

ODAM¹

Region: Asia

Country: India

Crop/Feedstock: Prosopis juliflora

Practices: Improved cookstoves; Training and education programmes;
Gender-related policies and programmes

Issues: Local Food Security; Community Development; Gender Equity

Based in Tiruchuli, Tamil Nadu, the Organization of Development, Action, and Maintenance (ODAM) works to address rural poverty, women's empowerment, child welfare, climate change, and human rights to education, health, and safety. Since 1996, ODAM's female empowerment and rural development programmes have improved the quality of life for thousands of women and their families in Tamil Nadu, India. ODAM's holistic approach to community development and poverty alleviation has made it an effective and invaluable ally for South Indian village communities. ODAM was established in 1995 under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act of 1975. The organization's work is spread across 278 villages, impacting over 14 000 men, women, and children in the Tiruchuli, Narikudi, Kariyapatti, Aruppukottai and Watrap blocks of the Virudhunagar district; and Kamuthi, Mandapam and Thiruppullani blocks in the Ramnad district of Tamil Nadu, South India.

Issue: Community Development

Practice(s): Training and education programmes (TE)

The project area (Thiruchuli, Tamil Nadu, India) is covered by an invasive fuelwood species known as prosopis juliflora. The aim of the project is to remove prosopis from common land areas, e.g. around communal irrigation tanks where the crop is choking water supplies, and use it as a cooking fuel combined with energy efficient cookstoves. The land from which the project will source the prosopis is not accessible to the community for agricultural production and other uses. By clearing the invasive species, the project will open up the land to other uses.

Issue(s): Local Food Security

Practice(s): Improved cookstoves (IC)

The project aims to clear prosopis away from the irrigation tanks of the community. With better water flow and irrigation access, food security will be enhanced through potential higher yields and the ability to grow agricultural products in areas previously unsuitable. ODAM is providing the community with efficient cookstoves to burn the prosopis.

Issue(s): Gender Equity

Practice(s): Gender-related policies and programmes (GP)

The CDM credit revenues, as a result of reduced emissions from the use of efficient cookstoves, following subtraction of administration costs and cost of cookstoves, will be transferred to the landless female labourers who will use the cookstoves.

Challenges

The main challenges to date have been motivating and training women to use the cookstoves consistently and shift away from kerosene. Another significant challenge has been the registration and verification costs to achieve CDM credits.



¹ The information included in this document is based on information provided directly by the producer, which was not verified by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)