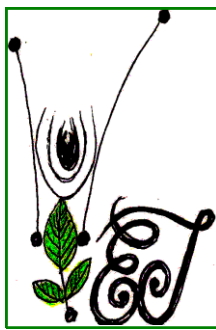


# Annual Report 2010-2011



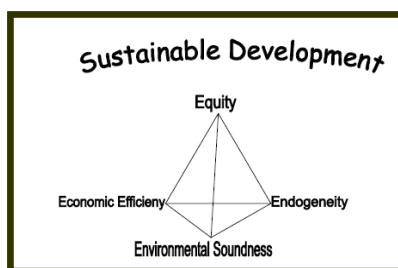


Having entered this new millennium, browsing back for repair or reviving natural systems already damaged is not a matter of choice anymore. It is now common ground to perceive limits: Development as it has been practiced over the past, particularly in the final century of the last millennium, has raised the issues of resource availability, environmental stability, social and economic viability that we now perceive its limits and limitations. Today's development processes lack the variety to deliver the basic demands of the communities and thereby forces us to look for new paradigms and processes that can meet the aspirations of current generations without foreclosing future options. To respond to this complex task, humankind has evolved newer concepts and paradigms and organised people and resources to form institutions. **Environics Trust recognises that it is one among the myriad such initiatives across the globe.**

In the last decade a perceptible shift has occurred globally, with the reversing of natural resources destruction and conserving a healthy environment becoming explicit objectives of development. It is founded in the belief that development must not come at the expense of the life-support systems of other groups, or later generations, nor threaten the survival of other species. Every community responds to the diversity and complexity of specific eco-systems and social environments. Our attempts to respond to critical and sustained needs of the communities through various processes has led us to explore the concept of Sustainable Development for carving out pragmatic processes leading to the evolution of sustainable communities.

From such a perspective, Environics Trust defines **Sustainable Development as the 'set of processes that enables the local and global systems to be in ecological harmony'.**

The four non-orthogonal attributes of sustainable development, which are crucial to the state of being in ecological harmony, can be described in the form of the state of these attributes.



- Equity and Justice
- Environmental Soundness
- Endogeneity or Self Reliance
- Economic Efficiency.

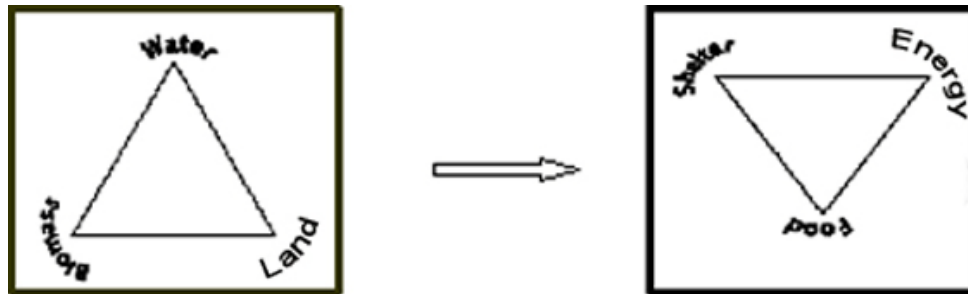
Environics Trust's proposition is that **"Societies should identify, evolve processes and implement programmes that concurrently address these four attributes at whatever levels and scales the intervention takes place."**

Given the diversity of the biophysical environment, the processes may be simple or complex and its dynamics largely determined by the context. The psychocultural systems however have become complex and often complicated. **Therefore SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT is practically an exercise of conserving existing options and generating more alternatives.**

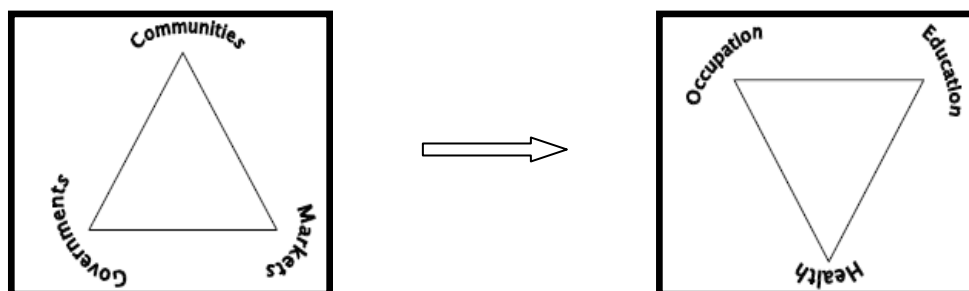


Environics Trust's consistently applicable model is based on an understanding of the existing biophysical and psychocultural systems, which is the basis to modulate the inputs within the functional space of the institution.

The basic biophysical underpinning for any effort can be visualized as the triumvirate of biophysical resource potential of **Water-Land-Biomass**. These loops must be closed at the smallest scale providing for the basic biophysical needs, expressed as the triumvirate of biophysical resource demands of a society, in the form of **Food-Energy-Shelter**.



The psychocultural environment presents the institutional resource potential in the form of the **Government-Market-Communities**. The primary charge of these institutions would be to meet the psychocultural demands of the society in the form of **Health-Education-Occupation**.



**The evolution of these systems and their mutual interaction particularly determine endogeneity (~ self-reliance) of a society to meet its developmental aspirations in a sustainable manner.**

While at the biophysical level one could be a little more deterministic to state that more immediate and local the needs are met the more sustainable it is likely to be, it is much more complex to determine the levels and scales at which psychocultural needs must be met. The nation state has been a unit in articulating the demands and is overwhelmingly accepted as the scale at which these needs are addressed, despite exposures of the inability of nation states to meet these needs in acceptable manner. This has resulted in a situation where societal governance has come to mean **'keeping discontent within manageable limits' rather than a proactive process of creating conditions for life fulfilment.**

**Environics** means the study of the influence of the environment on human behaviour. In its mission **to evolve innovative solutions to the problems of community development** Environics Trust interprets it more comprehensively as the mutual influences of environment and social behaviour



These delivery of these innovations are through channelled through the processes of **Participative Research**, which enables documentation of existing conditions and the changes aspired; **Community Based Action** to demonstrate the possibility of transforming innovations into a physical and social reality; **Enterprise Development and Servicing** to respond to the current reality of the economic world and identify sustainable entrepreneurial and occupational niches and **Communication** to interface with a larger universe, to mutually learn and contribute. **Environics Trust particularly reaches out to mountain, mining, coastal and other marginalized communities.**



- Participatory Research
- Community Based Activities
- Enterprise Development & Servicing
- Communication

**AND FINALLY A WORD OF CAUTION, A MODEL IS NO REALITY, BUT A FRAMEWORK TO ENABLE.**

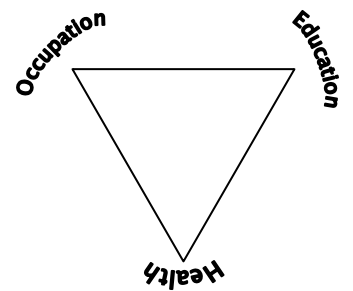
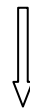
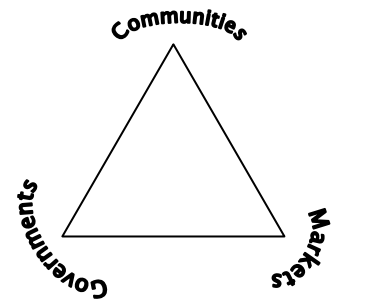
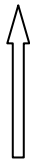
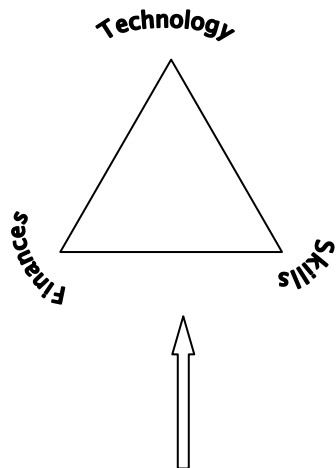
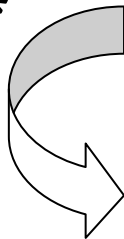
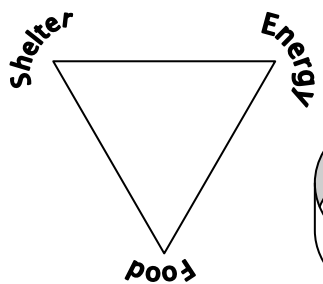
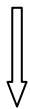
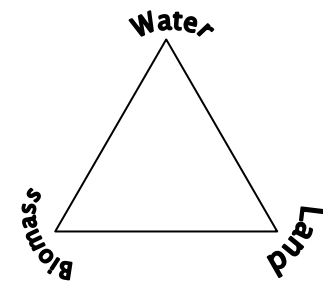
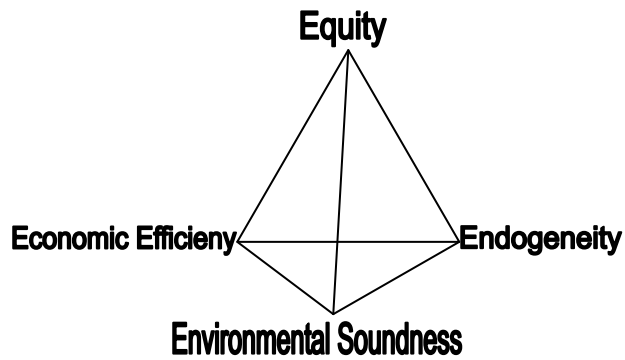
## Environics Trust – the evolution

**Years of work in the mountain areas and demand for action elsewhere has enabled us to evolve into the Environics Trust with the following objectives:**

- To conduct research and development on environmental issues and human behavioural aspects;
- To implement programmes for community development;
- To promote art and culture, innovate and implement technical and institutional designs for an integrated development of the society;
- To assist, guide local governments, state and central government and international agencies in their development efforts;
- To provide assistance to communities to redress injustices and uphold their rights;
- To diffuse useful, educational, literacy, social, academic, professional and other knowledge;
- To apply results from scientific research for protecting local and global environment;
- To promote Environics as a discipline converging various subjects related to environmental sciences and human behaviour.



# Sustainable Development



## RECENT AND CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

Environics Trust has always taken up the challenge to work in challenging environments and diverse issues. This year also brought several issues of diverse nature. The projects were diverse and focused on community awareness, technical assistance to organizations and state governments. The brief summarization of projects underline the key issues covered and results obtained

### **1. Rational Hydro Energy Development Supporting Organisation(s) - Christian Auxillary for Social Action (CASA) Conducted by Environics Trust**

Hydropower is seen amongst the cleaner energy options throughout the world and Himalayan regions are naturally the preferred areas for tapping the potential. The huge concessions by the central government has lead to a sudden focus on hydropower without doing comprehensive analysis of requirements and needs for the state and what losses the regions as well its people will suffer. This study high light the national and local imperative aspects and how subsidies create a market that may not be always favourable for the communities.

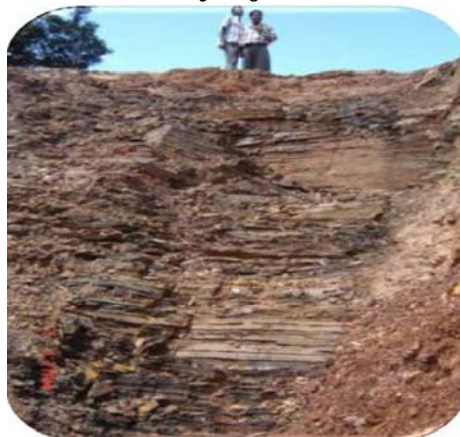
Uttarakhand is witnessing a spurt of hydropower projects in the Himalayan regions. There have been varying arguments for ROR and dam based projects but each project neglects the local community concerns. Organising a meet of actual affected or likely to be affected, living in vulnerable situations and bringing out a charter for rational hydro power development is the theme of the programme. The field visits were conducted and a state level meeting of community people from affected regions organized in January. The programme is taken ahead by the local groups and several situational issues are being handled by the coordinator of the programme. Publication of newsletter is also planned for launch in October.

### **2. Impact of Mining and Allied Activities in Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj Supported by Lutheran World Services, India, Conducted by Environics Trust**

Orissa is a mineral rich state and the irony is that most of these mineral regions are also scheduled areas i.e. inhabited by schedule tribes and primitive tribal groups. This has raised concerns over diminishing cultural class of people like tribals and impacts on environmental situations and areas converting to derelict land uses. Mining by its very nature has been at the center stage of being called as an unsustainable activity concerning environment and human population.

The conduct of the study is done by thoroughly visiting the mining areas of Keonjhar and

Mayurbhanj Districts where most of the population is of primitive tribes viz. juangs, mankadia etc. The



objectives were to brainstorm with local level organizations, analyze the field level environmental and social problems associated with the mining areas that are spread across the tribal districts. Both the districts are Schedule Vth districts and several of the current developments in legislations and case laws are also discussed to focus on tribal issues. The final broad strategies for pre, ongoing and post mining process are discussed and final specific recommendations are listed so that a focused workplan can be taken up by the organizations working in the region.

### **3. Assessment Of Livelihood Conditions, Options & Training Needs of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh Supported by - CRS, Andhra Pradesh Conducted by Environics Trust**

This task of identifying the options of livelihoods for the People living with HIV/AIDS takes an approach of interactive sessions and conduct of small group meetings to do a assessment of the livelihood conditions and options available for livelihoods. The CRS through its partner agencies connected different such groups of people who need support for long terms as there are several factors attached in the social environment which need a careful and dedicated approach to make PLHAs comfortable in their own and outside environment. The final report has been submitted and a public consultation is due in the month of September to closely look at the assessments and options of livelihoods. The objectives of the programme were the following:-

To ascertain the current livelihood conditions of PLHAs;

To understand the livelihood opportunities in the region

- To identify existing skills and those that can be potentially imparted;



- To identify the specific training needs for various livelihood options and the process of imparting these skills
- To conduct dissemination workshop with the Government officials at the end of the study.
- To link up the PLHAs with the existing government livelihood schemes.



#### 4. Earthquake disaster mitigation through innovative income opportunities in Uri Sector, J&K [Department of Science and Technology (DST), Science and society Division]

Envionics Trust was invited by the Indian Army before the earthquake to make a presentation on opportunities for income generation in Uri, Jammu and Kashmir.



A team of specialists and army went to affected areas after the earthquake and it was proposed to undertake 'Dhingri Mushroom' production through community training and providing upfront support of spawn production at the local level. The laboratory has been established in Uri by our team and initial phase of socio-economic survey completed and capacity than sixty women and youth have been trained in Mushroom cultivation. Training in spawn production and value addition horticulture produce is in progress.

#### 5. Scoping Studies for Sustainable Cities Programme for Dehradun and Gairsain Uttarakhand. (WWF, India)

WWF ventured into doing a sustainable cities programme in several cities in India Environics was chosen to conduct scoping studies for Uttarakhand. The studies looked into the current energy requirements, demand-supply scenarios and possibility of looking into sectors which can be taken up for bringing in sustainability for resources (existing) via-a-vis institutional strengths available. A SWOT analysis was done for both the cities.

#### 6. The Access Initiative [TAI], Northern India Coaliton, India (WRI)

Tai is all about analyzing governance systems in a region/country. World over there are several member countries in the TAI network. The basic premise on which TAI assessments are based are 'access to information' 'access to Justice' and Public





Participation in decision making.



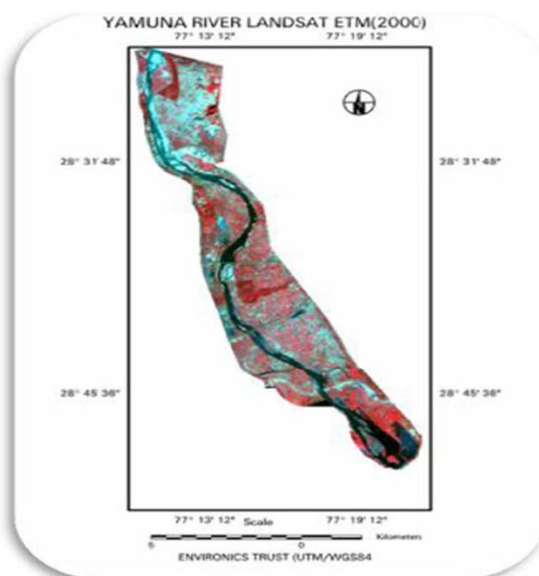
In each of the sub sets there is a link to evaluation in terms of law, effort and effectiveness. EnviroNics Trust and Lawyers Initiative for Forest & Environment (LIFE) are the nodal organization taking forward the task of assessment through 18 case studies across different sector and region (Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh).

#### 7. The Access Initiative [TAI], TAI National Assessments by TAI India Secretariat [WRI]

The successful completion of the TAI Himalayan Assessments has led to the formation of TAI National Coalition of individuals/organizations involved in the diverse field of activities concerning environmental governance in the country. This phase of assessments identified minimum 18 case studies of varying magnitude and nature across different eco regions of the country. An initial launch meeting (training cum case study identification) took place in April 2009 following which the assessments have been initiated using the TAI indicator worksheets.

#### 8. Impacts of Bridges & Barrages Over River Yamuna in Delhi (Peace Institute Charitable Trust)

Delhi's rapid urbanization has resulted in expansion of infrastructure to cater its population. Delhi's area has remained at 1485 sq. kms. since decades but the population has increase at an decadal rate of 40-50% over the last 2-3 decades which has resulted in competing need for land for different uses. There are 8 road/rail bridges and two barrages over River Yamuna in the short 22 km stretch of river passing through NCT of Delhi. There has been no existing methodology or reporting on post facto environmental impacts of such structures. Several technical, physical and social issues were taken into account to take a holistic view of the range of impacts. This would be the first attempt ever to map the developments in the floodplains of Delhi and the relative impacts of structures over river Yamuna.



#### 9. Community based River Health Index for River Yamuna (PEACE Institute Charitable Trust)

This is indeed a larger/broad initiative to understand the people-river interrelationship in different geographical regions along river Yamuna (from its origin till its confluence). The Himalayan component is being studied in two grids of 6-8 villages. The aim is to do a participatory planning and understand the riverpeople, people-river linkages and understand the proximate/non-proximate causes that lead to deterioration of river health. Training local teams on long term monitoring of river health by means of mutually agreed but most suitable indicators defined by qualitative and quantitative parameters is the key objective of the process.







#### 10. Impacts of Mining on Water and Sanitation (Water Aid)

As minerals relate to earth, so does our water resources and in most of the cases these are in conjunction with each depending on the geographical and geological formations. Area specific case studies were identified for understanding the detailed impacts of mining in a situation of ongoing and post mining. Misappropriate Assessments, approvals and compliance form a first line of impacts followed by unscientific mining and mine closure. In several of the cases mineral availability is at a depth greater than that of water table thereby intersecting the freshwater aquifers and impacting its productivity and quality and quantity.

#### 11. Occupational And Environmental Health Safety Network India (OEHNI)

Occupational diseases, including cancer caused by various factors at the workplace, usually take a long time to develop (from a few months to more than 10 years). Most industries tend to hire workers on short-term contracts and by the time they develop a disease, it is almost impossible to link it with their work. In informal sector it is even worse. No record of employment is maintained. Workers are not provided information about the hazards associated with their job. Occupational and Environmental Health Network of India (OEHNI) is a network of organisations working on Occupational Health in the country. Environics Trust has been designated as the coordinating office for the network. The network is currently working on issues like Asbestosis, Silicosis and others.





## 12. Entrepreneurship Development Program in South Gujarat - TAPI District.

This project "Entrepreneurship Development Program" is supported and funded by ONGC Hazira as a part of Corporate Social Responsibility flagship project UNNATI.

Goal and Purpose:-



- To promote Entrepreneurship as a vital Rural Economic Activity.
- To establish a sustainable society where women and men take initiative to learn new skills to become self-employed entrepreneurs.

### AIMS & OBJECTIVES:-

- It aims at rural livelihood by establishing decentralized participatory approach.
- It will enhance the various skills to self Help Groups through training and make skilled entrepreneurs.
- It will build capacities of women and men in the community to be self-employed.
- Create awareness of Accounting Systems.
- Expansion of successful participatory models across other units of Self Help Groups.
- Mainstreaming livelihood concerns by improving skills capacity and learning.
- Improved understanding and knowledge by strengthening monitoring support systems.

### INFERENCES

- There is a diversity of existing and potential livelihood opportunities in the region.
- Lot of interface is required to ensure that they make use of their skills.
- Women need focused attention as in a patriarchal society they tend to be neglected.
- Training and hand holding is required in all aspects if they have to fully benefit.



## **Project undertaken**

### **IBAS- Centre for Study of Public (POI)**

Work has been continuing to identify Asbestos victims and to help them get Compensation. Work is also going on to collect data on the various violations made by Asbestos companies and to highlight such cases in media and to relevant agencies to initiate legal action. Below are some of the achievements of the past few months.

Many discrepancies and shocking occurrences were found in matters related to Occupational Health through rigorous RTI follow-up with the Chief Inspector of factories, GSECL and various TPS. A questionnaire circulated among more than 150 workers at Sikka TPS and Gandhinagar TPS brought out shocking revelations. Contradictions were also found in replies received through RTI. This data helps in strengthening our ongoing litigation in the high Court

Mr. Manubhai Prajapati along with four victims participated in the ABAN & ANROEV meeting held at Jaipur in November 2011. They all were very happy & witnessed for themselves that they are not alone & many NGOs with expert & intelligent people are supporting them in their cause and struggle

Advocate visited on 18-20 November, 2011 for notarizing purpose of 7 (seven) Asbestosis victims of Shri Dig. Cement Co. regarding their compensation issue.

Many meetings were organised with workers.

### **Asia Monitoring Resource Centre**

ET works as the secretariat office for OEHNI and ANROEV networks

#### **Activities Conducted**

1. A case for Asbestosis Victims was also filed in NHRC for the ex-miners in Udaipur, Rajasthan. NHRC has taken note of the serious matter and has issued notices to various state and Central government for their replies on usage of Asbestos in the country.
2. 2 day seminar was organised by Ministry of Labour in collaboration with the European Union in September. The issue of occupational health especially silicosis and Asbestos was raised in the meeting.
3. A lot of pressure was mounted on the Indian government on its stand on asbestos. The government relented and agreed to include asbestos in the PIC list of materials.
4. Annual ANROEV / ABAN meeting were organised at Jaipur, Rajasthan in November. More than 100 participants from different countries participated in the meeting. Strategy was discussed to take the BAN asbestos movement forward. Victims from Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh were able to meet victims and activists from other countries to learn about the problems and solutions it was heartening to see the exchange. Workshops on different themes like Silicosis, Asbestos, Electronics, Victims organising, mining and Social Media Advocacy was organised during the ANROEV meeting.



5. Internet research on Occupational Safety and Health in India is continuing. The information gathered (on different agencies, various articles, questions in parliament etc) was circulated among members and also put on the OEHNI Google group.
6. Research is being conducted to locate organisations and activists working in the areas of OSH in the country and to strengthen ties with them.
7. Work is progressing on getting the new ANREOV website up.

## Oxfam India

### Background

The mm&P is a Pan-India Alliance, but the focus of this programme will be in the V Schedule States of Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Jharkhand. These three states constitute the bulk of the mining of coal and other metallic and non-metallic minerals. These are also the economically poor and strife prone regions. A new mining bill which promises a better deal to the communities and the environment, the provisions of the PESA and judicial pronouncements particularly the Samata Judgement provide a scope for advocating the causes of the adivasis and other mining affected communities in the current era of globalisation when rights of the people are being curtailed and large corporates are being encouraged.

- Oxfam supported the Environmental Assessment of Soapstone mines in Kapkot Block in current day Bageshwar District of Uttarakhand in 1986. This study was aimed to support the local activists the Kapkot Gramin Uthan Samithi, in their effort to stop mining in the villages of Chaurasthal, Gadera and Pharsali. It is remarkable that even after 25 years the local communities have not allowed mining in these villages even though mining of soapstone continues in the region.
- Globally Oxfam has been a key supporter of communities impacted by Mining. Oxfam Australia's Mining Ombudsman was perhaps the only unique transnational dispute resolution institution until it was wound up in 2009, to address the impacts of Australian Mining Companies. Between 2000 and 2009 the ombudsman addressed 12 complaints and brought out over 25 reports.
- Since the late nineties Oxfam has been consistently supporting the efforts of communities affected by mining and small scale mine workers. Oxfam supported the initial consultation workshop for the initiating a network of institutions in 1999. Since then mines minerals and PEOPLE has emerged as an alliance of 130 members across the country and is in the forefront in policy advocacy, support to local communities and mine workers. Oxfam has also been a consistent supporter of the International Women and Mining Network (RIMM) which held its global meeting in India in 2005 with women participants from 68 countries.
- Among the specific groups Oxfam has been supporting consistently are Santulan and Mine Labour Protection Campaign who work extensively with mine workers providing a range of services from crèche to campaigning for their rights. Both institutions have been able to significantly raise the voice of unorganized mine workers and have been relentlessly campaigning on various issues including compensation for victims of silicosis and asbestosis.
- In the recent past Oxfam has been partnering Environics Trust to provide secretariat services for the mm&P alliance and also to enable a focused effort on aiding the expanding the number of communities affected by small scale mining. Recent efforts include the inputs to draft Mining Bill and establishment of a mechanism to challenge





faulty environmental clearances, conduct of the National Multistakeholder consultation on Mining, Climate Change in the Himalayas.

Map: Approximate Locations of Resettlement Colonies and Reclamation Camps



## Both Ends

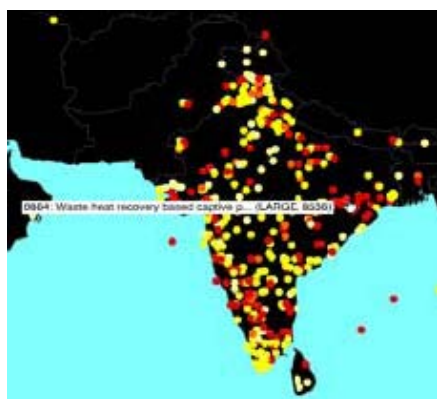
*Envionics Trust – Both Ends Rourkela Steel Plant (Expansion)*

### ROURKELA STEEL PLANT (RSP): SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL INSENSITIVITY CONTINUES

RSP is one of the flagship steel plants of SAIL under the public sector. From its current capacity to produce 1.9 MT of steel using LD technology, it plans to modernize and expand its capacity to 4.2 MT of crude steel – a 2.21 times increase from the current levels. The project aims to modify the existing units as well as propose new units to meet its target production. SAIL in 2008-09, availed 'Loan Funds' to an amount of Rs. 7538.79 Crores (19.54 secured loans and rest 80.46%). A capital expenditure of Rs. 5233 Crores funded by a

mix of borrowings and internal accruals<sup>2</sup> includes financial and technical support by Danieli Corus BV for various services including mechanical components for a new blast furnace, installation, project management and training. The Dutch investment of the order of Rs. 387 crores (euro @ Rs. 62) through State Bank of India Guarantee.

The carbon footprint of the plant is an important issue to address and the modernisation and expansion project has enabled some technological changes with which the company claims to have been able to reduce the per tonne of crude steel production. However given the scale-expansion there will be an additional component of pollution load and GHG<sup>5</sup> emissions. The project's own admittance is of the order of 2.5 tonnes/hr of major pollutants like SPM<sub>6</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub> 7 and NO<sub>x</sub> 8. Considering the average emission of 1.7 tCO<sub>2</sub>/tcs<sup>9</sup>, tentative carbon emission from the plant is estimated to be around 7.14 MTPA<sup>10</sup> for the planned capacity of 4.2MTPA. RSP has registered for a CDM<sup>11</sup> project [see image below for RSP CDM project & others in India] (LD12 gas recovery for eliminating equivalent fossil fuel for power generation) which envisages to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 8536 tonnes/annum (registered for the rated capacity of 1.9MT in 2007).



We must recognise that this is the emission from the current plant configuration (point source) and the actual footprint of production in Rourkela should include the emissions in the production of the raw materials, their beneficiation and transportation, disposal of hazardous waste (incineration, landfill etc); the methane emissions from the Mandira Dam which provides water and downstream product delivery.

It is important that RSP use this opportunity of expansion to deal with a variety of legacy issues and also develop robust mechanisms both from the point of human and financial risks.



## Critical Ecosystems Partnership fund

The project will be led by Ritwick Dutta, an environmental lawyers who has been involved in EIA related issues and has challenged large number of projects approved on the basis of faulty EIA. He has been responsible for the revival of the National Environmental Appellate Authority (NEAA): the statutory authority to challenge faulty EIA reports.

### Aims and Objectives

- To conduct research and development on environmental issues and human behavioural aspects;
- To implement programmes for community development;
- To promote art and culture, innovate and implement technical and institutional designs for an integrated development of the society;
- To assist, guide local governments, state and central government and international agencies in their development efforts;
- To provide assistance to communities to redress injustices and uphold their rights;
- To diffuse useful, educational, literacy, social, academic, professional and other knowledge;
- To apply results from scientific research for protecting local and global environment;
- To promote Environics as a discipline converging various subjects related to environmental sciences and human behaviour.

### Link to CEPF Investment Strategy

According to the report 'Ecosystem Profile: Western Ghats', "24.8% of total area of mist evergreen forests of Western Ghats are relatively unfragmented. 74% of these forests lie outside the protected area system." The priority sites [as mentioned in Fig. 10 and Fig. 11 of the report] are highly susceptible to the mindless industrial activities and mining projects as discussed above.

At present, the applicant is working in close association with the following groups:

1. Mines, Minerals and People
2. Nisarga, Goa
3. Tamil Nadu Green Movement
4. Wilderness Club
5. Uttakarsh Mandal, Goa
6. Kshetkari Sanghathan, Maharashtra.

## NGO forum on ADB

*A Proposal for Study of the Sipat Thermal Power Plant, Chattisgarh, India*

Climate change is today regarded as an urgent issue to be dealt at the international, national and local levels. India has also recognized the need to take urgent measures to deal with the issue and several efforts in developing technologies and market mechanisms are ongoing.





This assumes significance in view if India's path to achieve a high growth rate is heavily dependent on use of fossil fuel as well a development and expansion of extractive industries. Patently Climate unfriendly projects in the form of coal and gas fired thermal power plant and the ever expanding bauxite and iron ore mining to the forest rich and last remaining forests of the western ghats, central and eastern India undermine all other efforts. On the other hand valuable natural forests have been lost (over 25,000 Sq Km of dense forest in last two years FSI report of 2005) due to hydropower projects as well as mining.

## **Aims and Objectives**

The project aims at mainstreaming climate change concerns in environmental decision-making process in India by focusing on the Environmental Impact Assessment process (and soon to be implemented Social Impact Assessment process). The EIA process is being focused in view of the following reasons:

- The EIA is a mandatory procedure for a range of activities in order to assess in advance the environmental and social impact of a proposed project and therefore intended to guide the decision makers to make an objective decision.
- The EIA consultant is required to incorporate the real impact of the project. Unfortunately, an honest assessment rarely takes place and climate concerns and especially how the project will led to emission of Green House Gases and contribute to climate change are never accounted for.
- The EIA process allows concerned citizens, communities and others concerned groups to raise issues of concern at the time of public hearing;
- Faulty approvals can be challenged before authorities such as the National Environmental Appellate Authority and therefore a judicial forum exists for redressal of grievances.
- A proposal for Green Tribunals is being placed in the Parliament.

## **The Asia Foundation**

### **Background:**

One of the most critical issues in the politics of the South Asian region is that of shared river systems. The political boundaries of the nations were never created keeping in mind river basin integrity and therefore for many decades the sharing of international river waters has strained relations between Bangladesh, India, and Nepal. Disputes over cross-border water distribution, utilization, and management involving the upper and lower riparian states have existed since as early as 1951. The political importance given to these issues has varied due to the interplay of several factors. However, these issues are likely to take centre stage in defining inter-state relations in the South Asian region as water scarcity increases, demand for water rises, and drought and floods plague the region and exacerbate the existing issues. Furthermore, strained relations between countries due to the shared river systems are likely to be aggravated in the near future, partly because of climate change.

There have been several efforts, some more successful than the others, to deal with the issues relating to shared rivers between the countries. These include:



- Signing of *formal bilateral treaties* such as the Kosi Agreement of 1954 (between India and Nepal), the Mahakali Treaty of 1996 (between India and Nepal), and the Ganga Treaty of 1996 (between Bangladesh and India).
- Signing of *Memoranda of Understanding* and other negotiations between two countries such as the MoUs entered into by the governments of India and Bangladesh in 1977, 1982, and 1985.
- Establishment of *bilateral bodies* such as the Joint River Commission constituted by the Government of India and Bangladesh in 1972, the constitution of the India-Nepal Joint Commission in 1987, and the India-Nepal Joint Committee on Water Resources in 2000.

Bangladesh being keen to have Nepal involved in the Ganga Basin dispute (also a riparian state), India has been against this, although lately it has relented to a limited extent. International law relating to the use of international watercourses has had a limited impact in the South Asian region. The Helsinki Rules on the Uses of the Waters of International Rivers 1970 was replaced by the Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses 1997, which came into force in 2009. This Convention has been opposed by India and Pakistan, which abstained from voting on the text. However, Bangladesh and Nepal voted in favor of the text.

- There are often fundamental differences in the natural river resource endowments – for instance 92% of the Ganga River's course is in India and the remaining 8% in Bangladesh;
- There is pressure on all national governments to give highest priority to their own country's river resource requirements. There have been instances where the masses in Bangladesh and Nepal have felt that their respective governments have allowed India to 'cheat' and enjoy more than her 'equitable share';

## Aims and Objective

The project seeks to:

- Analyze existing cross-border water related agreements – formal and informal – between Bangladesh, India, and Nepal and identify common and differentiated obligations of each state;
- Identify opportunities and obstacles to access rights within the framework of the agreements as well as in the negotiation process;
- Examine and monitor the functioning of existing bilateral commissions on rivers;
- Study effective common water resource management models from other regions of the world;
- Identify new and emerging issues relating to shared river systems between the three countries especially in the context of dam construction, oil exploration, river linking and flood control – all with a view to identifying appropriate opportunities for cross-border civil society collaboration and action to catalyze national re-conceptualization of common water resource issues;
- Create a focused group of TAI partners who can address water governance issues from a cross country perspective. The identified partners (BELA in Bangladesh; Environics Trust and LIFE in India; and Pro Public in Nepal) will take the lead in engaging the state as well as informing the media and civil society groups on such issues, especially from the access rights perspective. The group as a whole will develop a strategy (based on the current TAI assessments as well as the above studies) to develop a potential campaign around emerging issues surrounding prioritized common river systems, and to use the unique opportunities available in domestic laws, justice mechanisms, and civil society mobilization to urge states to re-think current common water issues and find common solutions.



Under the present project, the following activities will be completed:

- Conduct an initial meeting of TAI Partners from Bangladesh, India, and Nepal, along with WRI, to identify key issues.
- Collate existing treaties and agreements and analyze the same, guided by existing literature.
- Publicize papers on key issues which arise in terms of access rights.
- Create an information resource hub (website) on cross-border water governance issues in focusing on these three countries. This will include copies of all agreements, important administrative and judicial decisions and minutes of meetings, as well links to other important documents/research on the topic. This will also serve as a civil society clearinghouse for cross-border water governance related issues.
- Conduct a final meeting to develop an action plan on emerging river water issues and create a TAI Platform for water governance issues in the region.



# ACCOUNTS AND FINANCES



ENVIRONICS TRUST					
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31st MARCH - 2011					
LIABILITIES	Amount Rs P	Amount Rs P	ASSETS	Amount Rs P	Amount Rs P
Capital	3073746.53				
Less :-			Fixed Assets		
Excess of expenditure over income	-912339.63	2161408.90	As per Annexure-B		1057341.00
Sundry Creditors for Expenses			CURRENT ASSETS		
Salaries	107000.00		Cash in Hand	464.00	
Oxfam India	227519.38		Cash in Hand (FCRA A/c)	618158.00	618622.00
		334519.38	CashAt Bank{ICICI Bank}		
			A/c 017101006263	268390.11	805998.28
			Cash at Bank (ICICI Bank) A/c 017101006864(FCRA)	537608.17	13967.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2495926.28</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2495926.28</b>

For ENVIRONICS TRUST

**Sd**

R.Sreedhar  
(Managing Trustee)  
Place:- New Delhi  
Date:- 12.09.2011

For B.RATTAN & ASSOCIATES

**Sd**

Chartered Accountants  
B.K. Karn  
(Partner)



ENVIRONICS TRUST					
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 <sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2010					
Particulars	Amount (Rs.P)	Amount(Rs.P)	Particulars	Amount(Rs.P)	Amount(Rs.P)
<b>Administration &amp; office Expenses</b>			<b>Funds Received During the Year</b>		
General Expenses	89852.00		PEACE- River Health Index	46550.00	
Rent	393000.00		World Wide Fund for Nature(WWF)	57290.00	
Documentation	350.00		OXFAM- Climate Change Indo Global Social Service Society	94954.00	
Printing & Stationery	4627.00		Water Aid	375000.00	
Newspaper& Periodicals	4179.00		Department of Science & Technology	231932.00	
Electricity& Water	68240.00		Donations	50000.00	
Repairs & Maintenance	187141.00	747389.00		313730.00	
<b>Communication:-</b>					<b>1169456.00</b>
Postage	473.00		<b>FCRA Receipts</b>		
Courier	1420.00		World Resource Institute	709704.20	
Telephone	122880.67		International Ban Asbestos	340671.71	
Fax/Receipt/Despatch	204.00	124977.67	Secretariat		
<b>Local Travel Allowance:-</b>			Asia Monitoring Resource Centre	359197.60	
Fuel Expenses	700.00		Terre Des Hommes(G)	694444.00	
Local Conveyance	6158.00		Oxfam India	3049600.00	
Travel Perdiems	429721.82	436579.82	Both Ends	140135.00	
<b>Professional Cost:-</b>			Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund	1569397.14	
Salaries& Benefits	535711.00		Indo Global Social Service Society	857000.00	
Audit Fees	73545.00	609256.00	NGO Forum on ADB	623720.00	
<b>Project operational Cost:-</b>			Oxfam America	1762000.00	
DST/J&K/URI	32006.00		Asia Foundation	667500.00	<b>10773369.65</b>
Panna	5000.00		Bank Interest		<b>46845.00</b>
Gujarat-ONGC	130059.00		Interst on Tax Deducted at Source		<b>24034.00</b>
oxfam	333248.43	500313.43	Excess of expenditure over income		<b>912337.63</b>
		<b>2418515.92</b>			<b>12926042.28</b>
Workshop Expenses		20660.00			
Insurance		67683.00			
City Makers Caravan Expenses		193415.00			
Bank charges		359.00			
Depreciation as per Schedule A		198755.00			
<b>FCRA Payments</b>					





World Resource Institute	1511463.15			
International Ban				
Asbestos	134275.71			
Secretariat				
Asia Monitoring Resource				
Centre	359197.60			
Terre Des Hommes(G)	824524.00			
Oxfam India	3049397.00			
Both Ends	140135.00			
Critical Ecosystems				
Partnership Fund	1532236.90			
Indo Global Social Service				
Society	857000.00			
NGO Forum on ADB	623720.00			
Oxfam America	730107.00			
Asia Foundation	264600.00	10026656.36		
		<b>12926042.28</b>		<b>12926042.28</b>

For ENVIRONICS TRUST

**Sd**

R.Sreedhar  
(Managing Trustee)

Place:- New Delhi

Date:- 12.09.2011

For B.RATTAN & ASSOCIATES

**Sd**

Chartered Accountants

B.K. Karn

(Partner)



Environics Trust					
Receipt & Payment Account for The Period 1 <sup>st</sup> April – 2010 To 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2011					
RECEIPT	Amount	Amount	PAYMENT	Amount	Amount
<b>Opening Balances:-</b>			<b>Administration &amp; office Expenses</b>		<b>Rs P</b>
Cash In Hand	60307.80		General Expenses	89852.00	
Cash At Bank(ICICI Bank)	160587.33		Rent	393000.00	
A/c No 017101006263			Documentation	350.00	
Cash at Bank(ICICI Bank)	1755286.15		Printing & Stationery	4627.00	
A/c No 017101006864		1976181.28	Newspaper& Periodicals	4179.00	
<b>Funds Received During the Year</b>			Electricity& Water	68240.00	
PEACE-River Health Index	46550.00		Repairs & Maintenance	187141.00	749889.00
World Wide Fund For Nature	57290.00		<b>Communication:-</b>	747389.00	
Oxfam-Climate Change	94954.00		Postage	473.00	
Indo Global Social Service Society	375000.00		Courier	1420.00	
Water Aid	231932.00		Telephone	122880.67	
Department of Science & Technology	50000.00		Fax/Receipt/Despatch	204.00	124977.67
Donation	275500.00	1131226.00	<b>Local Travel Allowance:-</b>		
<b>FCRA Receipts</b>			Fuel Expenses	700.00	
World Resource Institute	709704.20		Local Conveyance	6158.00	6858.00
International Ban Asbestos	340671.71		Travel Perdiems		429721.82
Secrertariat			<b>Professional Cost:-</b>		
Asia Monitoring Resource Centre	359197.60		Salaries	476691.00	
Terre Des Hommes(G)	694444.00		Audit Fees	104090.00	580781.00
Oxfam India	3049600.00		<b>Project operational Cost:-</b>		
Both Ends	140135.00		DST/J&K/URI	32006.00	
Critical Ecosystems			Panna	5000.00	
Partnership Fund	1569397.14		Gujarat-ONGC	130059.00	
Indo Global Social Service Society	857000.00		oxfam	293747.80	460812.80
NGO Forum on ADB	623720.00		<b>ASSETS:-</b>	460812.80	
Oxfam America	1762000.00		Lab Equipments/DST		227000.00
Asia Foundation	667500.00		Car		48415.00
<b>Project Operational Cost:-</b>		10773369.65	Workshop Expenses		20660.00
Dehradun		13477.00	Insurance		67683.00
Gujarat		68323.00	City Makers Caravan Expenses		193415.00
Bank Interest		46845.00	<b>FCRA Payments</b>		
TDS returns		248487.00	World Resource Institute		1511463.15
Insurance Claims		103940.00	International Ban		
			Asbestos		134275.71
			Secrertariat		



			Asia Monitoring Resource Centre		359197.60
			Terre Des Hommes(G)		824524.00
			Oxfam India		3049397.00
			Both Ends		140135.00
			Critical Ecosystems		1532236.90
			Partnership Fund		857000.00
			Indo Global Social Service Society		623720.00
			NGO Forum on ADB		730107.00
			Oxfam America		264600.00
			Asia Foundation		
			Project operational costs		
			Bank charges		359.00
			Bank Charges		
			<b>Closing Balances:-</b>		
			Cash in Hand	464.00	618622.00
			Cash In Bank(ICICI Bank)		268390.11
			<b>A/c 017101006263</b>	618158.00	
			Cash in Hand		
			CashAt Bank(ICICI Bank)		
			<b>A/c 017101006864(FCRA)</b>		537608.17
		<b>14361848.93</b>			<b>14361848.93</b>

E NVIRONICS TRUST	
CURRENT LIABILITIES- ANNEXURE -A	
Sundry Creditors for Expenses:- 31.03.2011	Amount(Rs.P)
Salaries Payable	107000.00
Travel Expenses(Oxfam India)	227519.38
Total	334519.38

For ENVIRONICS TRUST

**Sd**

R.Sreedhar  
(Managing Trustee)  
Place:- New  
Delhi  
Date:-  
12.09.2011

For B.RATTAN & ASSOCIATES

**Sd**

Chartered Accountants  
B.K. Karn  
(Partner)



## Board Members

Name – R. Sreedhar

Post – Managing Trustee

Gender - Male

Age – 56 Years



R.Sreedhar is a Geologist from University of Roorkee (1979) IIT Roorkee. After his Masters he was researching on mineralogy and petrology at the Department of Metallurgy. He was selected to work with all the major national exploration organizations. He worked with mainstream exploration organisations, Atomic Minerals Divisions, Department of Atomic Energy and later with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. In 1985 he moved out to begin working with communities on environmental and alternate technology issues, establishing the Environmental Systems Branch of Development Alternatives, New Delhi.

He has been actively involved in institutional and network development, research, implementation of alternate technologies and providing techno-legal support for Human Rights and Environmental Litigations. Over the past three decades, he co-founded and nurtured several groups and institutions broadly addressing issues of community development - TARU ('91) - a leading Development Research group, the Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change ('94) – amongst the oldest network on Climate Change in India, the BCIL ('95)– country's biggest green building company, mines minerals and PEOPLE ('99) – the largest alliance of mining affected communities, Environics Trust ('03) the EIA Resource and Response Centre ('08) and the Mojolab Foundation (2012).

Currently he is the Managing Trustee of the Trust; Chairperson of mm&P; Mentor at BCIL and an Advisor to the CSR Centre of Excellence at MEC, Mysore University.



## Board Members

Name: Nishant Alag

Post: President

Gender: Male

Age – 36 years



Nishant Alag studied the discipline of planning - graduated with Urban and Regional Planning from GNDU, Amritsar and post graduated in Environmental Planner from the Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology Ahmadabad. The initial period of travelling and working in the Himalayas over a variety of issues provided a much required need to look at similar contexts in other geographical regions. He has been working for over a decade on issues of community based planning and information management. He has contributed extensively to environmental impact review and trained communities on issues of mining and environmental legislation.



# Environics Trust – the Evolution

---

Years of work in the mountain areas and demand for action elsewhere has enabled us to evolve into the Environics Trust with the following objectives:

- ❖ To conduct research and development on environmental issues and human behavioural aspects;
- ❖ To implement programmes for community development;
- ❖ To promote art and culture, innovate and implement technical and institutional designs for an integrated development of the society;
- ❖ To assist, guide local governments, state and central government and international agencies in their development efforts;
- ❖ To provide assistance to communities to redress injustices and uphold their rights;
- ❖ To diffuse useful, educational, literacy, social, academic, professional and other knowledge;
- ❖ To apply results from scientific research for protecting local and global environment;
- ❖ To promote Environics as a discipline converging various subjects related to environmental sciences and human behaviour.



---

## **Environics Trust**

Khasra no. 177, Shokeen Market, Neb Sarai,  
Main IGNOU Road, New Delhi- 110068  
Telefax - 91-11-2953 1814, 3957  
Email - [environics@gmail.com](mailto:environics@gmail.com)  
Web – [www.environicsindia.in](http://www.environicsindia.in)

