

ANNUAL REPORT 2021 - 2022



IBRAD

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Secretary's Message

Dear Members,

I feel honoured to present the Annual Report of 2021-22 of IBRAD (Indian Institute of Bio -Social Research and Development) with you. We have witnessed an unprecedented crisis due to the COVID- 19 Pandemic in 2020-21. It has changed the way of working worldwide, and IBRAD is also not an exception. The application of digital technologies for training, capacity building and sustainable livelihood development has become a new normal way for us. We have developed our skills and approaches on blended digital learnings and training for our action research and capacity-building programs which is being recognised both at the National and International Levels. Every member and staff of IBRAD deserves special applause for so quickly adapting to the changing paradigm and creating a new space for the organisation.

The method of application of Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Tribal Development developed by IBRAD is being accepted by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India through the assignment of a new project to IBRAD this year. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has issued a letter to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of all the states and UTs to involve IBRAD in training their front-line staff for the application of IBRAD Model of Integrated Forest Mosaic Landscape Management through Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Tribal Development which is a great honor. The method of application of Blended Digital Learning through Science Communication for Climate-Resilient Livelihood Development is accepted by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and IBRAD has received a project from the Ministry.

The methods and approaches of IBRAD for Sustainable Tribal Development is recognized at the National Level and IBRAD was involved with the SCSTRTI, Odisha to develop a Conceptual Framework for Sustainable Tribal Development in Saturation Mode through Convergence Approaches at the National Level. This was assigned by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and has provided a great opportunity for policy analysis and presentation of IBRAD methods at the National Level.

During the year we have conducted a number of virtual training for the Indian Forest Service officers and other stakeholders assigned by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The training programs conducted by IBRAD have received more than 90% ratings from the participants. We have also conducted such virtual training for the forest officials of Tripura under JICA funded SCATFORM Project.

IBRAD has entered into an agreement with the Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University, Purulia, a public University in West Bengal for an inter-institutional collaboration for the One Year Post Graduate Diploma Course of the University on Sustainable Tribal Development Management and the course is launched in March 2022.

Besides, developing our expertise in online and remote training and capacity building we have continued our intense field-based activities in four districts of West Bengal as a Support Organisation under the West Bengal Accelerated Development of Minor Irrigation Project which we are associated with since 2012.

We have also conducted a number of online certificate training as well as residential training for young professionals and students on Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Development without charging any fees as per our commitment to developing human resources for promoting human understanding for sustainable development.

The online International Conferences organized by IBRAD have provided opportunities for sharing the methods and approaches of IBRAD with the professionals, academics and researchers at the International Level.

Our Chairman, Professor S. B. Roy is awarded Fellow, Society for Applied Anthropology USA for his contribution to the field of Applied Anthropology. His presentation on the Application of Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Tribal Development at the Annual Conference of the Society for Applied Anthropology USA is ranked number one.

I would like to thank and express my sincere gratitude to all our clients, staff, members and well-wishers for their valuable contribution in shaping the organization. We will try our best to contribute towards the cause of sustainable human development.

Professor P. K. Roy Barman
Secretary

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Our Mission

Creating a World of Human Understanding for Sustainable Development.

Recognition

Based on the track record of IBRAD, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India has recognized IBRAD as “Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Tribal Development”.

Society Registration Number: No.48601 of 1985-1986

FCRA Registration Number: 147120372

Unique ID of NGO Darpan: WB/2017/0118889

Governance

Any professional can apply for Life Membership to the organisation subject to its acceptance by the Governing Body. Our organisation follows a democratic process of electing Governing Body for a tenure of five years by all the General Body Members. The office bearers are elected by the Governing Body Members.

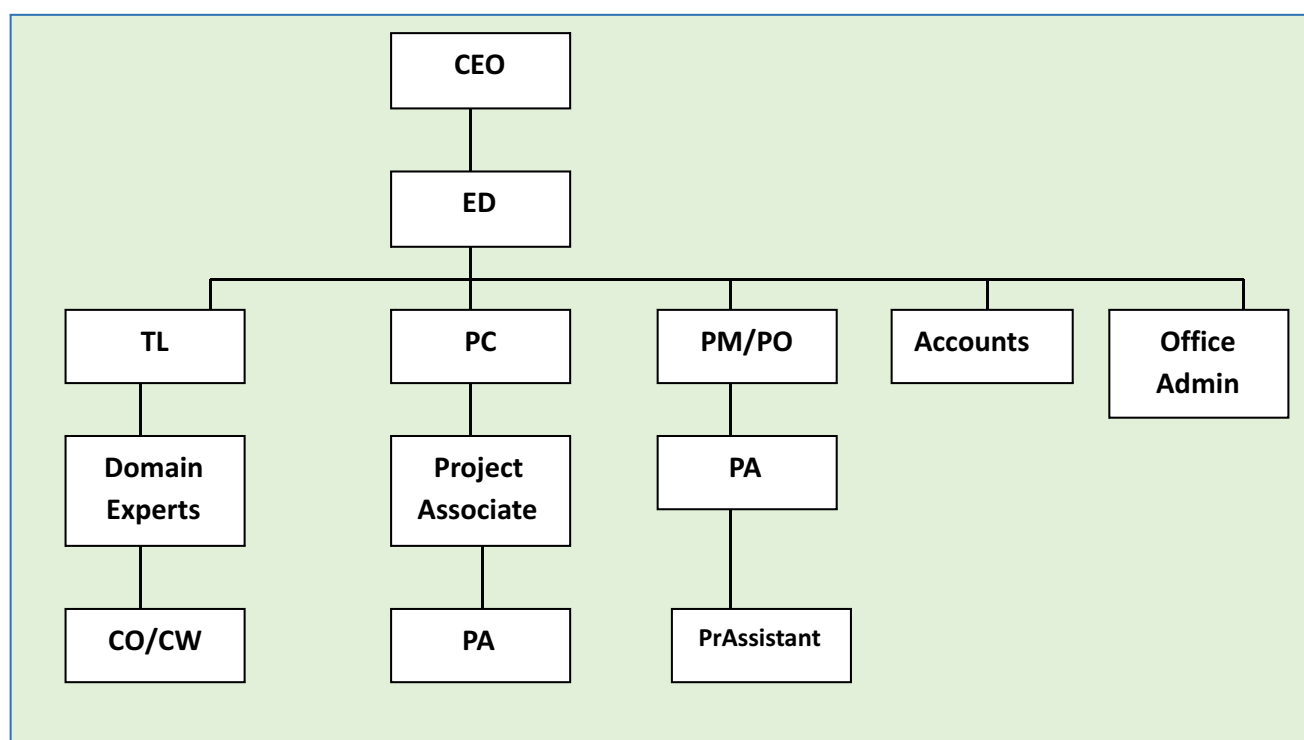
Governing Body Members (2020 - 2025)

Name	Designation	Profession
Professor S. B. Roy	Chairman	Training, Research and Consultancy, Former Professor IIT, Kharagpur.
Dr. Shila Kundu Poddar	Deputy Chairperson	Anthropological Research, former Curator, Indian Museum, Kolkata.
Dr. P. K. Roy Barman	Secretary	Professor, IBMR, Kolkata, Formerly Asst. General Manager (Finance) of United Bank of India.
Dr. Shyamal Kumar Nandy	Secretary General	Retires Researcher in Anthropology, Anthropological Survey of India (ASI).
Dr. M. Haque	Treasurer	Retired Researcher in Anthropology, Anthropological Survey of India (ASI).
Dr. Biswanath Sarkar	Member	Retired Superintendent Anthropologist at Anthropological Survey of India (ASI).
Dr. Anirudda Dey	Member	Development Consultant

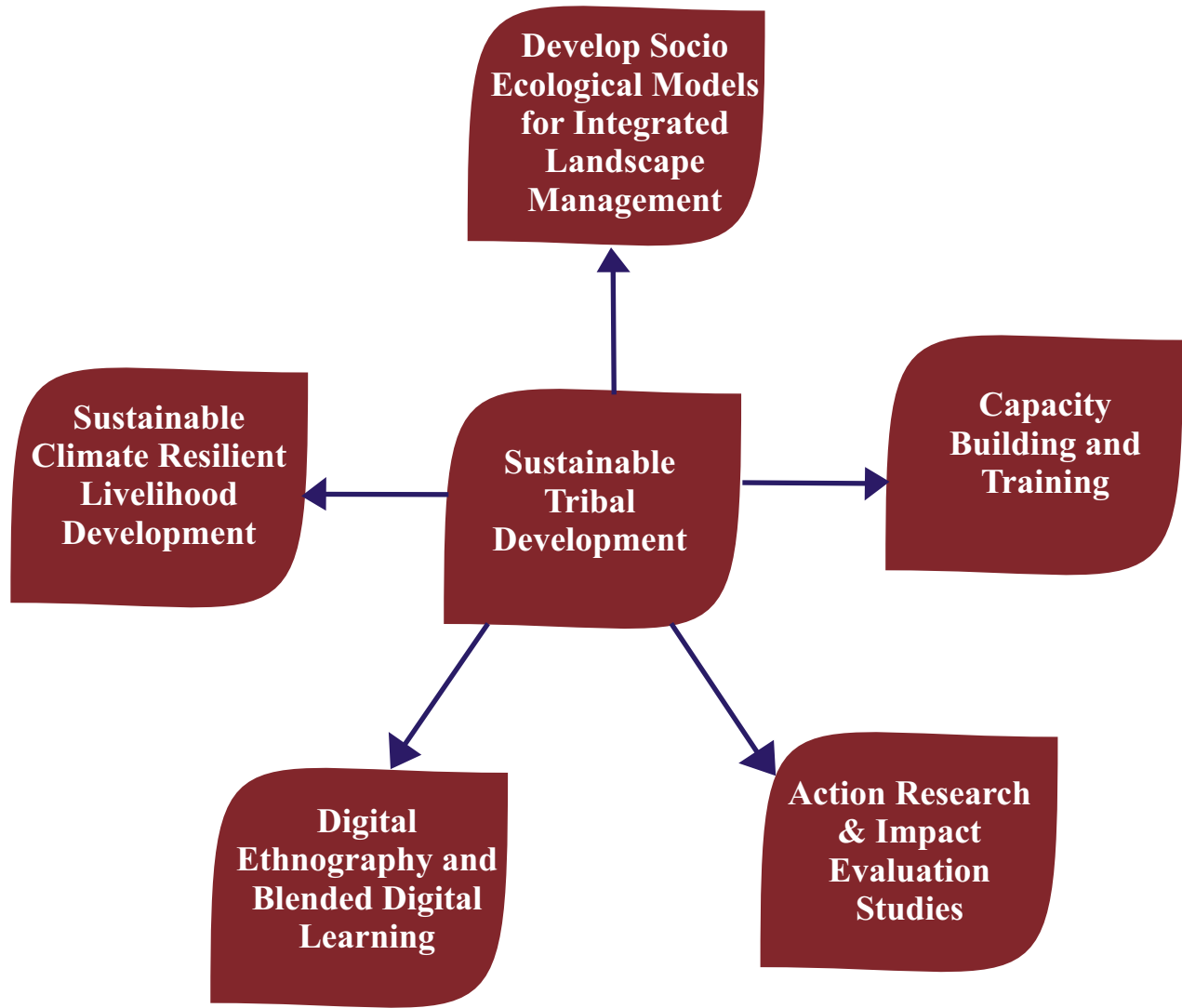
Organisational Structure

The policy set by the Governing Body is implemented through a multidisciplinary team of 86 full-time staff. The Governing Body is represented by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Besides, we also have some consultants and village volunteers working to support the implementation of our projects.



What We do



Project and Programs Carried Out

1. Holistic Sustainable Tribal Development: Ecosystem Restoration for SDG

Client :

Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India

Duration:

Three years, the Ministry has approved initially for one year starting from March 2022.

Location:

Lodha and Manikidia PVTGs in Nedam, Dengam, Damasahi and Mankidia Uthansahi villages under Mayurbhaanj district in Odisha and Baiga PVTGs in Ghoghra, Mundadadar, Khuripani and Jhola Bahar villages under Kabirdham district in Chhattisgarh respectively.

Objective:

A. Study & facilitate **Ecosystem Restoration**, the Foundation of Survival & Development, meets the needs such as food, NTFP, and water. The basics upon which the HDI depends.

B. Capacity building at **Gram Sabha level for facilitating FRA** for management of CFR and documentation of best practices.

C. Establish **herbal garden, retain traditional knowledge**, train youth for NTFP-based income generation through processing, branding & marketing.

D. Short-term courses for **NTF tribal research scholars to orient towards action research Forum for Participatory Action Research**.

E. Academic course - '**Digital Ethnography For Tribal Development**' practitioners by bridging tribal research with on field development initiatives.

F. **International collaboration** & showcasing the outcomes of MoTA project at the global level.



2. Application of Blended Digital Learning Based on Science Communication For Field Capacity Development For Climate Resilient Livelihood

Client:

National Council of Science and Technology Communication, DST, Government of India.

Duration:

Six months. Project started in January 2022

Location:

Two villages each under Bankura, Jhargram, Coochbehar, Uttar and Dakshin Dinajpur Districts, West Bengal.



Objectives:

- Community Need Analysis to assess knowledge/skill gaps for developing climate-resilient livelihood.
- Develop IEC materials through the application of digital technologies for the promotion of climate-resilient livelihood.
- Design communication strategy through blended digital learning.
- Organise village-level awareness campaigns, trainings and virtual exhibitions.
- Field testing of science communication outcomes in 2 villages per district
- To have a comparative study of the recipients from the tribal and non-tribal communities.



3. Develop a Conceptual Framework for Sustainable Tribal Development in Saturation Mode through the Convergence Approach in partnership with SCSTRTI, Odisha

Client:

Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India

Duration:

Six months. Project started in December 2021

Location:

Pan India Level

Objectives:

- To document the existing policies, acts, programs related to Tribal Development
- To identify the success and failure cases of implementation of the policies and analysis of the factors of success and failures.
 - To identify the bottlenecks for implementation of the Tribal development policies
 - To prepare a repository of best practices and learnings.
 - To develop a conceptual framework for Sustainable Tribal Development based on evidence-based and place-based studies.



4. Impact Analysis of the schemes implemented by Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs Department

Client:

Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs Department, West Bengal

Duration:

One and Half months

Objectives:

To document how the development interventions of the Department are perceived by the targeted population

- To find out the visible changes compared to the situation before the interventions
- To understand how the benefits accrued out of the interventions are bringing changes in the social, cultural, environmental and economic conditions of the people and the area
- Document some of the best practices and the lessons learnt
- Identify the issues and challenges for corrective actions in future



The study is being conducted covering 24 blocks of Jungle Mahal area in the districts of Jhargram, Bankura, Purulia and Paschim Medinipur covering 199 number of roads, 32 bridges, culverts and causeways, 62 schools, hostels and colleges, 27 drinking water projects, 26 ICDS centres, 69 minor irrigation projects and some other types of projects including ecotourism, training etc.

Report was appreciated and accepted by the department.



5. Support Organization under West Bengal Accelerated Development and Minor Irrigation (WBADMI)

Client :

Water Resources Investigation and Development Department,
Government of West Bengal

Duration:

IBRAD is working as a Support Organization since June 2012 and the contract is valid upto December 2022

Location :

As Support Organisation is working with more than 400 Water User Associations and impacting more than one lakh individuals.

Objectives:

Engaged in formation of Water User Associations and their capacity building for managing the irrigation systems and developing sustainable livelihood through agriculture, horticulture and fisheries-based activities, convergence with the line departments, facilitating transfer and adoption of new technologies, promoting agri business and empowering women with the specific objectives to

- Provide comprehensive training and support to Water User Associations (WUA).
- Develop capacity within DWRID to monitor and support WUAs.
- Involving other line agencies like agriculture, horticulture and fisheries to maximize the benefits of the water that will be made available to the beneficiaries.
- Enhance agricultural productivity by small and marginal farmers by providing adequate and dependable irrigation facilities round the year.



6. Virtual Training and Workshops for the Indian Forest Service Officers and other Stakeholders

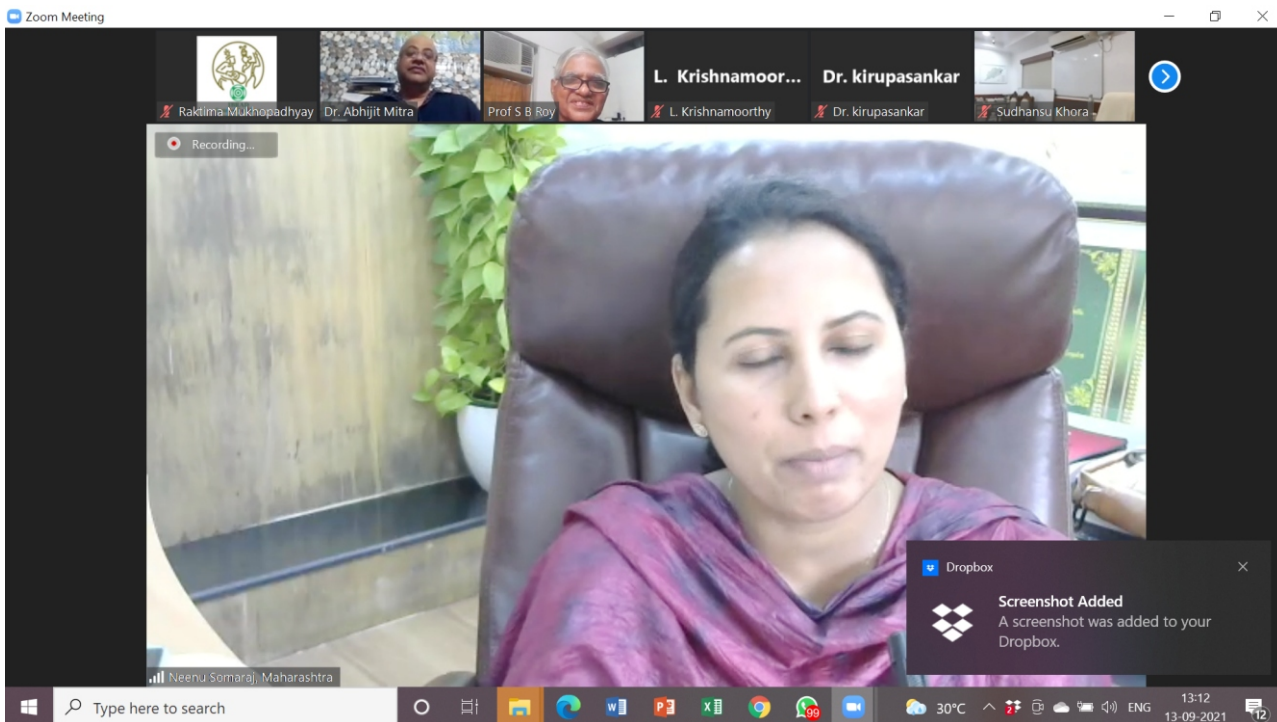
Client:

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India

Training period

We have conducted

1. Two Days Training Workshop for the IFS Officers on Creating People's Networks for Sustainable Forest Management on 8 - 9 September 2021 with 26 participants from different states of India of the rank of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chief Conservator of Forests and Divisional Forest Officers.
2. One week compulsory training for the IFS Officers from 13 - 17 September 2022 on Sustainable Development of Agro-Forest Mosaic Landscape: Experiences from the Field with 32 participants of the rank of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chief Conservator of Forests and Divisional Forest Officers.
3. One Training for Other Stakeholders including the students, NGOs and professionals on 'FRA 2006: Opportunities and Challenges of Sustainable Livelihood of the Tribals' on 12- 13 August 2021 with more than 40 participants.



7. Training for the Forest Officials of Tripura on Gender Mainstreaming and Livelihood

Two Virtual training programs were conducted for the forest officials of Tripura Forest Department of the ranks of Divisional Forest Officer and Sub Divisional Forest Officer serving the Chief of the District Management Units and Sub Divisional Management Units under the Tripura JICA Project - Sustainable Catchment Forest Management (SCATFORM).



The training on Gender Mainstreaming was held on 7-8 October 2021 with the participation of 21 officers.

The Second Training was held on 21 and 22 October 2021 on the topic Livelihood, IGA, Cluster Promotion and Revolving Fund Management with the participation of 15 officers.

8. Conservation Based Sustainable Livelihood Development ARAMBH

This is a self-sponsored program of IBRAD which is designed to reach the remotely located tribal communities by using the Digital Platform and build their capacity for conservation-based livelihood development.

Location:

Nedam, Dengam and Nuagaon villages in Odisha and Ghoghra, Bhurbhuspani and Mundadadar villages in Chhattisgarh.

PVTG (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups) reached:

Lodha, Mankidia and Kharia in Odisha and Baiga in Chhattisgarh

Outcomes:

Through digital training the community have learnt the skills and started organic nutrition garden, water conservation and fishery, vermi compost, herbal garden for conservation of Medicinal Plants, introduced new agriculture crops in rabi season, developed pasture, planted fruit trees, established nurseries and non-destructive harvesting of NTFPs.



9. Participatory Forest Mosaic Landscape Management for Ecosystem Restoration in West Bengal, Odisha and Chhattisgarh

Client:

Self Sponsored in collaboration with Bankura South, Baripada and Kabirdham Forest Divisions.

Why the project:

The decade of 2021-2030 is declared by the Un as the Decade of Ecosystem Restoration aiming to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. IBRAD has designed the project to develop capacity of the forest front line staff and the community institutions like Joint Forest Management Committees who are responsible for conserving the forest in partnership with the forest department for forest ecosystem restoration of their designated areas by preventing, halting and reversing the drivers of degradation.

Locations:

The project is being taken up on pilot basis with two Joint Forest Management Committees under Sarenga Range in South Bankura Forest Division, West Bengal, Lodha, Mankidia and Hill Kharia PVTGs under Mayurbhanj district in Odisha, Baiga PVTGs of Mundadadar, Jholabahr, Khuripani and Ghoghra villages in Kabirdhm district Chhattisgarh in collaboration with the Forest Divisions.

Objectives:

- To involve the local community to identify the landscape and the drivers of degradation.
- Identify the existing state of degradation of the natural ecosystems through baseline studies.
- Develop the capacity of the communities for taking actions to prevent and halt the Process of degradation and
- To take measures to restore the degraded ecosystems



10. Women Empowerment for Ecosystem restoration and Sustainable Livelihood Development in the states of West Bengal, Odisha and Chhattisgarh

Client:

Self sponsored with support from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India

Why the project:

Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls is one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG-5). Though there have been some marked changes in reducing discrimination against women and girls but the discriminatory laws and social norms are pervasive and requires strategic and targeted interventions to achieve the goals. The project designed by IBRAD aims at developing the steps for empowering women and girls, particularly the tribal women and girls to exercise their choices, increase autonomy and lead a dignified life.



Objectives:

- To understand the dormant potential of the women
- Creating and enabling environment to utilize the potentials
- Formation of institutions for the women to initiate the activities.
- Develop the capacity of the women for conservation-based sustainable livelihood development.
- Develop a synergy among the women and men to sustain the initiatives.
- To develop entrepreneurship and business plan development.

11. Application of Digital Ethnography to develop models of Climate Resilient Sustainable Livelihood Development particularly for the small holder tribal farmers

Client:

Self Sponsored. The project is implemented in collaboration with the respective forest divisions of Chhattisgarh, Odisha and West Bengal.

Why the project:

Tribal communities inherently depend on the forest for their livelihood and socio cultural practices. However, the degradation of forests not only have negative impact on the tribal livelihood but also have made them more vulnerable and risk prone due to limiting the forest ecosystem services of soil nutrient cycling, maintaining water cycles, biodiversity loss impacting pollination and erosion of traditional knowledge and practices. The challenges are becoming more aggravated due to the changing climatic conditions.

Locations:

The project is implemented involving the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), namely Lodha, Mankidia and Hill Kharia PVTGs under Mayurbhanj district in Odisha, Baiga PVTGs in Kabirdhm district Chhattisgarh and Santhal in Bankura and Lodha and Santhal Communities in Jhargrm district of West Bengal.



Objectives:

To understand the impacts of climate change on the livelihood of the community particularly the smallholder tribal community in a given landscape

- Identify the existing practices for climate change adaptation
- Identify the traditional knowledge and practices for climate change adaptation
- Formation of community institutions and their capacity building for climate-resilient livelihood development
- Implementation of the skills learnt and develop replicable models

12. Participatory Biodiversity Conservation for conservation of Rare, Endangered and Threatened plants

Client:

Self sponsored. The project is implemented in association with the respective forest departments

Why the project:

The project of IBRAD is designed to identify the traditional knowledge and practices of the tribal communities in terms of traditional health practices, identify the natural ecosystems that produce the herbs for treating the ailments, identification of the plants and their therapeutic uses, digital documentation of the knowledge system, identify the present status of degradation of the ecosystems and the threat status of the species as per Red Book, in situ conservation of rare and endangered plants and also ex situ conservation through establishment of Herbal Gardens.

Locations.

Nedam, Damasahi, Uthansahi and Dengam villages in Odisha, Mundadadar, Khuripani, Jholabaharand Ghoghra villages in Chhattisgarh and Tiyakathi and Nalbona village in Jhargram and Debardanga and Chhoto Koyma villages in Bankura.



Objectives:

- To document the plant biodiversity and its threat status in a given landscape by involving the local community and document following the guidelines of People's Biodiversity Register
- Develop a database and digital repository of the existing plant diversity of the area
- Establish community herbal gardens and
- Develop mechanism for Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation

Academic Program

Post Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Tribal Development Management of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University with inter-institutional collaboration with IBRAD

The course was initiated in March 2022. The course allows the students to access the best learning resources to develop a strong perspective and capability to create and manage tribal development projects independently

Objectives:

- Enhance an understanding of tribal landscape, ecosystem, tribal culture, ethos and have a clear perspective of ethnographic profile.
- Familiarise with the Acts and Policies such as FRA, PESA, Biological diversity Acts which are directly related to tribal development.
- Application of Systemic approaches to Ecosystem Restoration for conservation-based sustainable livelihood.
- Develop skills to raise awareness, facilitate social change, build the capacity of the tribal community in the given Forest Mosaic landscape for the adoption of appropriate technology, develop linkage with the public functionaries, converge resources for sustainable livelihood and thereby improve the health system.
- Build upon the adequate skills to prepare and implement integrated development plans with the public-private partnership wherever available.
- Develop competence in project management and financial management.
- Develop good communication skills and capacity in Participatory Action Research, document preparation and presentation.



Networking

Socio-Ecological Participatory Action Research Network (SEPARN)

IBRAD is coordinating an International Network - Socio-Ecological Participatory Action Research Network (SEPARN) with the participants from UK, Germany, Finland, Belgium, Hungary, Italy, Kenya, Bangladesh and India. The participants are professionals, academics and researchers working in the area of biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration and ecosystem services. The network is created with an objective to share the best practices from different countries, fine-tune the methodologies and tools of participatory research and prepare and share the case studies for common learnings and replication.

Two international webinars are organized under the banner of SEPARN

1. The Fourth Virtual International Workshop for the International Network SEPARN (Socio-Ecological Participatory Action Research Network) was held on 23rd September 2021 on 'Nature-Based Solutions, Ecosystem Restoration for Sustainable Livelihood in the Context of SDGs' with more than 70 participants from the UK, Belgium, Finland, India, and Bangladesh.
2. Application of Digital Learning for Participatory research with speakers from Germany, Hungary, UK and India on 3rd February 2022.

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. The main content is a PowerPoint slide titled "Digital Learning For Participatory Research". The slide content is as follows:

Digital Learning -

A combination of technology, digital content and instruction with intended outcome of K-A-P. (Knowledge-Attitude-Practice)

What in general- Human intends to see as outcome ?

Growth -Improvement-Development-

Yardsticks of Development – HDI (Human Development Index)

- ✓ UNDP: The Human Development Index (HDI) -
 - ✓ a long and healthy life,
 - ✓ being knowledgeable and have
 - ✓ a decent standard of living..

The Zoom interface includes a top bar with "Recording...", "You are viewing Prof Shree Bhagwan Roy's screen", and "View Options". The bottom bar shows "Unmute My Audio (Alt+A). Or you can simply press and hold the space bar to temporarily unmute.", "Unmute", "Stop Video", "Security", "Participants" (43), "Polls", "Chat" (9), "Share Screen", "Pause/Stop Recording", "Breakout Rooms", "Reactions", "More", and "End".

Trainings

Residential Training on Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Tribal Development

A residential training on Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Tribal Development was held from 22 - 26 November at the IBRAD campus. There were 11 participants who participated in the course.

Another residential training on Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Tribal Development was held from 13 - 17 December 2021 at the IBRAD campus. There were 13 participants who participated in the course.



Residential Training on Sustainable Tribal Development



One week residential training on Sustainable Tribal Development was organized from 25 February to 1st March 2022 at IBRAD Campus, Kolkata. There were 15 participants, belonging to the Baiga, Lodha and Kamar tribal communities from Chhattisgarh and Odisha.

Residential Training Camp on Climate Resilient Livelihood through Science Communication

A residential training was organized on Climate Resilient Livelihood through Science Communication under the project “Capacity Building for Climate Resilient Livelihood through Blended Digital Learning for Science Communication” funded by The National Commission of Science Communication, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India from 6 - 8 March 2022. There were 31 participants from Bankura, Jhargram, Coochbehar, Uttar, and Dakshin Dinajpur.



Residential Immersion program of the students of One Year Post Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Tribal Development Management

The residential immersion program for the students of the One Year Post Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Tribal Development Management was held from 5- 10 March 2022.

A training was held on Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Tribal Development on 12th March 2022 at IBRAD Campus, Kolkata.

Webinars series under the banner ““Heard the Unheard Voices” A series to share the Climate Resilient Conservation based Livelihood initiatives from the tribal communities from different parts of the country by involving the tribal community members, particularly the PVTGs.

An online training was organized on Digital Ethnography for Climate Resilient Sustainable Tribal Development on 28 - 30 December 2021.



Workshops

Workshop for the celebration of International Women's Day

IBRAD has celebrated International Women's Day on the 8th of March 2022 at IBRAD Campus, Kolkata. More than 50 persons including a group of painters participated in the workshop. IEC materials in the form of paintings, slogans, songs on the theme of women empowerment are developed by the participants.



Workshop on Sustainable forest for Sustainable Tribal Development on the occasion of World Forestry Day

A workshop was held on 22nd March 2022 at IBRAD Campus, Kolkata on Sustainable forest for Sustainable Tribal Development on the occasion of World Forestry day. It was attended by 42 participants including government officials, development professionals, academics, teachers, research scholars, and students as well as tribal villagers from Bankura and Jhargram districts of West Bengal. Sri Niraj Singhal, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, West Bengal was the Chief Guest of the program.



Celebrations

Celebration of the 37th Foundation Day of IBRAD and Colloquium on “Emotional Connectedness: The Basis of Sustainable Development” on 7th May 2021.



Celebration of Independence Day at IBRAD Campus on the 15th August 2021 with the staff members

Celebration of Republic Day at IBRAD Campus on 26th January 2022 with the staff members



National and International Recognitions

Acceptance of IBRAD Model of Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Tribal Development for Forest Mosaic Landscape Management by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and issue of letter to the PCCFs of all the states and UTs for involving IBRAD for training of their front line staff.

Professor S. B. Roy, Chairman of IBRAD is awarded Fellow, Society for Applied Anthropology USA for his contribution to the field of Applied Anthropology. His presentation on the Application of Digital Ethnography for Sustainable Tribal Development at the Annual Conference of the Society for Applied Anthropology USA is ranked number one.

Dr. Raktima Mukhopadhyay, Executive Director, IBRAD was invited as a speaker in the 'Green Post Corona Talks' on the topic of biodiversity organised by the Green European Foundation and made her presentation with the international panel of experts on 21st February 2021.

Dr. Raktima Mukhopadhyay is also involved as an Expert in the Technical working groups of the One Sustainable Health Forum, "Developing practices for one health by building resilience in local communities" an international initiative, initially launched by the "Une Santé Durable pour Tous" Foundation. The operational recommendations of the working group will be integrated into a "Declaration for sustainable health", to be published in March 2023.