

# study of common property resources

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## **Executive Summary**

Common Property Resource (CPR) is an important form of natural resource endowments in the rural areas. Broadly CPR's are those, which are used by the identified user group (community) with collective ownership (control) rights and access rights. Common property refers to a distribution of property rights in a resource where a well defined sets of users has a set of well-defined (not necessarily equal) rights to use the resource, while all potential users not belonging to the group are excluded. The availability of CPR's and hence their roles varies widely from region to region depending mainly on the ecological conditions and agricultural systems prevailing in the area and partly on the present and past land settlement and land tenure systems.

This Study was conducted for the feasibility of the Collective action for effective utilization of common property resources in the watershed areas of Upper Mullamari, Maramari and Kanakanala. Situations of CPR in watershed (especially forestland, revenue land, roadside land, water bodies and temple lands) prevailing institutional mechanisms of management of CPR and its development were assessed and method proposed to develop linkages with other institutions. Appropriate institutional mechanisms were proposed which were in compliance with rules and regulations of forest department and which involves the villagers for the participation in management. Moreover, study also brings out the institutional mechanism that is suggested by the villagers for, the CPR development, which shall be pursued by the policy maker for the related developmental schemes.

This study further suggests the appropriate planting techniques for the promotion of appropriate tree species, medicinal plants, shrubs, etc in the CPR land adopted by the village community. The focus is also on the indigenous techniques evolved by the villagers, NGO personnel and the researchers. The tree species, shrub species and medicinal plants that are beneficial as per the usage pattern (fodder, fuel, timber, fruits, medicinal and livelihood) of the community are proposed in accordance with edaphic and microclimatic condition of the area. Finally planting and silvicultural techniques have been proposed for the maintenance of the existing plantations and plant cover. The livelihood issues that promote the gender equity by involving the women for CPR land protection are stressed upon. Further

the benefit sharing mechanism is proposed in ordinance with the forest department rules and regulation for being adopted by the villagers.

The present conditions of the Common Property Resources have been judged with the help of the Ostrom's Design Principles.