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Performance of North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project for Upland Areas (NERCORMP) in Assam – A Study Based on Respondents' Perspective

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ABSTRACT North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project for upland Areas (NERCORMP) is standing as an important livelihood management project in North Eastern Region of India under International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and North Eastern Council, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Government of India. Present study was conducted in order to see the performance of NERCORMP based on respondents' perception during 2014-15. Study showed that because of NERCORMP intervention, income and expenditure for beneficiary respondents remained much higher than non-beneficiary respondents considered from adjoining non-project villages. After exposure with various project components people in the study area were seen to change their cropping pattern in order to increase their income. Although "shifting cultivation" is considered as one of the most common livelihood management option, area under it declined over the years. Not only that, beneficiary respondent showed more interest on cultivation of many other plantation crops in project areas. Performance was more visible in respect of calculation of six different types of asset. These assets were calculated based on various statements prepared for each type of asset. So far from the respondents' direct perception about the project, it can be calculated that by and large beneficiaries were satisfied for most of the project activities except a few. Most of the beneficiaries referred that their income, saving, expenditure were increased because of project intervention and on the other hand their liability declined.