CHAPTER V
SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Non governmental organizations are ideologically disposed and administratively flexible to work with the poorest communities in marginal areas and they are in a highly advantageous position to enlist the people’s participation as these organizations are at the disposal of people and they do not have fixed rules and regulations regarding their work in contrast to highly bureaucratic and administrative set up in government organizations. There is a wide spread agreement among development practitioners, government officials and foreign donors that non governmental organizations play an important role in alleviating the rural poverty in India. It is being realized that for increasing coverage of farm families and efficiency of extension services, efforts of non governmental organizations need to be dovetailed for planning and implementing agricultural extension programmes. The present study with this background was undertaken to assess the performance of NGO in rural development, methodologies followed in formulation and execution of programmes by NGO, extent of coordination with development departments and socio personal characteristics of the beneficiaries of the NGO. Specific objectives of this study are as follows:

To study the genesis, objectives and mission of Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation (BAIF) NGO.
To identify various rural development programmes and their components undertaken by BAIF organization.

To analyse the approaches followed in programme planning, implementation and monitoring of rural development programmes by the BAIF organization.

To measure the impact in terms of changes in socio economic and personal profile of beneficiaries against non-beneficiaries of BAIF programmes.

To study the nature and extent of involvement of development department with BAIF NGO in all stages of programme execution.

To analyse the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats with BAIF NGO in its modus operandus.

The present study was carried out under "Ex-post-facto" research design during 2002-05 in Dharwad district of Karnataka state. The district was purposively selected as the BIRD - K had implemented more number of agricultural and rural development programmes with enough resources and time and the involvement of more number of technical staff and development departments and other agencies.

The BIRD-K NGO working in four taluks of Dharwad district with majority of agricultural and rural development programmes in two taluks namely Hubli and Kalaghatagi. These two taluks were selected after consulting with the statisticians keeping the criteria
namely, highest number of agricultural programmes carried out and highest number of beneficiaries covered. Twenty two villages were selected from each of the selected two taluks, on the criteria of highest number of beneficiaries, totaling to 22 villages thus formed the sample area for the study. From the beneficiaries list so prepared for all the selected 22 villages, the beneficiary respondents were selected according to the criteria like, they should have at least minimum of one standard acre of land, they should be practicing farmers and have sufficient knowledge of activities of BIRD-K NGO. Ten beneficiary respondents were selected from each of the selected villages, thus two taluks, 22 villages and 220 beneficiary respondents formed the sample of respondents for the study.

A pretested interview schedule was used to collect the data from beneficiaries by personal interview method. But for collecting the required and necessary information from NGO- BIRD-K, a specially designed questionnaire was prepared after thorough discussion with social scientists and subject matter specialists and the same was used through mail and also by personal interview for left out required information. The statistical tools and tests used for the study were frequency and percentage.

The findings of the study are as follows:

1. The NGO, BIRD-K Dharwad carried out programme on dryland agriculture, natural farming, watershed and wasteland development
and trainings exclusively on agriculture and these programmes benefited greater segment of farmers. It also carried out other programmes like community organizing, health education, development education, educational and exposure trips, environmental awareness programmes, development of rural industries for income generating activities and trainings for human resource development, for more than 15,000 beneficiaries.

2. Integrated development of micro catchment areas and fodder and forestry projects were the other agricultural programmes carried out by BIRD-K. The programmes like ecology and environment programmes and technology demonstration programmes were also implemented to help more then 100 farm families of 25 villages.

3. BIRD-K implemented dryland agriculture, dryland horticulture, watershed development and foot march agriculture awareness programmes. The other community development programmes like community organizing, health education, water supply, environment and sanitation, family welfare, wool spinning and weaving and gram nairmalya were carried out for rural beneficiaries.

4. The agricultural programmes like dry farming, watershed management and bio-intensive gardening were also implemented by BIRD-K. Other programmes for women included health, socio-
economic and environment development, Indira Mahila Yojana and womens reproductive health programmes to benefit rural people.

5. The results pertaining to methodology followed in the planning and implementation of NGOs programmes showed that the maximum involvement of beneficiaries was found in the process of identification of problem, fixing priorities, search of alternate solution, preparation of plan of action, responsibility of arranging required material, and resources and in the final execution of programme, however the staff of NGO found assisting the beneficiaries with required support, guidance and monitoring activities. The technical information was sought from technical staff of NGO, development departments and at times from scientists of agricultural universities. The financial support for all the NGO was from sponsoring agencies and governments. The evaluation was done by some external agencies or sponsoring agencies or by NGO itself but the follow up activities were invariably by the NGO only with the kind support of local bodies.

6. Majority (more than 50 %) of the beneficiaries of agricultural programmes learnt improved methods of cultivation of crops, got their lands developed, got increased yields by adopting improved and high yielding varieties and also got inputs on subsidized rates.

7. Majority (more than 50 %) of the beneficiaries of horticultural programmes got horticultural seedlings free of cost, got encouraged
to plant fruit trees and also increased their net area under cultivation.

8. Majority (More than 50 %) of the beneficiaries of forestry programmes got help in supply of forest tree species at concessional rates which and to utilize barren/fallow lands for developmental activities and also got technical guidance for taking up agro-forestry.

9. Majority (more than 50 %) of the beneficiaries got timely supply of animal feeds and medicines and also got technical guidance for animal rearing.

10. From the other programmes, majority (more than 50 %) of the beneficiaries got encouraged for harmonious living with others, helped them to identify and solve their problems, became aware of use of locally available raw materials, learnt importance of good health, cleanliness and children education, were able to start their own enterprise and most of them got employed in the programmes of NGO.

11. NGO involved department of agriculture in getting technical guidance and material inputs during programme initiation, development and execution, always or sometimes or during problem period. They also involved department of horticulture in the same way as that of department of agriculture.
12. NGO involved department of forest always during execution of forestry programmes and during problem period at initiation stages to seeking technical guidance, input materials and also for financial assistance. NGO also involved other social welfare departments sometimes during initiation of programmes for financial assistance.

13. NGO involved the department of health sometimes during initiation and execution of health programmes for technical advise and material inputs. NGO also involved banks sometimes during development and execution of programmes for technical and financial assistance.

14. NGO found collaborated with other NGOs during all the stages of programme planning and implementation for technical support and input materials. NGO also coordinated with Yuvak mandals, Mahila mandals and Panchayaths always during programme development, execution, evaluation and follow up period for technical advise, material inputs and also for financial assistance and man power.

15. Majority (66 %) of the beneficiaries were of middle aged and (40.4 %) had primary and middle school education followed by 22.8 per cent young aged and 28.8 per cent had high school education.

16. Majority (66.8 %) of the beneficiaries belonged to joint family with (58.4 %) 5-8 members family size. 39 per cent of the beneficiaries had bigger lands of above 10 acres 32 per cent had medium sized
lands of 5-10 acres and 29 per cent had small to marginal lands up to 5 acres.

17. Majority (60 %) of the beneficiaries belonged to forward communities, followed by 40 per cent to backward communities. The subsidiary occupations of the beneficiaries were dairy, sheep rearing, petty business, government service, poultry, tailoring, carpentry and pottery in that order.

18. About 10 per cent of the beneficiaries possessed improved iron ploughs and iron harrows, 28 per cent possessed sprayers and dusters and pump sets were possessed by 23 per cent of the beneficiaries. Bullock carts were possessed by 45 per cent of the beneficiaries, 53.6 per cent possessed one pair of bullock and 23.2 per cent possessed one buffalo with them. Cows numbering 1-4 were possessed by 71.2 per cent, 6 per cent had 11 to 20 sheep’s, 17 per cent had 1-4 poultry birds and 1-4 goats were possessed by 13.2 per cent of the beneficiaries.

19. The contact of agricultural assistant with beneficiaries was 26.4 per cent once in fortnight and 25.6 per cent whenever problem aroused and 11.6 per cent of beneficiaries had no contact with agricultural assistant. Majority (more than 75 %) of the beneficiaries had no contact with agricultural officer, scientists of UAS/ICAR, assistant agricultural officers and horticultural officers. Nearly 50 per cent of
the beneficiaries had contact with officers of banks, officers of forest department and veterinary doctors whenever they had problems.

20. The participation of beneficiaries in extension activities organised by government departments and other organizations was as follows, 12 per cent in agricultural training and 13 per cent in subsidiary occupations trainings and demonstrations. For field visits about 18 per cent of the beneficiaries participated and about 11 per cent participated in educational tours conducted by other agencies. Nearly 50 per cent of the beneficiaries participated in the group meetings of the respective villages.

21. A significant proportion (72.4 %) of the beneficiaries possessed radio sets but 33.6 per cent possessed television sets and 24 per cent were newspaper subscribers. More than 50 per cent of beneficiaries were regular listeners of general programmes and occasional listeners of agricultural programmes. Majority (43.2 %) of the beneficiaries were occasional viewers of agricultural programmes but 36.4 per cent were regular viewers of general programmes. Majority (48.8 %) of the beneficiaries were regular readers of newspapers. Among non possessors of mass media, majority around 50 per cent were occasional listeners to radio, occasional viewers to television and occasional newspaper readers.
IMPLICATIONS

The implications based on the findings of the current investigation are as follows:

1. Since the findings of the study pointed out that there is scope for improvement in the economic spheres and in turn towards agricultural development, government should encourage and nourish local NGOs and invite them to involve themselves in all the government sponsored agricultural programmes, which is the only way for getting maximum peoples participations and success of government agricultural programmes. The NGOs have done commendable job in the welfare activities for changing the situations and now there is a lot of scope for taking up productive and developmental programmes and hence the scope for initiating increased number of agricultural programmes by the NGOs.

2. For promotion of rural development, the government should identify those NGOs which have maximum agriculture work experience and more time and resource allocation to agriculture and allied exclusively for efficacy in reaching more number of farm families. Assignment of the tasks should be done keeping in view the need, experience, size, resources and coverage of the NGOs. NGOs were found to be greatly successful in motivating and mobilizing the farmers to participate in agriculture development.
programmes. Hence, they could be better utilized in launching such programmes which require peoples participation.

3. Planning and programming of change in the rural occupation sector is the responsibility of government organization. To avoid duplication or ambiguity among NGOs and government actions, this planning should be built on a dialogue between NGOs and local level government organizations with the involvement of more and more number of progressive, village people. This is best initiated by government organizations, given their axial administrative role resulting in projects and programmes adequately addressing the needs of rural poor.

4. Though women were involved in 50 to 60 per cent of family responsibility work, their efforts were unnoticed and neglected hitherto by extension system. As NGOs were found to be encouraging women to take up additional responsibility through involving them in income generating activities to support their family with additional income, NGOs should be taken in to confidence for involving women in decision making and accepting of challenges with required rights for overall integrated development.
5. NGOs are better oriented to enlist people's participation as they also have necessary skills and patience to work with them. They could play a crucial and unique role in organizing, educating, conscientising and motivating local villagers mediating between them and the government officials concerned and serving as public interest “Watch dogs”. They are better than government agencies to train people and thereby to empower them to identify their problems and resolve them on their own eventually.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH WORK

An attempt has been made through the present investigation to study the performance of NGOs, methodology followed for programme planning and execution, co-ordination with development departments and other agencies and also the impact of NGOs programme activities on beneficiaries knowledge and economic benefits derived. But the study has been limited to the BIRD-K NGO. Therefore, it is suggested that further investigation may be taken up in all the districts of the Karnataka state and also in all the state of the country. The autonomous NGOs, local voluntary, FEVORD-K unregistered NGOs are to be studied to make valid generalizations regarding knowledge, attitude and benefits derived by the beneficiaries and the programme planning, co-ordination and programme components of NGOs, which could be of
immense significance in inviting NGOs and partners of all the extension
programmes of the government.

The independent variables included in the present study did not
explain any variation with respect to personal socio and economic traits
with non beneficiaries of NGO, but have explained the type and
personality characters of the beneficiaries. Therefore, studies with some
other independent variables are needed so as to arrive at concrete
conclusion.