



WWF® for a living planet®

Education for Sustainable Development

~ Sutapa Mukherjee, Education Officer, WWF-India, Bhopal

16th July 2012

ESD in WWF- India

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Decade of 2005-2015 has been designated by the UN as the UN decade of ESD (DESD)
- Peer Education is an innovative way of engaging people in ESD.
- UNESCO aims to compile a checklist for Good Practices in ESD.
- A Local to Global perspective - If you do things right locally, it will become right globally.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

History of ESD- Education & Sustainability	1
ESD led by WWF in Global Scenario	2
Overview: WWF-India Environment Team	3
ESD in M.P, India	4
ESD in C.G, India	5
Teachers' Column	6
Student's Column	7
Community Column	8
ESD Team	9

Education and Sustainability

Why the most developed and technically advanced countries have the highest **Carbon footprint**? Any country's development depends on its education system. This was the trigger which laid the way towards **Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)**.

ESD aims to attain welfare in line with sustainable development by empowering people through education to presume responsibility for crafting a sustainable outlook. This is a fragmentary process within an ecological framework. It is not just "development" that needs to be redefined but the notion of "education" also has to change in definite fundamental ways to accomplish sustainability. Sustainable development consists of three key areas of interaction i.e. society, environ-

ment and economy with customs and ethics. It is lucid that major environmental problems cannot be solved from a slender methodical perspective, but requires stronger links amid environmental issues, socio-political and economic contexts in which we live. It is based on "**learning by doing**" and using this approach the focus will be on providing practical training to civil society through teachers and reaching out to students and communities to build the capacity to carry out sustainable practices at the local level. Thus *Decade of 2005-2015 has been designated by the UN as the UN decade of ESD (DESD)*.



Scenario of Present Economy

Socio/Cultural

Democracy

Economical

Ecological

Framework: Education for Sustainable Development

ESD led by WWF in Global Scenario

Decade of Education for Sustainable Development which paved ways for Educators throughout the world for unprecedented opportunities to learn from and contribute to ESD. UK laid the path through the Development Framework. Sweden came up with many reading learning materials and methodologies on ESD. Environmental Educators' Initiative: Providing hands-on learning approaches for 200 million Chinese schoolchildren running their 4th Phase establishing the roots of ESD in 1997. Mongolia adopted the Master Plan

in 2006 with the objective to form "**Children friendly school**", "**Health supporting school**", "**Green school**" and "**Open school**". Austria espoused ESD to attain the aim of Production of an informative **handbook** for cross border education projects in Eastern Europe. Other countries where WWF is working on ESD are Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and India.



"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed."

~Mahatma Gandhi



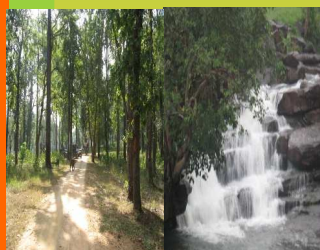
WWF-India Environment
Team Initiative for ESD

"What's the use of a fine house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on?"

~ Henry David



ESD Involving Communities,
Students and Teachers in M.P
& C.G.



Nature Picture: M.P & C.G

Overview: WWF-India Environment Team Initiative

WWF-India EE team took up ESD in 2007 with 7 **SCERT Seminars** in different cities. The aim of these seminars was to capacitate the teachers who in turn will deliver the knowledge to the students building a better future. In 2008, the 4 model schools were taken up in Kolkata in Sunderbans landscape. 2009 was a year of Training of Trainers Workshop at M.P. 2 **ESD Pilot schools** were espoused in Madhya Pradesh and 2 in Chhattisgarh in 2010 with individual ESD seminars in each adopted schools. Staffan and Per, ESD Experts from Sweden addressed Members of RCE in 2010 at Delhi.

The 2-days Seminar is designed on different aspects of ESD. **Line Exercise** aims to introduce democracy, initiate thinking and standing on one's own points. **Ring exercise** is to check the

energy levels of the participants and activate them. **Bottle activity** makes one think within limited amount of resources without compromising with the need. **Space trip** is to make one understand the concept of Sustainability.

Seminar wielded the teachers to motivate the students to think. Exercises were motivational to generate the process of thinking and stand on personal viewpoints and build up self confidence and empowerment towards the goal of Education for Sustainable Development.

ESD Model Schools of Madhya Pradesh

In M.P. WWF-India took Indri Higher Secondary School and Tatri Higher Secondary School in the SML Landscape within a distance of 3kms. The first seminar was organized in October 2010.

Indri & Tatri are at a distance of 20 kms from Khatia Gate of Kanha National Park. These are areas with dry spells every year. The roads are very good and well connected in this region. Occupation of the people here are mainly working as laborers, cultivators and a minute part is involved as guides, cooks, housekeeping persons in the Hotels nearby the **Kanha National Park**.

Very less population have a permanent job. Mostly the occupations varies with season. **Ma-hua** is one of the greatest resource for the communities here. This is a special plant which is a source of local alcohol found here.

Some of the challenges in the area are high practice of tobacco intake in different forms starting from the age group of 6-7, lack of health-hygiene consciousness with high litter of polythene everywhere and falling interest levels of students towards education.

ESD Model Schools of Chhattisgarh

In Chhattisgarh, WWF-India engaged **Chilpi Higher Secondary & Middle School** and **Chaparwa Middle & Hr. Sec. School** in the SML Landscape. At the later stage of the Project we found Chaparwa to be highly sustainable, so shifted to **Rajbenda Middle School** which is 2kms from Chilpi Hr. Sec. School within Chilpi Ghats.

Chilpi is near **Bhoramdeo Tiger Sanctuary** with a 11th century temple inside on which the Reserve has been named. It is a beautiful town located at an elevation of 329 m above MSL, 21 km from Kwardha District of Chhattisgarh at the foot of the scenic Satpuda Maikal Hills, halfway between Raipur and the world-famous Kanha Tiger Re-

serve. Tibes like **Gond** and **Baiga** are found here.

Some of the challenges in the area are high practice of tobacco intake in different forms starting from the age group of 6-7, unaware communities about their strengths & resources (e.g. Eco-Tourism), frequent transfers of the teachers, higher use of firewood to run food stops (dhabas), and lack of health-hygiene consciousness with high litter of polythene everywhere.

Teachers' Column....

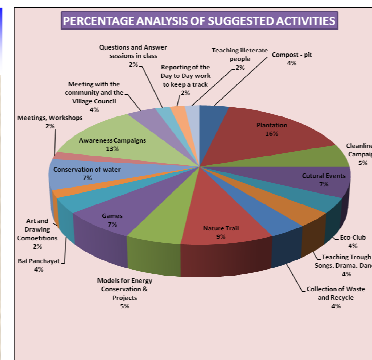
Mr. R.K. Usrathe, Principal of Chilpi Hr. Sec. School is a highly enthusiastic person with a zeal to work on new concepts. He was very keen to take up the concept of ESD. His school kids are also highly motivated towards new developments. He joined this school as Physical Trainer in 1984. Four years back he was posted as the Principal. He is not scared of any political threats. His knack is in mentoring his students in all fields viz. music, sports, technology.

Mr. Khera, Principal of Chhapparwa School in Chhattisgarh. He is a retired professor of

Sociology from Delhi University. He is dedicated to upliftment of the tribes in and around Chhapparwa. The school is funded by C.G Forest department and himself. He even input the awareness of the rights of the tribes of that area. He has been also the source of cleanliness and social consciousness in the area. At an age of 90 years he has been doing a lot of hard work to raise the tribes inspiring the youth to work for society. He being a great mentor for the area we found little space to intervene. Therefore we changed the school after one year of involvement.

Mr. Khushwaha, Provisional Principal of the Indri Hr. Sec. School is an M. Phil in Botany. He was working in that school for last 10 years. His dream is to convert the school into a college so that the students doesn't need to migrate to far places like Jabalpur for their higher studies.

Our other schools are middle schools, so the head are the headmasters who will be introduced in our upcoming editions.



Data Analysis and Concrete Planning



Teacher's Training on Harms of Tobacco



"ESD aims to catch them young"



Students and Teacher in Active Mode

Students' Column - Activities

Student's Council Formation:

In three of the schools viz. Indri, Tatri and Chilpi, the students council was made. The teams were divided into five subjects: think do & discover, cleanliness campaign, recycle, organic waste, and forest water & life.



Presentation by one team

Cleanliness Campaign: Student teams came out with banners to spread the message of cleanliness at Indri, Tatri and Chilpi. They interacted with the shopkeepers on market day and told them not to litter the area and use dustbins for polythene. A rally was organized.



Cleanliness Campaign

Hand Print:

There were many competitions and activities conducted under ESD. Competitions are to motivate the students. In this handprint exercise it was aimed to give the children a sense of ownership towards conserving mother earth.



Handprint by students

Community Column - Activities....

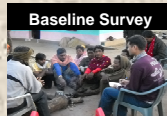
Bio-gas Training to the Community Representatives:

The aim was to the facilitate the repair of the damaged biogas in village and make them enable able to use the biogas in a properly. Some of them wanted to install biogas.



Bio gas Training Group

Baseline Survey for Community Trainings for Tourism: The tourism of Chhattisgarh is developing at present where ESD team tried to include the Baiga community and ESD School students to be trained. Survey s were conducted to make the groups of students and community.



Baseline Survey

Village Council Meeting:

The village council meetings are conducted regularly to update the communities about the ESD activities in the School. "Sarpanch" of Indri promised to cooperate with the Project activities.



Village Council Meeting

WWF-India, M.P & C.G State Office, Bhopal

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WWF® for a living planet®

"To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:

- **conserving the world's biological diversity**
- **ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable.**
- **promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.**

WWF-India has been working to promote harmony between human beings and nature for more than four decades.

Today, it is recognized as a premier conservation NGO in the country dealing with nature conservation, environmental protection and development-related issues. At a time when the Web of Life has come under increasing threats, WWF-India's attempts have been to find and implement solutions so that human beings can live in harmony with nature, and leave for future generations a world rich in natural resources and natural wonders.

The organization is part of the WWF-family with 27 independent national organizations. The coordinating body, the WWF International, is located at Gland in Switzerland. It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

www.wwfindia.org

ESD Team - Satpuda Maikel Landscape



Mita Nangia Goswami

She is the Director of Environment Education, WWF-India. Her infectious energy level enthuse the team to work towards its goals. Dedicated towards spreading Education for Sustainable Development in all spheres of education in India.



Sangita Saxena She is the State Director of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Her excellent coordination skill right from policy level to field level is her greatest strength. Enthusiastic towards spreading ESD in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh states.



Sutapa Mukherjee

She is the Education Officer of M.P & CG. State Office. Running the last miles and running together for the mission of ESD has been her sole strength. Her painstaking ability aids her coordinate other events at state level. She ensures the sustainability element on field.



Ajay Mishra He is the administrative Officer in M.P & CG. State Office, Bhopal. He knows the pulse of the people associated with the program as his ears are always towards the ground realities. His support in streamlining the processes makes the execution easy.



Markandey Singh

He is the Assistant Administrative Officer. His event management skills makes the programs and workshops of ESD a standard worth upping every time.

