

Impact of community based tank management project on socio-economic status of beneficiary farmers

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ABSTRACT

The Investigation was carried out in the year 2007-08 to assess the impact of community based tank management project on socio-economic status of beneficiary farmers in ten villages of Bidar district. The results of the study revealed that, significant increase in socio-economic status like increase in primary agriculture occupation from 90.66 to 97.34 per cent, business from 14.0 to 26.0 per cent, owning of two houses increased from zero to 10.66 per cent, In case of source of irrigation wells increased from 23.34 to 42.0 per cent. In case of organization participation increased in medium level of participation from 16.0 to 47.34 per cent.

KEY WORDS : Community, Tank management project, Socio-economic status

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INTRODUCTION

Government of Karnataka has developed a community based tank management project in nine districts of Karnataka state with a budget outlay of 780 crore. The World Bank has come out with a pilot project on tank rehabilitation and improving the tank system. Enhancing agriculture productivity and improving water use efficiency is one of the objectives of the project. Hence, UAS Dharwad and Bangalore were given with this responsibility. UAS, Dharwad has taken agriculture development activities like, On-farm demonstrations, Training activities, Promotion of other income generating activities, Samudaya tantrika vedike, and Participatory technology development, in 6 districts namely, Bidar, Raichur, Bagalkot, Haveri Koppal and Bellary. Community based tank management is aimed to demonstrate the viability of a community based approach to tank improvement and management by returning the main responsibility of tank development to village level user groups.

The overall goal of the programme was to reduce poverty and enhancing agriculture productivity and

improving water use efficiency in community based tank management project areas of Northern Karnataka through the restoration, improved management and sustainable use of natural resources. The key development objective is to improve the productive potential of selected tanks and their associated natural resource base and strengthen community and institutional arrangements for natural resource management. The prime objective is to increase household income, improve agriculture productivity, improve vegetative cover, increase in horticulture production, increase fodder and fuel availability, enhance quality of life of village communities, reducing soil erosion and runoff to improve water availability and to conserve the moisture status. Hence, the study was conducted to know the impact of community based tank management on socio-economic status of beneficiary farmers.

METHODOLOGY

The study was focused on the community based tank management project in Bidar district. Ten villages were selected namely, Chatnalli, Chatnalli wadi, Vilaspur, Andoor and Malkapur from Bidar Taluka and Belkera, Chinkera,

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