PRVST
(Protection of River banks Through Vetiver System Technology) in Malappuram , Kerala

A Malappuram Experience – Done by INVN in collaberation with the district administration, Malappuram

Main objective of the effort

To Protect the banks of four major rivers –

Bharatha puzha

Kadalundi Puzha

Chaliyar

Tirur puzha

And their tributaries.

Other Objectives

Rejuvenation of plants

Carbon sequestering

Soil fertility improvement

Bio control of pests

Land beautification

Handicraft making

Flood is a regular scene

Earlier experiments – constructing stone walls

They were went to walls

A big loss to the Exchequer

The remains trigger environmental degeneration.

How we have done the work

Stage I (June-July 2009)

- INVN Submitted a detailed project proposal before the Government
- Government accepted the project and selected INVN & LSGD's the implementing agencies.
- Govt. gave permission to converge RMF with MGNREG

Stage II (July-August 2009)

- District kudumbashree mission was asked to establish vetiver nurseries (of VS 9 Ecotype)
- The MGNREGS functionaries along with INVN volunteers identified the potential areas in each panchayath to establish VST
- Block/panchayth level technical team prepared detailed estimates with the help of INVN based on the rates approved by DLTC & SLTC

Nursery activities of kudumbashree Groups

After pretreatment they planted the tillers

Each group consists of 5-7 members

Stage III (Aug-Sept 2009)

- Monitored the progress of 11 kudumbashree vetiver nurseries
- Training sessions were conducted at block and Panchayath level for
- Grass root level workers
- Peoples' representatives
- MGNREG functionaries
- Organisers
- Awareness classes were conducted for
- Public
- Farmers

Stage IV (Oct 2009-April2010)

- Inaugurated the implementation phase
- Started to Implement the project at various panchayaths.
- Directed all panchayaths to complete the first phase before May

Stage VI (May-June 2010)

- Accumulated the data from the field
- Consolidated the data
- Strategies designed for rectifying the errors and mistakes
- Pre arrangements made for the second phase.

July 2010- May 2011

- Started the second phase
- All the errors were rectified
- Gap filling was done
- More documentation done

What INVN has done ?

Helped in

- Identification of suitable ecotypes
- Forming vetiver nurseries
- Conducting awareness and technical classes
- Evaluation and documentation

Adopting VST- The Response

40 Grama panchayaths- the local self governments - have taken up the project and completed the first and second phases.

Another 12 gramapanchayths have set the stage to start the project.

The work in progress
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Certain Panchayaths

River Bank before planting

Cheriyamundam Gramapanchayath

Land preparation

Land preparation

Three months after planting

Five months after planting

Poorappuzha – Parappanagadi gramapanchayath

Two weeks after planting

Three weeks after planting

Four weeks after planting

Four months after planting

Six months after planting

The site now

VST to restrenthen the riverside pathways At Tirurangadi gramapanchayath

At the time of planting

Same site after 3 months

To strengthen the already existing retaining wall

Planting Process

The retaining wall is in danger zone

VST application in Vazhakkad Panchayath

A glance at the work done

As per the data consolidated in May

Tiller distribution

Number of tillers supplied---

52,39,184

Number of tillers planted ---

51,71,858

Number of tillers survived ---

43,93,891

Number of tillers destroyed ---

777967

Wage Distribution

Total area of planting --

107.36 hectare

Amount spent from MGNREGS as wages --

152.28 lakhs

Total working days created-

12182

Survival & Casualty

Percentage of survival ---

84.96

Percentage of casualty---

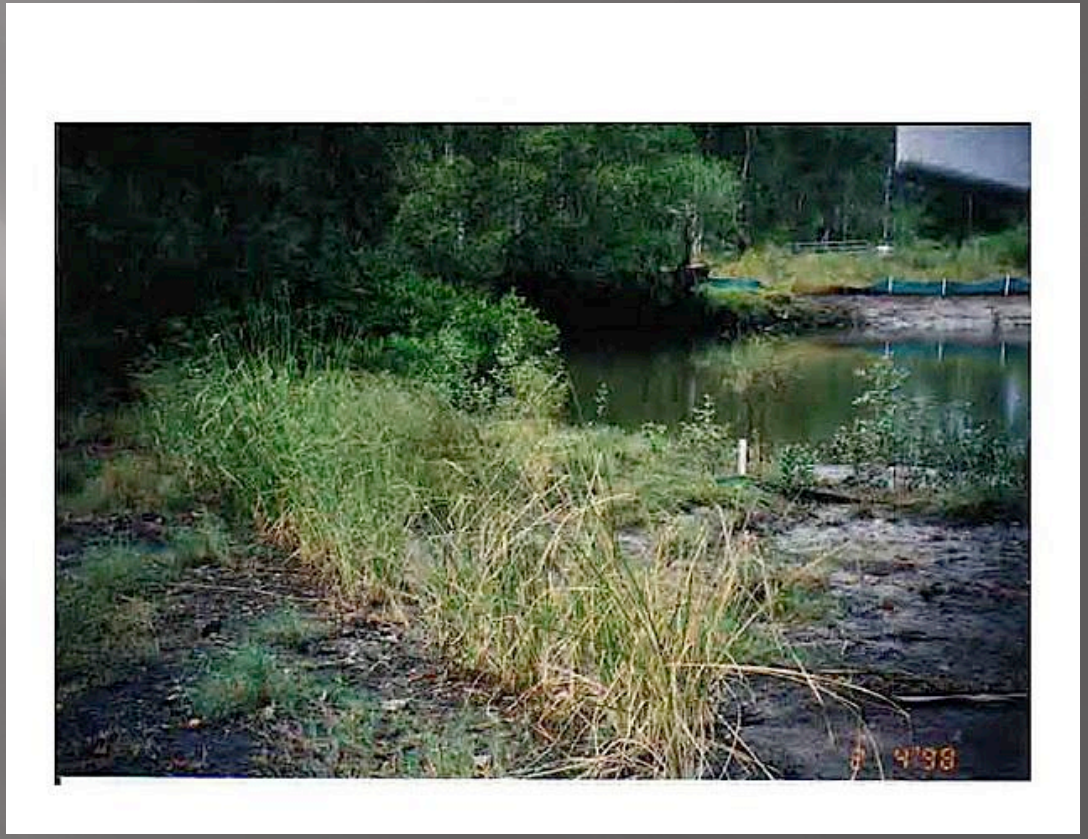
15.04

Reasons for casualty

Drought

Reasons for casualty

Salinity of the water during planting time



Reasons for casualty

Illegal sand mining

Reasons for casualty

Flood during planting time

Full protection to the banks now

Vetiver hedges on the banks of chaliyar

Cut leaves are used as fodder

VST Supports other crops

VST Prevents sand mining and soil erosion

A new road has been constructed along the river bank

The steep areas are widely protected

VST restrengthens the road

Hedges formed within months

Pruning is done regularly

Illegal sand mining is prevented to a certain extent

Vetiver hedges just days after a flood

Extension activities for future

Handicraft Making

A minimum of 15 self help Groups will be trained in handicraft making ,using vetiver grass as raw material

With the help of india Vetiver Network

This initiative definitely will enhance the emerging tourism industry in Malppuram

Handicrafts made out of Vetiver grass

Handicrafts made out of Vetiver grass

Fodder Processing Units

One fodder processing unit in each block will be established to produce quality fodder out of vetiver leaves

Mulching and Thatching Material

Each GramaPanchayath can directly sell the vetiver grass as thatching &mulching material

A source for planting Material

The External row will be kept as a source for planting material- tillers for the future applications of VST

Especially in farms

In order to

To preserve soil fertility

To prevent soil erosion

To fix nitrogen

To increase productivity

To resist pests

To demarcate properties

To recharge the ground water

Awareness classes for farmers will be started soon .

Conclusion

- PRVST becomes a typical example for participatory approach
- PRVST becomes a best convergence model of government & special funds

THANK YOU