



:Community Participation: A Path to Economic Progress:

“Not every lake dreams to be an ocean. Blessed are the ones who are happy with whom they are.” - **Mehmet Murat Ildan**

Case Study on Dyavasa Village , Sankappanakatte kere, Harshi GP, Soraba Taluk, Shivmogga District – APPI



Since the last three years, MANUVIKASA and Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiative

(APPI) have been jointly working on lake rejuvenation in Uttara Kannada, Haveri, Dharwad, Shivamogga Districts. To strengthen farmers confidence in the rural



sector, MANUVIKASA is proactively working towards reducing poverty and promoting the economic development of the farming community in the rural natural water resource sector. Dyavasa is a village located in Harishi Gramapanchyat of Soraba taluk in Shivmogga District. When MANUVIKASA team

visited Dyavasa, Sankappanakatte kere, the local lake, was dry and filled with silt

due to decades of neglect and disuse. Located at survey no-146, the lake had a total area of 8. With the help of Dyavasa Grama Panchyat, MANUVIKASA participated in the Grama Sabha meetings and convinced the villagers about the importance of rejuvenating of Sankappanakatte lake. One of the main stipulations that MANUVIKASA laid for project execution was that while MANUVIKASA would take care of lake rejuvenation, removal of silt and waste soil should be taken up by the farming community. Accordingly, systematic documentation and obtaining approval from the local authority was also completed. Project terms and conditions were also discussed with the farmers. Once this was agreed upon mutually, lake development work began in right earnest.

Recollects Ganapatappa Parashappa Madivala, "Earlier we were not able to get sufficient drinking water in our open wells. The women of our village trudged 3-4 kilometres every day to get drinking water". With the completion of lake rejuvenation by MANUVIKASA, there has been a significant increase in ground water level in the village. "The tireless efforts of MANUVIKASA has borne fruit - we admire the efforts of the Organization," adds Mr. Eshwarappa a Farmer of the village

" I used to get a yield of 10-15 quintals of paddy every year. I have begun applying silt from the lake this year - I am expecting 15-20 quintals of paddy this year. Along with this, I have begun mixed cropping to improve my earnings from farming," shares Srinivas Bhat, a progressive farmer of the village.

Upto now, 40 farmers have made use of the silt dug out from the lake in their farmlands."The lake now has sufficient water to irrigate (?) 150 acers of land, as well as for other day-to-day activities.



The farmers of Dyavasa village are now a happy lot. "Lake rejuvenation has benefitted 115.20 acres of agricultural land in our village. Apart from this, it has also supported and strengthened animal husbandry and livelihood activities," says Ramappa a Farmer , a villager of Dyavasa. "This has boosted the confidence of the farming community, as well as improved the economic situation in

the village, thanks to the intervention of MANUVIKASA, " says Krishnamurthy a farmer.

"I still remember when MANUVIKASA and its team visited our village and convinced our community on the importance of rejuvenating the local lake. This dream became a reality" recollects Mahesh G Naik a beneficiary farmer of Dyavasa village.