

## Project Summary

Title of the Project:	“Strengthening Vanasamakhya towards extending support services to VSSs and their networks in Andhra Pradesh”
Location(s) of the Project:	Nellore, Srikakulam and Warangal
Total duration of the Project (months):	36 months
Project Cost:	₹19,70,400
Objectives of the Project:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To facilitate community based credit systems</li> <li>2. To provide support services to VSS members’ land development</li> <li>3. To strengthen Vanasamakhya activities</li> <li>4. To facilitate bamboo networks to lobby for obtaining harvesting permits.</li> </ol>
Target group(s):	Vana Samrakshana Samithi (VSS) members
Final beneficiaries:	Vana Samrakshana Samithi (VSS) members and villagers of Nellore, Srikakulam and Warangal forest divisions
Expected results:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 VSSs obtain 50% forest return benefits from Forest Department to start VMWDF</li> <li>• 25 VSSs initiate VSS Members Welfare Development Fund</li> <li>• 125 VSSs members from 25 VSSs reduce dependency on taking loans for high interest rates.</li> <li>• Productivity increased in the 300 members land</li> <li>• 50 VSSs/300 members apply to line departments for avail benefit through Government Orders and Schemes related to them.</li> <li>• 15 Grant application submission to state and district line departments &amp; donor agencies by Vanasamakhya</li> <li>• 45 VSS apply for harvest permits</li> <li>• Bamboo harvested in 45 VSS</li> </ul>
Main activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducting base line survey</li> <li>• Awareness meetings in 35 VSSs on usefulness of VSS Members Welfare and Development Fund (VMWDF)</li> <li>• Formulating rules, regulations and criteria for credit activity in 25 VSSs</li> <li>• Facilitating 450 SC, ST and other marginalized households to apply concern departments/corporations to their land development</li> <li>• Collecting GOs/schemes/Act and relevant information from Forest departments/Rural development department/Agriculture department/Animal Husbandry etc and dissemination through MAA ADAVI and other IEC materials to 29 Local Vanasamakhyas and its member VSSs</li> <li>• Approaching state and district line departments &amp; donor agencies to get support for Vanasamakhya activities</li> <li>• Capacitating Bamboo network members on process of obtaining harvest permits</li> <li>• Follow up with Forest Officials to obtain harvest permits</li> </ul>