

Empowering Smallholder Farmers in the Market

India Project Proposal

Summary Sheet

Project Title	Empowering Smallholder Farmers in the Market
Subject of proposal	Conduct of research in the areas related to small farmers' interface with markets.
Total project cost	Rs.28,07,000 (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Seven Thousand Only) Of which, Administrative costs are 15.39%.
Project period	Two years
Project submitted to	AgriCord
Project submitted by	Federation of Farmers' Associations Andhra Pradesh (FFA)
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Empowering Smallholder Farmers in the Market

India project proposal

Introduction

A large number of farmers in India belong to the category 'small and marginal farmers'. However, they face a raw deal in the market that is controlled by a limited number of middlemen in the markets (mandis) and small number of large farmers. However, not many FOs are working on this aspect in India as enough knowledge is not accumulated in this regard. Hence, it is proposed to conduct research in this crucial area, add to the actionable literature available and thus contribute to the emergence of an action framework for Empowering Smallholder Farmer in the Market (ESFIM) by several FOs.

Present situation

India is a republic consisting of 28 states and seven union territories with a parliamentary system of democracy. With a population of over 1.1 billion, some 70% live in rural areas. Agriculture as a percentage of GDP has changed from 30% of GDP in 1986 to 17.5% in 2006 and showed an annual growth in 2006 of 2.7%. Despite it being one of the fastest growing economies, India also has the largest number of poor, unemployed and illiterates in the world. India also has among the world's worst child malnutrition rates. Given this scale of illiteracy and malnutrition, taken together with the number of poor, the challenges for one of the fastest-growing economies in the world – India – become manifest. It is to be noted that India has successfully reduced the share of the poor in the population by 27.3 percentage points from 54.8 in 1973 to 27.5 in 2004. (The poverty line adopted by the Government of India is well below the international poverty line of a \$1 a day per person.)

As a consequence of rural to urban migration, the number of poor in the urban areas is increasing. The prime reasons for this migration are the decline in profitability and increase in risk of agriculture. Superimposed on the structure of landholding, where more than 70% of the holdings are in the small and marginal categories, these factors have exacerbated the hardships of farmers. Further, commercialization and mechanization of agriculture have led to decline in the overall man-days of agricultural labour available, making the agricultural labour households further vulnerable. These results of the migration caused by decline in profitability and increase in risk and reduction in the agricultural labour available are: (a) changing composition of poverty with poverty getting concentrated in the agricultural labour and artisan households in rural areas and in the casual labour households in urban areas; (b) large tracts of farm land becoming fallow increasing the stress on the public delivery system for food grains; (c) increasing stress on the urban infrastructure, thereby declining its quality; and (d) increase in social tensions due to increase in unemployed youth. It has also increased urban rural organized and unorganized sector and economic inequities.

Several changes in agriculture and consumption patterns, combined with the associated changes in the markets and agricultural policy situation, have contributed to declining productivity and increase in risk for the farmers. Commercialisation and mechanisation have been mentioned above. Acreage under cereals has declined by 3% while that under oilseeds has increased by 40% and fruits by 59%. Most of new acreage added under agriculture has been under the oilseeds, vegetables, fruits and spices, all of which have high fluctuation in yields as well as prices. Ecological factors like decrease in ground water table has also contributed to increase in cost of cultivation and thus leading to decline in profitability. The quantity of fertilizer and pesticide application has increased. The consumption pattern has undergone a shift from grain

stables towards higher value agriculture of fruit and vegetables, dairy, poultry and fishery products. This change is taking place in all income categories and in rural and urban areas. Increased consumption of value-added items has increased demand for post-harvest facilities like cold storage and processing units. These changes further led to (a) an increase in the number of larger players in the market, and (b) segregation of produce as per the quality, which is largely happening after aggregation of the produce at the trader level. These changes are further aided by changes in relative prices of various agricultural commodities and selective supply of cereals through public distribution system (PDS). For example, with rice being supplied at a highly subsidized price of Rs.2 in southern states, the cultivation of coarse cereals has declined in the semi-arid areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

On the policy front, the reforms through 1990s has limited liberalization and improving the functioning of commodity markets, reforming commodity price policy, rationalization of input subsidies, increasing productivity enhancing investments (research and development, extension, rural infrastructure and services) and support to the reform of public institutions and the adoption of participatory approaches. These reforms have still left traditional support systems relatively unaltered including input subsidies, food procurement through public distribution system (PDS) and the Minimum Support prices (MSP). Relevant ongoing reforms include the reform of parastatal monopoly for key agricultural commodities; removal of restrictions on food processing and the establishment of risk management instruments (e.g. futures trading in major commodities). The emerging reform (state by state) of the regulations of the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee including reform of the requirement that agricultural sales occur only in regulated markets will increasingly bring new opportunities for enhanced vertical linkages between producers, traders and consumers. These Acts were put in place with the belief that they would protect small-scale farmers from unscrupulous middle men and have more recently been seen to be a barrier to marketing for some categories of farmers. Changes in land laws to facilitate land leasing; in contract farming and in support for regulation pertaining to food safety will all influence the market environment in which the small-scale farmer operates. However, due to certain historical situations and scale issues, certain restrictions on the farmers are not being reviewed. For example, the sugarcane farmers attached to a factory have to sell their cane to the factory only and cannot sell it to the neighbouring factory even if the other factory is paying a higher price. Similarly, the restrictions on the movement of paddy and rice continue to exist.

These changes in policy environment have not contributed to increased profitability of agriculture for the small and marginal farmers. Though the overall agricultural GDP has increased, the increase of agricultural income has neither spread uniformly in all regions nor accrued to all categories of producers, with important wheat and rice growing states (especially Punjab, Haryana and Andhra Pradesh) benefiting most.

Justification for proposed research

As has been brought out in the description of the present situation, the farmers are getting poorer despite increase in the agricultural GDP. The profitability of agriculture has declined while the risk involved has increased. The changes in the policy environment and the market situation have not benefited the small and marginal farmers uniformly. Hence, while taking the next tranche of reforms, the benefits of alternates need to be fully explored. The more disadvantaged segments of the agricultural producers, i.e. the many millions of small-scale farmers a large number of whom are potentially viable, should be supported by institutions responsible for research, extension, credit and marketing to enable them to benefit from any reform/change.

To remedy the situation, steps can be taken in three spheres: (a) production & productivity, (b) post-harvest

handling to minimise losses, and (c) improving the terms of trade in favour of the farmer. Identify appropriate policy modification though the National Research Network in India comprises several research centres of excellence, these concentrate mainly on the aspects related to technology involved in the production or processing. Some research is done on aspects related to ware housing and ware house management. However, very limited research is done on the aspects related to post-harvest techniques at the farmer level. Most of the post-harvest practices at the farmer level have been developed by the people themselves and are on traditional lines. There is limited extension service available in the post-harvest mechanisms and market information systems. Despite National Commodities Exchange coming up and transactions in the nature of forward-trade being approved, the farmers lack adequate information about acreage under crops, market arrivals, market rates, quantity stored, etc. Some efforts to collectivise farmers to improve their interaction with the market have been made in the past and some of these are highly successful in supporting their farmer-members. Examples include some milk unions promoted on the lines of Anand pattern cooperatives, MahaGrapes of Maharashtra, HOPCOMS of Bangalore, etc. Some FOs, like Warana Group of Cooperatives, have grown to include several commodities under their fold. But these efforts are still limited in their outreach. Thus, there is a large scope and immediate need for research in these areas.

Further, there is a lot of scope for bringing farmers under one umbrella. As against the yesteryears where traditional farm leaders were mostly absentee landlords, the new peasant leaders are active farmers. But the polity has become highly fragmented leading to 'collective action' problem. The sources of demands on the polity have become more diverse. While the situation is apt for increased engagement of farmers at the policy level, it also points to the necessity of assessing the level of present engagement and the space available for further engagement. The methods adopted by FOs like Federation of Farmers' Associations (FFA) and Consortium of Indian Farmers Associations (CIFA), along with the lessons learnt need to be documented and scope for their replicability assessed. Moreover, the possibilities of adopting practices available in other countries where the FOs have been able to interact more effectively with the policy needs to be assessed and disseminated.

In the absence of adequate literature available from within India on the above aspects, the FOs are constrained in participating in a dialogue with policy makers and other players in the commodity value chains. Further, these organisations are unable to take active part in the economic activities of farmers, and are limiting themselves to aspects related to production. Decision making by farmers has been more influenced by risk adverse behaviour under limited information. They continue to rely on traditional channels of marketing immediately after harvesting. They do not undertake value-addition like segregation as the effort does not yield the required return at the small scale of the produce. Therefore, the research in this area is important.

Since research in these areas is important and is not being taken up, investment in taking up research projects in the area of empowerment of smallholders is justified.

Brief of the organisation submitting the proposal

Federation of Farmers Associations, Andhra Pradesh (FFA) is a registered society, and is working since 1998. FFA is a federation of about 1650 Grassroot level farmers' associations, which in turn have substantial direct and indirect membership. FFA, in turn, is affiliated to an apex organization CIFA- Consortium of Indian Farmers Associations located in New Delhi.

FFA is a unified, independent, apolitical, grassroots farmer's organization with innovative programmes and dynamic action plans to contribute to agriculture and rural development. FFA has been envisioned on the premise of turning agriculture into a profitable occupation to reassure farmers and restore their dignity and foster social equity. FFA envisages accelerating all round development, economic viability and sustainability of agriculture to reduce gap between urban and rural, organized and unorganized sectors in terms of growth, guaranteed take home income and quality of life and to improve standard of living of farmers, agriculture labour and rural artisans.

FFA is governed by an Executive Committee, comprised of (a) representatives of farmers' association elected from different regions, and (b) some eminent people in the field of agriculture and other related fields. The Executive Committee elects President, Secretary, and Treasurer. In addition, three Vice-Presidents are elected from each of the three regions to run the activities of the organisation.

At grassroots level, FFA takes up awareness programmes for farmers on soil fertility, quality seed, innovative culture practices, water management, pre & post harvesting technologies, agriculture crop insurance, and all the programmes connected with economical well being and health of farmers. The health sector is given considerable importance as the vigour and the range of activities in other sectors depends on the health of farmers and their families.

FFA presently operates in 16 districts of Andhra Pradesh state with head quarters in Hyderabad, and branch offices in Tirupati, Chittoor, Vijayawada, Gudivada, Eluru, and Mahabubnagar. Member of the Executive Committee from that region heads each branch.

A list of recently completed and on-going projects of FFA is given in Annex 1.

Suitability of the organisation submitting the proposal

FFA has, as a part of its various projects, developed hands-on experience in handling the interface between farmers and their markets in the commodities of mangoes and vegetables. Further, it is also actively promoting groups of women farmers to link them to micro-finance services so that they develop appropriate linkages and support systems to enter into the markets with confidence.

In addition, FFA has been active in developing contacts and presence in the policy forums. The following is the list of various linkages established by FFA and policy forums in which FFA has gained membership.

- AP WTO Committee- Member – State WTO Advisory Committee on Agriculture – Headed by Minister for Agriculture, Govt. of AP
- Jayathi Gosh Commission- FFA was a member of the Jayathi Ghosh commission set up by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to probe into the suicides of Farmers in the state.
- GoAP Task force committee on Horticulture: FFA is the member of the Government of Andhra Pradesh Task force committee on Horticulture
- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) – Member – Sub-Committee on National Agriculture Council.
- Indian Farmers & Industries Alliance (IFIA) – Co-Chairman.
- Parliament Member Farmers Forum (PMFF) – Coordinator.
- FAPCI: Membership in the board of FAPCI Andhra Pradesh in the Rural Development sub committee.
- Forward Market Commission: The regulatory body for monitoring the commodity transactions in stock exchanges is involved with FFA in conducting various awareness sessions throughout the country

- MCX and NCDEX: FFA is involved with these two Commodity stock exchanges in conducting the awareness sessions for spreading the concept of online trading and making farmers access the online platform.
- ICRISAT – Exploring Marketing Opportunities through a Research, Industry & Users Coalition – Sorghum Poultry Feed – Implemented in Mahaboobnagar District.
- BARC – In partnership with BARC, FFA has made efforts to widely disseminate the information related to the use of irradiation technology and space technology among the farmer community involved in partnership with APSRAC and NRSA and CRIDA.
- Tuskegee University- Partnership with Tuskegee University of USA in joint holding of National symposium on the issues relating to Bio technology
- APEDA- Conduct of awareness programmes and capacity building sessions for Mango farmers in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh
- ANGRAU- Partnered with ANGRAU in the conduct of awareness sessions and training programmes on Organic farming and Biotechnology
- NABARD: National Agricultural Bank for Rural Development (NABARD), Govt. of India has asked FFA, AP to form 50 numbers of VVV Clubs and 48 clubs were formed and the other two are on the way.
- PTRFF: Assisting in Biotechnology Propagation in association with “PEDDIREDDY THIMMA REDDY FARM FOUNDATION’.

Initiatives of FFA with the Public Representatives are detailed in Annex 2.

Details of the Research Proposed

After conducting a preliminary interaction with various agencies working for the benefit of farmers¹, a national workshop was organised inviting the views of several FOs and other experts engaged in supporting the farmers². This workshop has thrown up several issues as very important from the perspective of the subject of this proposal. These issues were later prioritized keeping in view the timeframe and budgets available. The following emerged as the issues for research:

⇒ Case studies

- Understanding and building models of economic based farmer organisations by literature review of existing collectives and taking up following case studies:
 - i) FFA’s mango marketing intervention
 - ii) Intervention with vegetable farmers and vendors in Patna by Shailendra, and
 - iii) Process of maize seed to identify the possibility of promotion of a collective farming engaged in seed production.
- Understanding and improving the efficiency within commodity value chains for the following commodities:
 - i) Cotton
 - ii) Turmeric

⇒ Policy studies

- Farmers organisations and their engagement in policy making process

¹ Vijaya Bhaskar Srinivas and Felicity J Proctor (2009) India Country Working Paper April 16, 2009 Prepared as a resource document for the Federation of Farmers Associations Andhra Pradesh, India. 49pp

² National Conference On Empowerment of Small Farmers into Markets. 3-4 February, 2009, Hyderabad, India International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP) Federation of Farmers Association (FFA), India. 16pp

- Commodity interest groups
- Market information services
- Role and feasibility of post-production extension services
- Credit policies and small farmer

These proposed case studies and policy studies are detailed below.

I. Case studies

1 Understanding and building models of economic based farmer organisations

Rationale

Rapid and dynamic changes in the agricultural commodity and food markets call for new organisational arrangements of farmers to enable them to: engage effectively in the market; increase their farm gate prices; and play a role as effective economic partners in the agricultural commodity and food value chains. There is little documentation – beyond a limited number of specific sectors such as the dairy sector, where models of self generated farmer organisations have evolved as effective economic players. This work seeks to identify the key success factors of economic based farmer organisations in India who undertake output market activities on behalf of and in the interests of their members.

The work will be undertaken through a critical assessment of the following two case studies:

- FFA's mango intervention
- Intervention with vegetable farmers and vendors in Patna by Shailendra

Further, case studies to establish the potential of farmers' cooperatives in various commodities are required. Such research would help FOs to take up the required tasks and organise farmers around these commodities as well. To start with, maize seed production is taken up for a detailed case study in this direction.

Activities

1. Review of literature and other relevant Indian case study work
2. Development of a methodology to examine the case studies
3. Identify and contract local teams to undertake the study and finalise the methodology
4. Undertake a critical study of the identified two farmer organisations including key success factors, drivers, the process of development of the organisation including cost and time frame, nature of membership, mode of operation, governance, etc., which may offer insights for lesson learning and scaling up of business orientated FOs.
5. Undertake a critical study of maize seed production process and the advantage that a farmers' collective may have in this activity, including the scale, complexity in the technology involved, stock holding and overall economics of the activity. The study would include a review of other seed production collectives, if any are identified in the process.
6. Prepare a detailed report of findings
7. Prepare a short policy and information note on processes for the promotion of farmer organisations engaged in economic activities

Uptake pathways

1. Sharing of lessons between CIFA/FFA members on the key factors which foster economic organisation of farmers
2. Sharing of lessons with donors, government departments and other funders for example investment banks which support the development of FO
3. Raising the profile of the importance of economic organisation of farmers as one vehicle for greater empowerment of farmers in the market and poverty reduction.

Role of ECART

Through email and telephone

1. Comment and add to the literature review
2. Share ideas on methodology
3. Provide comment on draft report

Through country visit/visits

1. None proposed

2 Understanding and improving the efficiency within commodity value chains

Rationale

Whilst there is much information available to Farmer Organisations in India on the costs of production of a given commodity, only limited information is available on the costs incurred at each stage of the commodity value chain for selected commodities from production to end market. With better information on the costs incurred at each stage and the margins taken by actors along the chain in undertaking their activities, opportunities to explore together reducing the margins at different stages and or increasing market efficiency for better economic returns to all actors but in particular the farmer may be able to be achieved. Further helping farmers' to become aware of the entire value-chain and the costs will help the farmers and their organisations to be able to better interact with other players in the value chain.

The commodities of Cotton and Turmeric are selected for the purpose of study as they involve many small and marginal farmers, and due to their growing importance in the international trade. Already some organisations are engaged in organising cotton farmers on the production side, and these would help in activities on the marketing side. The medicinal value of turmeric is yet to be fully explored. The processing of turmeric is increasing as it is becoming an important ingredient in several cosmetics and medicines. There is a scope for the small farmers to capture a proportion of the increased value addition that results from processing.

Activities

1. Undertake preliminary literature review on both methods and on other evidence available in Indian action research study
2. Identify locations and major groups of actors involved in the value chain.
3. Develop method and seeks consultants to undertake the field work
4. Studying transaction costs for select commodities in 2 – 3 locations
5. Plan for and hold multi-stakeholder meetings in each of the 2-3 locations for discussion on understanding the value chain, review jointly the action research evidence and develop an action

plan for improving efficiency in the chain, reducing costs and enabling more secure and or enhance income for farmers.

6. Prepare report for each case
7. Present findings at a National Forum meeting or end of programme Conference

Uptake pathway

- 1 Direct benefit to the case study locations
- 2 Share the learning experience with CIFA members
- 3 Help to bring multi-stakeholder dialogue into wider practice
- 4 Raised awareness of value chain

Role of ECART

Through email and telephone

- 1 Contribute to and review the literature review
- 2 Comment upon the research methodology and sampling of commodity and location
- 3 Prepare report and summary findings for each case
- 4 Outline methodology and approach for multi-stakeholder meetings
- 5 Prepare report with action plan from each meeting
- 6 Prepare policy note on importance of the value chain and lesson from method

Through country visit/visits (2 visits)

1. Work with team to validate method and assist in training of research team
2. Hold multi-stakeholder meetings
3. Work with India team to confirm method for multi-stakeholder meetings and guide at least one of these meetings (of the 2-3 meetings) including training of moderators for future meetings

II. Policy studies

3 Farmers organisations and their engagement in policy making process

Rationale

A number of members of CIFA/FFA are active in the policy process at state and national and international levels and there have been many success stories. There is a need to understand what are the success factors in such engagement in the Indian context, what has worked and what has not worked and why. Drawing on this, it is proposed that a working paper is prepared for use by FOs on the opportunities and constraints in engaging in policy making process and entry points for further avenues for engagement. This could guide many FOs in engaging policy making at local and state levels.

Activities

- 1 Establish a small working team of 4-5 farmer organisation representatives to guide the process
- 2 Identify local consultants to work on this programme
- 3 Develop methodology

- 4 Review case examples of what works
- 5 Report and prepare summary policy note
- 6 Present findings at national meeting

Uptake pathway

- 1 Raise awareness of FOs in their role in policy processes
- 2 Improved practice by FO within the lobby agenda
- 3 Continuous shared learning

Role of ECART

Through email and telephone

- 1 Comment as required on drafts

Through visits

- 1 None required

4 Position papers on key themes and topics of interest to Farmer Organisation

Rationale

There are a number of key issues that emerged during the Conference in February 2009 that are relevant to the policy and advocacy agenda in the context of linking farmers to markets. Short information notes or set of notes presenting the issue, the background and rationale, the evidence and the required action would be useful tools to both inform Farmer Organisations and to help them to articulate their views within the policy arena.

During the Conference a number of such issues arose and these would form the starting point for such a series which should be seen a longer term initiative taking on additional issues as and when they emerge. Some require more preparatory work than others in terms of gathering relevant evidence. The shortlisted issues are:

- Commodity Interest Groups
- Market Information Services
- Role and feasibility of post-production extension and marketing services
- Various credit policies and small farmers

Commodity Interest Groups

Position paper on Commodity Interest Groups could act as a mechanism for cross stakeholder dialogue on all aspects of development of the commodity and its market. Such Commodity Interest Groups or Associations/Committees are common in many countries in the developed and developing countries and serve as a platform for discussion and action planning for all engaged actors – producers, traders, processors

and public sector service providers. They are independent associations of all stakeholders functioning without government interference. This paper would outline the emergence of such models in India, as well as bring in examples from international experience as a means of raising the profile of such Groups in the interests of strengthening all aspects of a given commodities' development in India.

Market Information Services

Position paper outlines the inadequacy of the current market price information gathered by the government departments and commodity exchanges, and disseminated by various media, including the market yards themselves. Current wholesale market price information is inadequate for purpose. The price ranges provided without any supplementary information of grade or quality make the data of limited value to farmers or farmer organisations wishing to use the data to explore new markets and or divert product to a given market.

Role and feasibility of post-production extension and marketing services

Position paper outlines the requirement, scope, viability and feasibility of different kinds of post-production extension services. This would pave way for the FOs clearly articulating the varieties of services they require through extension services. Further, if the viability of extending such person is established, private agencies may also come forward to offer these services directly to the farmers.

Various Credit policies and Small farmers

Despite progress made by the financial institutions to reach out to as many number of people in rural areas as possible, the farmers are unable to move away from the linkages with traditional money lender. Moreover, the manner in which the crop loans are being disbursed discriminates against the sharecropper. The farmers in the tribal areas are also discriminated against as their land is many a time held by the community and individual farmer does not have ownership. In light of these problems relating to the delivery to financial services to the farmers, the suitability of alternative delivery channels like farmers' collectives and body of community elders (as in the case of tribal areas) needs to be evaluated. The other policy issues of risk mitigation availing opportunities of globalization taking advantage of contracted farming are to be identified and utilized.

Activities

- 1 Finalise on the target audience
- 2 Identify lead authors and/ or researchers, collate evidence and draft papers
- 3 Agree distribution mechanism
- 4 Partners' identity and role.

Uptake pathway

- Policy notes shared with all CIFA/FFA members
- Outputs debated at CIFA /FFA working meetings and end of project conference
- FFA to take up specific issues with relevant government departments and private sector as appropriate
- FFA and CIFA to "sponsor" at least one Commodity Interest Group

Role of ECART

Through email and telephone

- 1 Provide evidence and ideas from other examples internationally specifically on Commodity Interest Groups
- 2 Provide comments on drafts

Through country visit/visits

- 1 Plan for and support the development of one commodity interest group

Milestones and time frame

The following table indicates the milestones in the work of the project and their time frame.

S. No.	Result Description	Year 1/ Qtr 1	Year 1/ Qtr 2	Year 1/ Qtr 3	Year 1/ Qtr 4	Year 2/ Qtr1	Year 2/ Qtr2	Year 2/ Qtr 3	Year 2/ Qtr 4
1	Constitution of working group of FO representatives	1							
2	Empanelment of local consultants	1							
3	Finalisation of methodologies, including sharing with IFAP/ECART researchers	3	7						
4	Case studies				3			2	
5	Position papers				2			3	
6	Discussions in CIFA/FFA meetings			1				1	
7	Multi-stakeholder meetings			1		1			
8	Mid-term learning review				1				
9	End of the project learning review								1

Project Risks and Mitigation Measures

Project can face the following risks:

- Foreign exchange risks. The exchange rates have been fluctuating in the recent times. Any appreciation of Euro against Rupees can reduce the funds available for the project. In such an event, the project management would work to achieve suitable savings in the project execution. In case of drastic changes in exchange rates, the scope of the project would be reworked in mutual consultations with the donors.
- Risk of structural and rapid technological changes in the commodity sectors being studied. In such event, the study would not be of much help by the time the project ends. The working group would guide the consultants and project secretariat towards such major changes, and ensure that the case

studies and position papers reflect these changes. The circulation of the papers for review by ECART researchers and other experts in India would also ensure this.

- Government policy constraints

Budget

The following assumptions are made to work out the budget.

1. The local consultant(s) will operate with their headquarters in Hyderabad.
2. Board & lodge is Rs.1,500 per day.
3. Workshop expenditure is a lump sum amount of Rs. 1,00,000.
4. All regular reviews happen at the Office of FFA or CIFA and hence expenditure on venue is not incurred.

Budget for National Project Proposal for Research on issues related to ESFIM					
S.No.	Tasks/Head	Unit description	Units	Rate	Amount
1	Constitution of working group and their meetings (once in a quarter, and not when FFA EC or CIFA EC meets)	1 day of meeting with attendance of 10 persons	6	25000	150000
2	Multi-stakeholder interactions for value-chains	1 day of meeting with attendance of 15 persons	3	200000	600000
3	Multi-stakeholder interactions to learn about issues related to Commodity Interest Groups	1 day of meeting with attendance of 15 persons	3	200000	600000
4	Project secretariat (part-time cost of project manager, research officer and administrative assistant)	Lump sum per month	24	18000	432000
5	Remuneration to Local consultants for case studies, including travel, board, lodge and research assistance	Fee per case study (at about 20 days of work per case study and 10 days of travel)	4	85000	340000
6	Remuneration to local consultants for policy studies, including travel, board, lodge and research assistance	Fee per policy study (at about 30 days of work per case study and 12 days of travel)	4	90000	360000
7	Learning workshops (Mid-term and End of project)	1 day of meeting with attendance of 15 persons	2	200000	400000
	Total				2882000

(Rupees Twenty Eight Lakhs Eighty two thousands only)

Annex 1: List of Recently Completed and On-going Projects of FFA

Farmers mobilization programmes

- ATMA and private sector assisted in Farmers organization has extended financial support for strengthening the Networking of farmers in the State
- Providing training to farmers and establishing commodity organizations and networking them at various levels in association with AGRITERRA, The Netherlands
- Organising the farmers of Andhra Pradesh commodity wise. Until now formed commodity committees for Andhra Pradesh for the crops of Castor, Horticulture, KP Onion, Cotton etc

Horticulture value Chain strengthening

- Currently running project on 'Farmers Forward Movement in the strengthening of the Mango Value Chain' in Chittoor district
- Project on provision of commercial linkages for Mango Farmers in association with GMED India – a partner of USAID
- A study on the export possibilities OF Mango to Western European countries and mapping the Indian exporters and the West European Importers
- Base line survey on the Mango value chain in Chittoor district

Mobilizing and campaigning for the cause of Sugarcane farmers

- Conduct of Sugarcane Farmers mobilization programmes in AndhraPradesh, Tamilnadu and Karnataka under the purview of Sugar factories

Market Linkages programme with Coca Cola

- Direct procurement of Mangoes from the Farmers by Coca Cola facilitated by FFA AP

Mango Farmers Training by GMED - USAID

- The Mango Farmers were made into clusters and being trained under USAID – GMED programme on best practices of cultivation

Farmers trained in On Line Trading of MCX and NCDEX and FMC

- The FFA has conducted more than 25 training programmes in Andhra Pradesh on the modalities of On Line Trading being done under MCX and NCDEX and FMC. These programmes were helpful in not only bringing farmers closer to the Online trading but also helped the farmers with the advent of a alternative marketing channel.

Formation of Commodity Committees

- FFA facilitated the formation of Commodity committees for various crops in Andhra Pradesh formed involving the comprehensive representation of farmers across the state of A.P. Andhra Pradesh level

Commodity committees formed for Castor, Cotton, Horticulture, Paddy, Sugarcane, etc.

Partnership with ICRISAT in improving livelihoods of Sorghum/ pearl- Millet farmers of Mahabub Nagar

- Building Coalitions for producer – Market – Processor Linkages Sorghum for Poultry Feed Project with ICRISAT.

Promotion of NABARD VVV clubs

- National Agricultural Bank for Rural Development (NABARD), Govt. of India has asked FFA, AP to form 50 numbers of VVV Clubs and 46 clubs were formed

Women Empowerment and livelihood improvement programmes

- Establishment of 32 Tailoring centres across the State in developing the livelihoods for Women.

Andhra Pradesh Netherlands Bio-Technology Program

- The APNBP project was taken up in Mahabubnagar district by FFA AP. The project has successfully completed the stipulated task of improving the skills of rural Women through providing adequate facilities for training and awareness on issues concerning health , nutrition to have a positive impact on health, nutrition, and Girl Child Education in the area

Improving Livelihoods of rural farmers in partnership with DRDA through Poultry trainings

- FFA AP taken up rural farmers trainings on aspects of poultry and subsequently placed them in local poultry industries

Social economic study projects

- Conducting studies on 'Alternative Crops for Tobacco' in association with Tobacco Institute of India, New Delhi.

Improvement of Livelihoods of Farmers through information dissemination

- Establishing 'Farmers Information Centre called 'SAMADHANA KENDRA' in association with National Informatics Centre & Indian Institute of Chemical Technology.

Training SHG groups

- Assisting SHG Group training activity in selected villages of Medak, Nalgonda & Mahaboobnagar.

Irrigation projects

- Study on Gundlakamma river basin in Andhra Pradesh

Programmes under CAPART

- Established 60 vermi compost units in Medak district as part of the CAPART programme

Workshops/Training programs and Awareness programs

- Awareness Programmes on Systemic Rice Intensification (SRI) method of Paddy cultivation.

- Workshop on Commodity Committee on Spices
- Participated Biotechnology Stakeholders meeting in Europe.
- Conducting seminars on the problems of water reaching the tail end areas
- Workshop on Commodity Committee on Fruits & Vegetables in coordination with APEDA
- Awareness Programmes on Quality Parameters of Paddy in association with FCI
- Workshop on 'Development of AP – Role of Irrigation Projects'.
- Awareness & Training Programme on Toxicology – Pesticides & Poisoning and First Aid Treatment.
- Two day workshop on pre and post harvest practices needed in Mango cultivation in partnership with APEDA
- Strengthening Mango Value Chain- a workshop in partnership with APEDA and Department of Horticulture.
- Publication of Agri policy Advocacy
- Website: www.indianfarmers.org
- Documentation production and awareness.

Annex 2: Initiatives of FFA with the Public Representatives

1. Parliament Members Farmers Forum:

In the past few years, agriculture sector has not received due attention in resource allocations, and planning. Dependence on monsoon, inability to build strong infrastructure and provide resources, and inadequate access to technologies has hampered the growth of agriculture. This realization has propelled MPs with agricultural background and interested in welfare of farmers to establish MPs Farmers Forum.

Drawing members from both the houses of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, MPs Farmers Forum is established to hold regular interactive sessions for identifying issues and pursuing them in Parliament, and with the Government and others.

Activities of Parliament Members Farmers Forum:

- To assist farmers to regain their honour & dignity in Indian society.
- To interact with farmers organizations, agro-processing and agri-input industries, scientists, economists and others.
- Articulate farmers' issues in parliament, government & other arena.
- To initiate administrative, legislative and legal measures beneficial for agricultural development.
- Development of Indian farmers as knowledge workers.
- Advancement of Indian agriculture to become globally competitive.
- Develop India as an agricultural super power.

2. Indian Farmers & Industry Alliance (IFIA)

Indian Farmers & Industry Alliance (IFIA) was set up for empowering farmers through partnership. It is joint venture between Federation of Farmers Associations and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) which is India's leading Apex Industry Associations. Its objectives are identifying important issues for agriculture development, welfare of farmers, growth of agro-based industries and exports. It will pursue them with Govt. of India, Planning Commission, Financial Institutions, Members of Parliament, Intellectuals, International Organizations & others in order to develop favourable policies, obtain resources, build infrastructure and initiate other appropriate measures.

3. Consortium of Indian Farmers Associations (CIFA)

The FFA, AP is instrumental in establishing the National level Farmers apex body in the name of "**Consortium of Indian Farmers Associations (CIFA)**" at New Delhi. State level Farmers Federations and Commodity Committee Groups are the members in CIFA. Millions of Indian Farmers are members of the Organizations affiliated to CIFA.

4. International of Federation of Agriculture Producers (IFAP)

5. World Bank (WB)