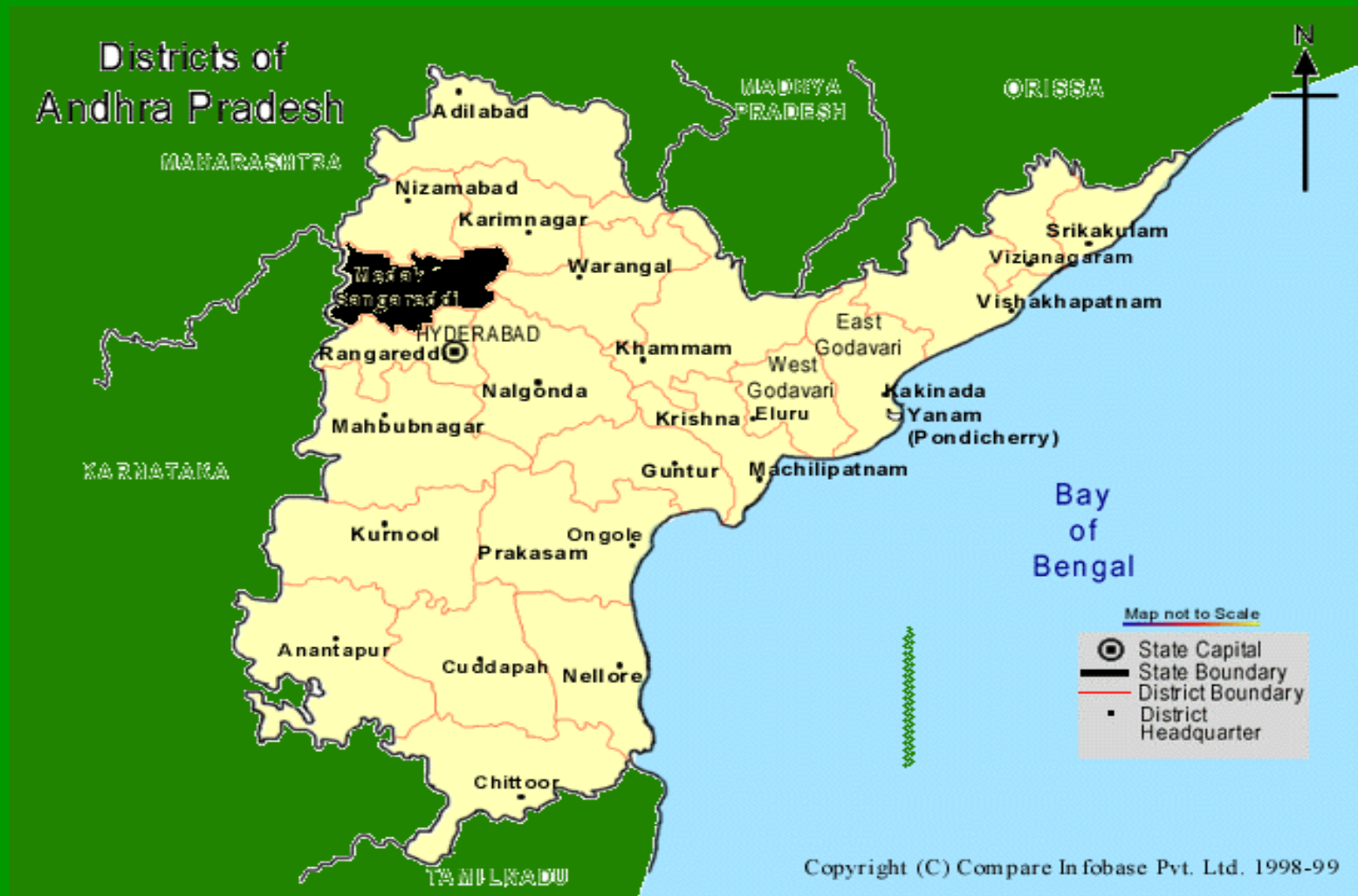


Deccan Development Society



DECCAN DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY



- Network of Women's *Sanghams* in 75 villages; 5000
- Poorest of the poor
- Mostly dalits
- *Feudal past*
- *Multiple jeopardy*

Deccan Development Society



Consolidating village groups into vibrant organs of primary local self governance

Federate into a strong pressure lobby for women, poor & dalits

DDS : THE EVOLUTION



- Participatory processes
- Insider solutions
- Women's perspectives
- Dalit perspectives

DDS : THE EVOLUTION



- *From meeting the simple sustenance needs of members to empowering them to address larger issues of food security, natural resource enhancement, education and health needs of the region.*

CURRENT GOALS



Cycle of autonomies

- Autonomy over food production
- Autonomy over seeds
- Autonomy over natural resources
- Autonomous market

CURRENT GOALS



AUTONOMY OVER
MEDIA

Autonomous food & farming



- Confront Marginalisation
- Define Subsistence Vision
- Enhance ecological sustainability
- No-irrigation crops



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Seed
Sovereignty

SEED SOVEREIGNTY



- *EVERY FARMER HAS OWN SEEDS AT HOME*
- *WORKS WITH OVER 15 VARIETIES*

SEED SOVEREIGNTY

- *OVER 100 VILLAGES ESTABLISH OWN SEED BANKS: COMMUNITY GENE FUND; NO NEED FOR OUTSIDE SEEDS*
- *SUPPLIES UNAVAILABLE VARIETIES*
- *CAN SUPPLY SEEDS FOR ADDL 100 ACRES IN EVERY VILLAGE*
- *STORES FOR FUTURE*

ECOLOGICAL FARMING



DIVERSE, RAINFED, NO EXTERNAL INPUT

**OUR CROPS
OUR
KNOWLEDGE**



**WOMEN LED
FARMING**

**WE WILL
PRODUCE
FOR
OURSELVES**



OUR KNOWLEDGE CAN FEED US





LOCAL PRODUCTION, STORAGE, DISTRIBUTION



Community Food Sovereignty

- Over 5000 acres under the community PDS
- Every season nearly 2,500,000 kgs of grains produced
- 10,000 community ration cards
- 50,000 people benefit from low priced, high nutritious local grains

Community Food Sovereignty

- State PDS constantly collapses
- 65 million tonnes of foodgrains rot in state warehouses
- In last ten years food production went up in South Asia by 9%; so did the hungry people
- Problem decoupled from food production

Community Food Sovereignty



- Decentralised management
- Women's committees
- Women rise from the status of receivers of food to providers of food

SELF PROVISIONING COMMUNITIES

- 77 COMMUNITIES PRODUCE ALL THE FOOD & FODDER THEY NEED
- PROVIDE FOR THE LANDLESS, POOR AND THE DESTITUTE
- CREATE A SELF PERPETUATING *COMMUNITY GRAIN FUND*
- GENERATE FODDER, LIVELIHOODS AND MULTIPLE SECURITY

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

*INDIRECTLY WORK
WITH OVER 1000
COMMUNITIES*



BIODIVERSITY FESTIVALS *CELEBRATORY CULTURAL CAMPAIGN*





BIO DIVERSITY FESTIVALS

*DIALOGUED WITH OVER
200,000 FARMERS*



BIO DIVERSITY FESTIVALS

*CREATES THE FIRST
PLAN ON AGRO
BIODIVERSITY
FOR NBSAP*



Local Institutions

- Village level APDS committees
- Seed Keepers Association
- Watershed committees; medicinal plant and afforestation committees
- Sanghams
- Sangham Federation
- Market Committee
- Communiy Media Trust

Autonomous Media



- Since 1995
- Working with non literate rural women
- Offering another possibility of articulation

Community Media Trust

Mandated metaphorically to hand over microphones and cameras to marginalised rural women to produce their own images and voices and contribute an authenticity to the media scene dominated by commercial and political interests whose agendas work in direct conflict with the interests of marginalised communities.

Community Media Trust



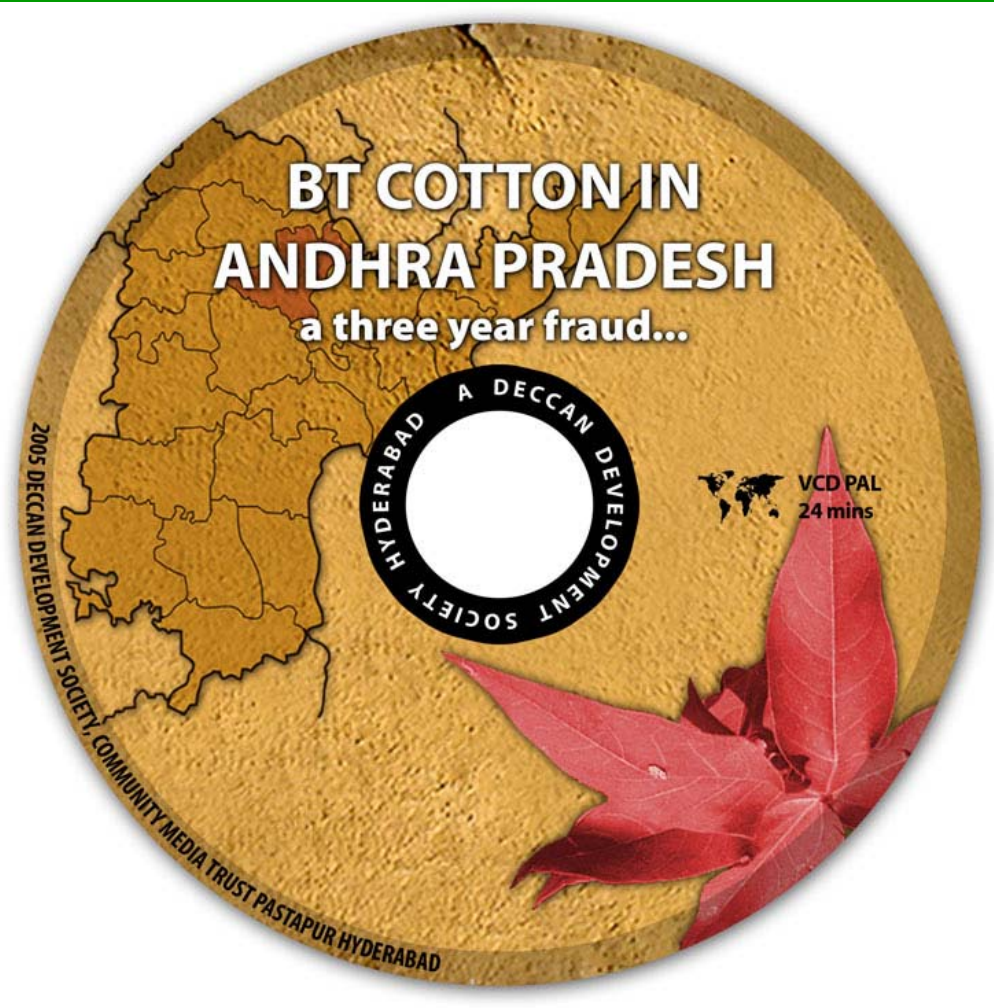
- Make films on others like them
- Train sisters in their immediate & distant neighbourhoods

Community Media Trust



Travel to Peru,
Canada, Cambodia,
Kenya, all parts of
South Asia to make
films on Ecological
living

Community Media Trust



- Influencing policy makers
- Films worldover
French; English;
Spanish; Swahili; Thai
- Building global
direct dialogue
between farmers

NETWORKS

- *APCID*: AP Coalition in
Defence of Diversity
- *APAFS*: AP Alliance for Food
Sovereignty
- **All in Andhra Pradesh**

NETWORKS

- *SANFEC* : South Asia Network
for Food, Ecology and
Culture
- *BASA – ASIA*
Biodiversity Action for
Sustainable Agriculture, Asia

Local Institutions

- **Redefine**
 - Gender
 - Marginalisation
 - Sustainability
 - Governance
 - MDG