

SPECIAL FOCUS ON TRIBAL WELFARE





Sambarkode hamlet

10.1 TOTAL HAMLET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (THDP)

The Project implementation is planned in such a way that the project benefits directly reaches the tribal communities. In Attappady, 41% of the total population is tribal. It is noteworthy that about 60 % of the Project benefits reach the tribes. The activities such as Total Hamlet Development Programme, Environmental Literacy Programme and the construction of Community Resource Centres are exclusively for the development of tribal population. These programmes, along with construction of access roads to hamlets and other hamlet development programmes are implemented by the OVS themselves. The Project has been intensively working on the empowerment of tribal people, so that their informed participation in the development programme is ensured. Now, as part of programme consolidation, inventory of all assets created under the project is being made. The actual benefits to the tribes can be computed upon completion of these inventories.

Total hamlet development programme - 1st Phase

- Implemented in 26 hamlets, consisting of 13 components including housing for tribals
- Total no. of houses in the programme is 997
- Construction of 809 houses completed and the rest are at completion stage
- 556 houses handed over to beneficiaries in fourteen hamlets (Mamana, Koodanchala, Mukkali, Nayanampetty, Koothadichala, Guddayur, Kalpetty, Swarnagadha, Chemmannur, Chalayur, Thazhe Sambarcode, Karara, Kozhikoodam, Veetiyoor.)
- Financial Target : Rs. 24 crores

REPLICABLE MODEL OF TRIBAL HAMLET DEVELOPMENT



2002



2009

Change photographs of Swarnagadha Hamlet

Total Hamlet Development Programme

Total Hamlet Development Programme is a holistic habitat development plan for tribal areas, which envisages comprehensive development by incorporating the social, cultural and individual needs through the user participation in planning, implementation and monitoring ensuring transparent tribal empowerment practices. Housing and landscaping, improvement of accessibility to tribal settlements, drinking water improvement, environmental hygiene and sanitation, sustainable farming systems and livelihood generation and environmental literacy are the major components of this programme. The uniqueness of this programme is that on an average 100 square feet of living space is provided per individual in the new houses.

Total hamlet development programme - 2nd Phase

- Implemented in 25 hamlets, consisting of 13 components including housing for tribals
- Total no. of houses proposed is 1006 (construction of 22 houses in Thazhe Agali postponed, so presently 984 houses to be taken up)
- 732 houses are under construction. The houses are likely to be completed by August 2010
- Financial Target : Rs. 31 crore

Implementation Procedure

The implementation of the Total Hamlet Development Programme is through the Ooru Vikasana Samithies (OVS), which is a Peoples Institutions, democratically constituted by the Ooru people. The facilitating agencies appointed by AHADS prepare the Detailed Project Report for the hamlet. The OVS manages the finance with the help of AHADS for entire construction. An agreement is executed among the OVS, facilitating agency (NGO) and AHADS for this purpose. The beneficiaries contribute 15% of labour value as their share.



Table 16 : Total hamlet development programme 1st phase (upto 31st march 2010)

SI No	Name of Hamlet	Community	Total Houses	% of total physical progress
1	Nayanampetty	Irula	14	100
2	Koodanchala	Irula	17	100
3	Mamana	Irula	42	100
4	Mukkaliyur	Muduga	48	100
5	Koothadichala	Irula	21	100
6	Guddayur	Irula	58	100
7	Kalpetty	Irula	24	100
8	Swarnagadha	Irula	36	100
9	Chemmannur	Irula	66	100
10	Chalayoor	Irula	72	100
11	Thazhe Sambarkode	Irula	56	100
12	Karara	Muduga	47	100
13	Kozhikoodam	Irula	42	100
14	Veetiyur	Muduga	40	100
15	Jellimedu	SC colony	18	100
16	Renganathapuram	Sc colony	24	100
17	Kotamedu	Irula	19	100
18	Bhoothivazhi	Irula	20	100
19	Dhundoor	Irula	24	100
20	Mele Anavai	Kurumba	40	60
21	Thazhe Anavai	Kurumba	46	45
22	Karuvara	Muduga	36	75
23	Kadukumanna	Kurumba	48	65
24	Oothukuzhi	Irula	75	100
25	Vayaloor	Irula	46	80
26	Keeripathy	Irula	18	100
Total			997	

Table 17 : Total hamlet development programme 2nd phase (upto 31st march 2010)

SI No	Name of Hamlet	Community	Total Houses	% of total physical progress
1.	Pazhayoor	Kurumba	15	20
2.	Mele Bhoothayar	Kurumba	21	20
3.	Thazhe Chootra	Irula	20	25
4.	Mele Chootra	Irula	22	30
5.	Thekkupana	Irula	44	25
6.	Mele Kallamala	Irula	25	30
7.	Thazhe Kallamala	Irula	16	30
8.	Bodichala	Irula	18	65
9.	Veetikundu	Irula	24	30
10.	Karayoor	Irula	9	50
11.	Pottikkal	Muduga	36	25
12.	Veerannur	Muduga/ Kurumba	33	45
13.	Kinattukara	Kurumba	15	15
14.	Padavayal	Irula	71	40
15.	Kollamakdavu	Irula	61	20
16.	Kolapadika	Irula	92	25
17.	Chindakki	Irula	56	15
18.	Kathirampathy	Irula	61	40
19.	Chavadiyoor - Pudur	Irula	18	60
20.	Moolakkada	Irula	14	75
21.	Nellipathy	Irula	106	30
22.	Thoova	Irula	39	20
23.	Varagampady ST colony	Irula	125	20
24.	Marappalam	Irula	28	40
25.	Varagampady SC Colony	Irula	15	0
Total			984	



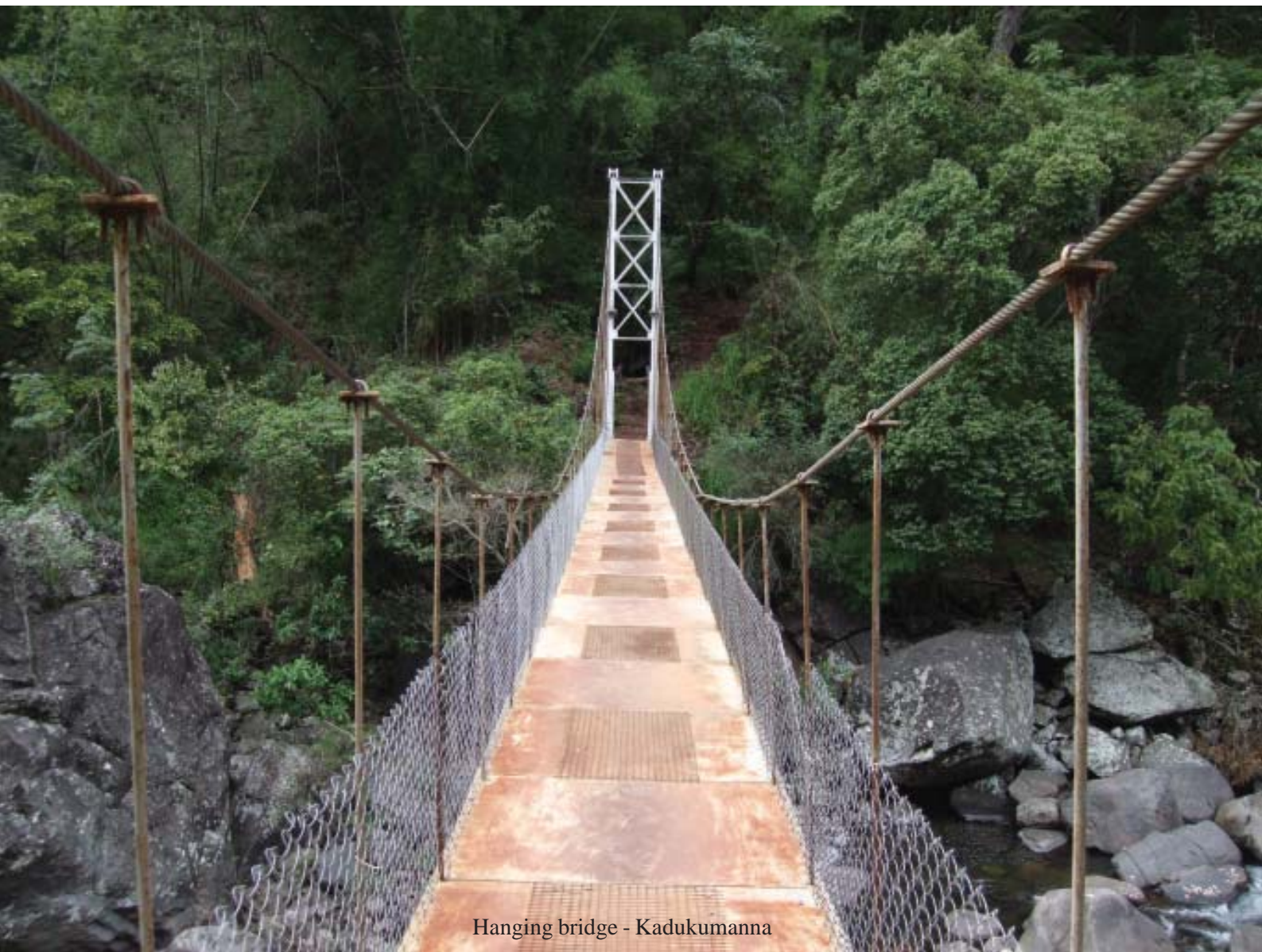
10.2 KURUMBA DEVELOPMENT PACKAGE

The forest-dwelling Kurumbas of Attappady have a unique ethnic and socio-ecological *milieu* that demands a special treatment of this community under the ecorestoration project. Living in inaccessible areas, close to the nature and having been deprived of many basic amenities and traditional rights, the Kurumba communities were leading the most unsustainable lifestyles through shifting cultivation practices. Development, centered on weaning the unsustainable practices, is the key of the development of these primitive tribes. Hence developmental activities for this area are designed considering the harmony between the human and environmental factors.



Suspension bridge to Kadukuamanna

THDP in Anavai hamlet



Hanging bridge - Kadukumanna

- Development programme for the most primitive and remotely located tribal groups
- THDP works started at Mele Anavai, Thazhe Anavai, Murugala, Kinattukara, Kadugumanna, Mele Bhoothayar, and Pazhayur hamlets
- Base line survey on socio – economy for THDP completed in Thazhathuduki, Edavani, Thazhe Bhoothyar and Mele Moolakombu hamlets
- Footpath laid between Anavai and Kadugumanna hamlets.
- Suspension bridge to Kadugumanna renovated
- Environmental literacy classes in Kurumba language started in Mele Anavai, Thazhe Anavai, Kadugumana, Mele Moolakombu, Thazhe Bhoothayar and Mele Bhoothayar hamlets
- Anganwadi (child care centre) and committee offices are functioning at Anavai, Kadugumanna and Kinattukara hamlets
- As part of economic sustenance, 2025 coconut, 6,000 arecanut, 13,000 coffee, 750 garcinia seedlings and 15,625 nos. of pepper vine distributed in the region, in addition to vegetable seeds like cabbage and carrot. A seedling nursery started at Anavai to provide quality planting materials to support farming activities.



Enlite class - Kavundikkal Ooru

10.3 ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

ENLITE, the environmental literacy programme, is an innovative literacy drive focusing the tribal population. Tribal girls from the hamlets are trained to teach the learners. The learners get a chance to learn about their surroundings in their own mother tongue and cultural milieu. The curriculum of this programme bridges the knowledge of modern and traditional times, in addition to making the tribals familiar with Malayalam. It is an informal literacy programme. The programme promotes self-esteem of the learners, prevents drop-outs and allows tribals to compete for high school education. It also helps in reviving traditional tribal culture in the form of songs, dances, riddles etc. Enlite programme not only focuses on literacy skills, but also on awareness of the natural environment and its conservation with in which the tribals live.

- Curriculum of this education programme gives importance to their own culture and environment. The Instructors of this programme are selected from within the same hamlet and work as development worker of the hamlet.
- Study materials are prepared in their own language (Irula, Muduga & Kurumba).
- Programme evaluation was done by the State Resource Centre, Kerala
- From the primer to advance courses covering class 4th, 7th and 10th, the learners are helped through bridge courses. Bridge course materials are prepared in the respective tribal languages. Presently, the bridge material is being used at 51 centres covering more than 500 learners.



Total no. of Enlite centres - 100

Total no. of learners- 2000

Equivalency programmes Mainstreaming the Dropouts

As a part of the Enlite programme, tribal people are getting opportunities to continue their education by utilizing equivalency programme conducted by the Kerala State Literacy Mission. This is a unique opportunity for those, who have been left out from the mainstream education. Through this programme, they become eligible as equivalent to SSLC or 10th class. For those learners who have passed equivalent SSLC, Open University Degree entrance examination of University of Calicut have been supported through voluntary coaching by AHADS staff. 44 learners are undergoing the degree programme.

Table 18 : Equivalency programme details

Name of programme	No. of candidates attended	No. of candidates passed	%	No. of candidates applied in degree examination
10 th 'O level' exam	10	2	20	
10 th 'O level' supplementary	6	6	100	
10 th 'A level' exam- 1 st batch	16	9	56	4
10 th 'A level' exam- 2 nd batch	17	17	100	1
10 th A level exam- Supplementary (1 st batch)	4	4	100	
10 th 'A level' exam- 3 rd batch	30	21	70	11
10 th A level exam- Supplementary(2 nd batch)	2	1	50	16
10 th A level Exam 4 th batch	37	exams in June 2010		

About 200 applicants are registered for 4th and about 300 applicants are registered for 7th equivalency exams during 2010.

Empowerment through Cultural Activities

Promotion of tribal arts is one of the activities of Enlite. This is to revitalize the cultural base of the community, so as to strengthen their social cohesion. Songs, riddles are collected from the community and published as secondary learning materials.





DR. ROBERT CHAMBERS

Dr. Robert Chambers, the proponent of participatory rural appraisal (Professor, Institute of Development Studies, Sussex, UK) visited Attappady during his field study of 'Immersion' at Vannanthara hamlet on 26-27th August 2008. He observed that pace of changes at the community level in terms of understanding development and participation is faster than the administration recognises. Attappady provides a good example of this transformation and could act as a learning centre for participatory development.

Jaddu

A newsletter is in circulation in Irula language to report and to support the activities of Enlite.



Kudumbasree Group formation/ Vocational Training

Kudumbasree (self help groups) are formed related to Enlite, covering most of the families of the hamlet. About 120 such groups have been created during 2009-2010.



HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT



Beneficiaries meeting at Vellamari

11. HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The HRD division works towards empowerment of the People's Institutions, social capital development, especially among the tribal population and outreach tasks for sustaining the gains of the project. This is achieved through regular trainings to the executive members of the PIs, farmers, tribal women, school children and school dropouts. In addition to assessing and arranging the training needs of the project staff, the division is involved in training officials of other government departments and NGOs in participatory management and watershed development. Activities are also undertaken to promote tribal arts and culture through exhibitions and organizing camps and exposure visits. An environmental literacy programme called Enlite to educate the tribals is being organized in 90 tribal hamlets. Production of documentary films about the project activities, publication of newsletters and periodicals, organizing medical camps are some other activities.

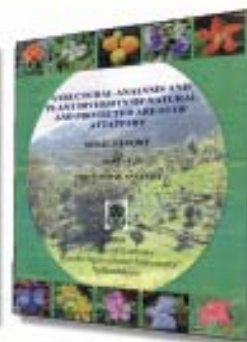


Promoting biodiversity studies

Attappady Block, being part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve has rich flora and fauna. The assessment of biodiversity requires measurement of diversity indices. Which is possible only when some quantitative values are ascribed to them compared over a period of time. These studies are able to evolve baseline data on the present and potential use of biodiversity. During 2006-2007, AHADS initiated external research projects for biodiversity assessment studies in the Attappady region.

Six research projects on biodiversity have been awarded to the following institutes.

1. Study on 'Inventory of the biodiversity of Attappady with GIS aid' by Salim Ali Center for Ornithology and Natural History
2. Study on 'Structural analysis of Plant diversity of Natural and protected areas of Attappady by Kerala Agricultural University
3. Study on 'Plant-Bird interaction with special references to identification of bird attracting plants for afforestation of Attappady valley, Kerala' by Salim Ali Center for Ornithology and Natural History.
4. Study on 'Establishment of seed production systems for NTFP's of Attappady Hills' by Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding'
5. Tribal indigenous knowledge systems and practices in livestock based livelihood by Kerala Agricultural University
6. Adoption of microbial inoculants technology in the farming system of tribal population of Attappady by Kerala Agricultural University



REPLICABLE MODEL OF SOCIAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT



Capacity building trainings for office bearers of people's institutions

Human Resource Development programmes to support participatory process

Various out-reach actions such as constant awareness programmes, trainings, exposure visits, environment literacy, dropout reduction, equitable distribution of benefits among beneficiaries etc., attempt to improve social capital, thereby creating new avenues for development planning and implementation in the backward region. Special care is extended to the marginalized and backward people so as to enhance their capacities and skills to regenerate environment and take development to their doorsteps. The level of PIs in participatory management is being elevated further to institute mechanisms of resource governance such as community water management, community seed banks, skill labour pools etc. The overall objective is to capacitate ordinary villagers into instruments of development delivery.

Promoting Eco clubs

The primary objective of these activities is to build awareness among the students on the necessity for nature conservation, cleanliness & upkeep of house premises, plastic eradication, collection of data on birds and butterflies etc. 52 Eco clubs are functioning in the schools of Attappady to organise young generation to inculcate environmental awareness and social responsibility. Students, with the guidance of experienced teachers organise small study groups in subjects related to environment. Celebration of environmental day, organise procession against wild fire, conservation of river banks, planting seedlings in schools and public places, conducting campaign against plastic, removal of solid waste, bird watching etc. are some of the activities of the Eco clubs.

Ecoclubs conduct study tours to important natural heritage destinations to understand habitat ecology. Ecoclub members are also involved in the preparation of message boards, posters and notices to attract attention of general public towards activities of environmental concern.



Table 19 : Human Resource Development Activities

Sl No	Programmes 2002-10	No. Programmes	No. of participants	Remarks
1. Trainings				
	Ooru Vikasana Samithi (OVS) members	4525	43000	General Orientation, Accounts & book keeping, Leadership, Gender Development, Exposure & Exchange visits, skill development, Capacity Enhancement Trainings etc.
	Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) members	2119	4676	
	User Association (UA) members	3378	11838	
	Staff & Volunteers	443	1456	
	Eco Club members	300	9135	
	Environmental Literacy Programme Instructors	617	18573	
	Income Generation Activity members	6839	18272	Accounts & book keeping, project plan preparation, market study, savings, MED etc.
	External Institutions (Govt. & NGOs)	250	7500	Participatory Watershed Management training
	Farmers / Iag members	972	11880	Nursery management, integrated agricultural practices, organic farming, soil & water conservation measures, community irrigation etc.
	Women Empowerment Trainings	720	14449	Leadership, Gender development, General Awareness etc.
2 Materials for public awareness				
	Documentation	260	--	Publicity & awareness through print / visual media
	short film	20	--	
	Newsletters / Hand books	200	--	
	Calendar	3	--	
	AHADS guide	5	--	
3	Programmes for school drop outs	253	14646	special coaching, Re-schooling, vocational training, Literacy Programme (equivalency) etc.
4	Programmes for promotion of tribal arts	90	3977	Documentation
5	Sports promotion activities	79	9000	Coaching Camps, Tournaments, providing materials for sports promotion
6	Promotion of Tribal medicine	30	582	Camps, Medicinal garden, hospital building, Special trainings & Exposure
7	Microplan preparation	162	--	Watershed plans for 93 UAs Micro plans for 54 JFMCs 15 NREGS Micro Watershed Plans for Panchayats
8	Placement support for research students	277	1005	Field placement of various university research students

11.1 INCOME GENERATION ACTIVITIES

Towards ensuring sustainable livelihoods, Income Generating Activity Groups (IGA Groups) are being constituted. Promoting thrift collection, micro credit, bank linkage and establishing sustainable micro enterprises are the set of activities implemented to ensure income to the poor after the project support is withdrawn. The IGA groups have been linked with the State poverty alleviation programme, Kudumbasree. Modalities to utilise the Rs.4 crore revolving fund are being worked out. 100 % women IGA groups are integrated with Kudumbasree neighbourhood groups.

The operational manual for approval of loans to various activity groups is approved by government. 13 new projects worth Rs. 10,30000 lakhs were approved by Project Execution committee on AHADS Kudumbashree integration. These projects include the activities on agriculture and non agri activities.

Table 20 : Status of IGA Kudumbasree integration as on 30-10-2009

Sl. No	Name of Panchayat	Integrated-NHG *	Male Activity Groups	Total
1	Agali	100	7	107
2	Pudur	34	22	56
3	Sholayoor	42	15	57
Total		176	44	220

Table 21 : Thrift & credit details of NHGs at Attappady as on march 2010

Sl. No	Name of Panchayat	No. of NHGs	Total members	Thrift of NHGs (Rs)	Credit of NHGs Total (Rs)
1	Agali	620	8534	2,63,45,120	6,75,15,125
2	Sholayoor	178	2276	43,57,980	46,88,499
3	Pudur	265	3160	56,80,652	1,39,91,879
Total		1,063	14,970	3,63,73,752	8,61,97,503

* NHG - Neighbourhood Groups - Kudumbasree (State poverty alleviation programme)





12. CONCLUSION

The eco restoration project has generated a massive people's movement for demand-driven development and shifted development discourse towards people-centric, transparent and accountable implementation of development programmes. It has led to a process of social transformation in which the poorest of the poor enthusiastically participate. By organizing ordinary citizens into objective-driven group of people, the project is scripting a new chapter in the development history of Attappady. People are no longer the passive recipients of government largesse; rather they are active participants in the regeneration efforts facilitated by the project.

The project has tremendously influenced the social discourse on the methodology for delivery of development benefits to the society at large. Through committed and thoughtful actions, democratic governance at the grass-root level has emerged, occupying a dominant space in this discourse. Community-based organizations are active participants in charting and walking the route to development and a majority of people has become aware of the value of participatory and transparent execution of public works. The old metaphors associating Attappady with corruption and bureaucratic inaction are slowly dissipating and citizens often stand guard against such happenings within the project. This new paradigm of 'development delivery' is attracting line agencies with public funds, significantly and local-self governments, to channel their development inputs through AHADS' route, at least in Attappady. This methodology of expending of public funds is being discussed at various forums and reports emerging from these experiences provide encouragement for the replicability of this methodology elsewhere. The Government of Kerala, having recognized the good governance values in the Attappady project, have directed AHADS to prepare a detailed project report for integrated tribal area development in Wayand. The project on Wayand is being written and will be submitted to the Government by end May 2010.