



Final Report

Project

Meri Beat Mera Abhimaan, Kuno National Park

Supported by



In Association with



Reporting Period

April 2023

Submitted by



Project Team

Vidya Venkatesh, Gaurav Shirodkar, Indrabhan Singh Bundela and Shyambihari Yadav

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Project Details

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Report author:	Gaurav Shirodkar, Rishika Dubla	Project Sponsor:	Dalmia Charitable Trust



Last Wilderness Foundation, in association with the Kuno National Park, successfully completed a three day interactive workshop and a field visit, aimed at improving interpersonal skills and imparting necessary Human Resource Training through an unique program named 'Meri Beat Mera Abhimaan'. The program is designed and developed by the LWF team keeping in mind the need for stronger interpersonal relationships between the Forest Department ground staff and the villagers. The program aims towards building a sense of pride and affection, within the ground staff towards their beat, its villagers and vice versa.

LWF has taken help from professional HRD trainers, namely Sunitha and Harish, who are experienced in understanding the needs of human resources and developing the necessary Learning & Development training programmes.

The participants for the MBMA workshop included the Beat Guard's and Deputy Range Officers from Agra range, Dhoret Range, Sironi North Range and Moravan West Range of the Kuno National Park and the pilot module aims to achieve the following with the participants.

1. Skill Development – listening skills, communication and problem solving
2. Behavior Change – attitude, approach
3. Capacity Building – conducting meetings, strengthening relationships
4. Teamwork – inter-department, intra-department and with villagers

The workshop saw a participation of over 20 participants, including Beat Guards, Deputy Range Officers from Agra range, Dhoret Range, Sironi North Range and Moravan West Range of the Kuno National Park. Range Forest Officers from the mentioned ranges and various other ranges in the Park also made their presence and addressed the participants.

We express our sincere thanks to SDO, Mr Amit Rathore sir for attending the workshop as and when possible, and also addressing and motivating the participants.



We are especially thankful to Mr Nikileash Sharma RFO Agra Range for all his support through the planning and execution of the Program. His presence and participation throughout the workshop was motivating for the participants.



Special thanks to the DFO, Kuno National Park, Mr Prakash Varma sir, for attending the workshop between his extremely busy schedule. He not only attended the workshop but also gave a wonderful address to the participants. His presence and his address was motivating not only for the forest staff but also the LWF team.



During the 3 days of the workshop, the trainers helped the participants to;

Break Ice within the group, and know each other better;



Helps draw out the values/beliefs that have shaped their lives that impact their work;



Discusses and shares the purpose of their current role as they see it;



The current state of their role/job and the future state that they desire;



Draw out the aspects / behaviors that will positively impact their communication;



Have a deeper understand of the Domain Knowledge;



Bring out the critical aspect of Trust. Discuss how it works in their daily life? And all this as we all played and enjoyed.



And understanding and answering the questions such as - Who are my stakeholders? What is the level of trust required to work successfully with each of them? What are the current levels of trust.? What should I do to enhance trust?



Impact

- A general change in the **attitude** of the attendees was noticed towards their motivation to do their roles and overall confidence.
- In particular, it was noted that at the beginning of the workshop, a few guards were not as confident to speak in public or engage. However, after the program, there was a distinct difference noticed in the **confidence** they had to be able to express themselves, especially after they had been provided the tools and language that could be used to have more **effective communication**.

- Guards were increasingly **enthused regarding their roles** as protectors of the forest and felt they were **better equipped** to address several on-ground issues, particularly in engaging with other stakeholders.



Future Plans:

- Maintain regular communication with the attendees to ensure that they retain their enthusiasm and the knowledge gained over the next year.
- Expand the program to other ranges and based on the success of the program after monitoring, replication in other tiger reserves.
- Continue hand holding the forest guards for a period of one year and work towards conducting theme based EDC meetings regularly.
- The dynamic annual theme chart, collated as per inputs from the forest guards is attached here as an appendix, and will be updated as we go ahead.

Appendix

A] November - January

1. Fire prevention – आग की रोकथाम
2. Cattle grazing alternatives - मवेशी चराने के विकल्प
3. Claims & compensation - मुआवजा
4. Water solutions - पानी के उपाय
5. Mahua season preparations - महुआ सीजन की तैयारी

B] February - April

1. Monsoon season preparations - मानसून सीजन की तैयारी
2. Education / School + Documentation for admissions - शिक्षा / स्कूल + प्रवेश के लिए दस्तावेज
3. Restoration + Afforestation - बहाली + वनीकरण
4. Grazing camps - prevention - चराई शिविर - रोकथाम
5. Health - स्वास्थ्य
6. Veterinary topics - पशु चिकित्सा विषय
7. Encroachment - अतिक्रमण
8. Water Resource management - जल संसाधन प्रबंधन

C] May - July

1. Firewood alternatives - जलाऊ लकड़ी के विकल्प
2. Crop raiding solution - फसल नुकसानी के उपाय
3. Anti-Poaching - अवैध शिकार
4. Networking & Information gathering - नेटवर्किंग और सूचना एकत्र करना

D] August - October

1. Electric wire protection - बिजली के तार की सुरक्षा
2. Active crop raiding - फसल नुकसानी
3. Livelihoods - आजीविका
4. Waterhole protection - वाटरहोल सुरक्षा



The programme will include a year-long engagement with the forest department staff at the Beat Level along with the Ranger, implementing various conceptual and practical modules through activities.

***** REPORT END *****