very effective and it increases the productivity in bamboo round stick making. The stick sizing machines are fitted with rubber tube for better grip and the bled is fitted for reverse rotation i.e. from bottom to top. The motor fitted area of higher HP and higher RMP compared to Indian made machines. For polishing the stick they apply oil during the 1st two hours of polishing process and then they use talk powder for another two hour of polishing process.

The waste collection at every step of operation is unique where they use on gunny bag or box to collect the waste. All the factories visited were near to the water body and bamboo dust is being directed to fall in the water. The water bodies also support easy and cheap transport of the materials to the factory site.

The bamboo splits are stored after proper drying. The bundles of bamboo split are exposed to direct sunlight by placing vertically in the field. The use of wet bamboo split is very rare for making bamboo round stick.

Bamboo Handicraft making: The bamboo handicraft clusters of Vietnam are same as the handicraft clusters of Tripura excluding 2 to 3 factors which determines their strength. The entrepreneurs are always exporting the bamboo handicraft products and the production process is streamlined based on it. Each entrepreneur engages around 100 to 300 artisans to execute the order. The primary work is being done at the house hold level and the entrepreneurs do the final assembly, finishing, colouring etc. before dispatching the product. The bamboo coiled product clusters are unique and traditional to Vietnam. Most of the units are using very simple tools and machines to give the final shape to the coiled products. Lacquering using different colour gives the unique look and feel to Vietnam coiled bamboo the products. All the entrepreneurs treat the bamboo by soaking in the water for 2/3 months and store for longer duration after proper drying.

Bamboo furniture making: the bamboo furniture making in Philippines are mostly for domestic use. They use both whole bamboo and bamboo splits for making different designed bamboo furniture. The designs of bamboo handicraft products of Philippines are unique and the design centre under the Department of Industry and Commerce take the lead in the country. The TBM team met the design team at Manila and also visited the other Shared Service Centres (SSC) to have a clear understanding the design aspects for which Philippines is very famous.

Bamboo procurement: The bamboo clusters of Vietnam, particularly in the North Vietnam, are procuring the bamboo from around 300 km far away from the hilly country sides. In these areas both sympodial and monopodial bamboos are grown commercially. However the proportion of sympodial bamboo is more than monopodial bamboo. The bamboos are cut to pieces and strips before transporting to the round stick clusters or to the handicraft clusters of North Vietnam. Only three to four years mature bamboo of required species are collected through traders. The traders of Thanh Oai district which is well known for the bamboo round stick making directly supply the bamboo splits to the stick making units. The price of strip depends on the maturity, size and length. The strips are dried fully before using for round stick making or storing for future use in the factory. On investigation, it was fund the price of one kilogram of bamboo strips is equivalent to Rs 13/- in Indian Currency.

The procurement process in not well developed in the Philippines bamboo clusters and most of the clusters face the challenge of high price of bamboo. On further investigation it was understood that the availability of bamboo in many island is very small. The chop stick unit at Iloilo used bamboo available in the local area which is just around 30-40 km from the factory.

Bamboo species used: Dendrocalamus and Bambusa are the two major species of bamboo used for bamboo stick making in Vietnam. The long inter node *Dendrocalamus latiflorus* , *Dendrocalamus hamiltoni*, *Dendrocalamus Barbatus* etc are very

effective in production as it reduces number of operation for making same volume of stick. *Schizostachyum dullooa* is extensively used for making bamboo coiled products because of its long inter node distance. The Philippines use D asper and Bambusa extensively for other commercial use. Bambusa Bamboos, a thorny bamboo and difficult to harvest, is used in making chop sticks and other products. The strength and biomass (wall thickness) of bambusa Bamboos is more so it adds to the profit.

Host to TBM for organizing the program: Mr Dang from Hanoi is working in the bamboo sector for last 10 years . He has the trading and service business and supply bamboo flooring tiles. He is also associated with one NGO promoting bamboo in Vietnam. Mrs. Carmelita, an international consultant in bamboo has taken the responsibility arranging our program during our visit to Philippines. He also runs one NGO called "Hands-in Abra" since more than 30 years.

Way forward: This exposure visit to South East Asian countries is an eye opener after working for a long period of around 10 years in the bamboo sector of Tripura for all the team members. The learning of round bamboo stick production process followed in Vietnam is a great advantage to the bamboo stick units of Tripura. The units in Kumarghat have already started adopting the best practice learned.



5. ACTION PLAN FOR NEXT QUARTER

TARGET for FY	Tentative action plan for the July-September, 2017
A. Industrial Application of Bamboo	
a. Promotion of Bamboo round stick production: 2 medium scale units (50 m/c each) and 20 micro units (2-3 m/c each) to be set up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inauguration of bamboo round stick units at Kumarghat developed under support of Govt. of Tripura - Launch of NEC supported project for revival of bamboo round stick cluster at Kumarghat - Identification of land, beneficiaries in consultation with NERLP district teams and finalization of layout, design etc. for round stick units at 6 locations
b. Bamboo Pellet making (waste recycling): 1 unit to be set up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalization of land and procurement of machineries
c. Agarbatti Masala Unit: 1 unit to be set up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procurement of machineries - Construction/ Arrangement of workshed
B. Bamboo Resource Generation	
a. High Density Bamboo Plantation: 1000 Ha to be covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be taken up in next planting season
b. Planting Material: 10 lakh to be arranged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 Lakh more plantlets to be raised
C. Skill Training	
a. Handicrafts: 5000 to be trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 Centers to be established & affiliated and first batch of training to be rolled out under MSDE
b. Industrial Application: 300 to be trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 120 candidates will be trained in bamboo round stick under DSD supported project - First batch of candidates to be trained under CB&TA scheme of MDoNER as approved by MSDE
c. Bamboo Plantation: 2500 to be trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on bamboo nursery to be started under NERLP project
d. Enterprise Development: 100 to be trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be taken up once the NERLP clusters are established

e. Training of Trainers: 100 to be trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 candidates (under HCSSC) and 13 candidates (under ASCI) to be trained & certified
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D. Handicrafts & Furniture

c. Consolidation and promotion of the existing Community Production Centers: 16 CFCs/CPCs to be supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SHPPL to continue its support to the CFCs/ CPCs - Necessary support in terms of skill training, market exposure, technology improvement, production streamline will be provided
d. Market Promotion: Apex company to achieve Rs. 50 lakh sales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marketing to be expedited by the apex company