

Upliftment of SC farmers to mitigate migration: A case study of Jangalahalli village of Kapalamadagu GP in Kolar (Karnataka)

Problem statement: Under Batch-4 PMKSY-WDC programme implemented in Mulbagal taluk, Schedule Caste (SC) farmers having aggregate landholdings of up to 10 hectares in Jangalahalli village of Kapalamadagu GP were migrating to towns in search of jobs. Their lands were unproductive and were left barren/fallow.

Intervention: After project intervention due to land treatment from upper reach to lower reach and via various watershed activities such as bunding, construction of Nalabund and check dams, agroforestry, dry land horticulture, boulder checks and diversion channels have converted uncultivable land into productive cultivable lands. Water stored in the water harvesting structure has helped the farmers to undertake intensive cultivation of commercial crops.

Impact: In Jangalahalli village, watershed development programme has not only raised the income level of SC farmers but also facilitated them to sustainably settle down in their farm, thereby reducing migration and poverty.

Sustainability: By overall upliftment of farmers' economic condition along with sustainable management and conservation of soil and water the watershed project in Jangalahalli village has contributed substantially towards the sectoral challenge, national priority and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The intervention has helped the farmers to sustainably settle on their land with adequate sources of livelihood.

(References: As reported by WCDC of Kolar in the written response to the questionnaire)