

FORMAT P5 Our Guiding Principles

The following set of guiding principles were prepared to help the State Government Departments (SGD) and Non-Government Organisations (NGO) in developing their plans and proposals and to serve as reference while implementing the RWS programme:

1. The SGDs and NGOs will elaborate jointly on an annual basis a plan of action and keep each other informed on the progress of their work on a regular basis.
2. The SGDs and NGOs must maintain their focus upon soil and water conservation activities that are of central concern and importance to this project.
3. No activity of SGDs and NGOs must cause harm or damage to the natural environment or cause further natural resource degradation.
4. The programmes and activities should also focus on the needs and problems of landless farmers (on a priority basis).
5. Development of networking Self Help Groups with strong participation of women is expected to be a main activity of the NGOs.
6. Assets and infrastructure created by NGOs should be in the name of local institutions, which have strong participation of women.
7. The partner organisations should not promote economically unviable activities which focus on improvement of livelihood conditions and depend primarily on subsidies and sponsorship.
8. Beneficiaries of the programme are expected to make contributions by way of cash, kind or labour. No activities with immediate direct tangible benefits must reach the beneficiaries totally free of costs.
9. State Government Departments and NGOs are expected to work mainly in their field of experience.
10. Within a given watershed, the NGO should begin its activities ahead of the SGD, having a lead time for preparing the community, explaining the objectives and mobilising their participation, preferably 1 year.
11. The activities must be based on principles of sustainability, equity and social justice. The partner organisations must strike a balance between developing farmers that perpetuate the resource gap between the rich and the poor and to be resources. Access of poor farmers/villagers over such facility must be ensured.
12. The long term perspective of the State Government Departments and Non-Government Organisations should be the development of a watershed management committee in which all main socio-economic groups of the watershed will be represented and which will take care of watershed management activities beyond the project period.

5. This Joint Action Plan will be reviewed yearly and a detailed Quarterly Project Planning will be prepared one year in advance. The Indo-German Bilateral Project “Watershed Management” will be the convener of these meetings and will issue the minutes of the meetings subsequently.

6. The SGD and the NGO agree to develop the modalities and to organize watershed committees and local institutions in which all main socio-economic groups will be represented. These committees and local institutions will be strengthened by all partners, in such a way that they will handle all watershed management activities on their own after the termination of the project.

Place and Date : _____

for IGBP : _____

for SGD : _____

for NGO : _____

Seen for Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resource Management Division

Date : _____

Enclosures:

Format P5 : Guiding Principles

Format P6 : Project Proposal