Sustainable Management of Agro-ecological Resources for Tribal Societies 2 - SMARTS2
Call: Food Security and Land Use Change
Type of Project: Type 1 - Short-term Community Building Project
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This project will demonstrate how conservation agriculture, technology, and fore-knowledge of climate variation (e.g. water availability) can be integrated with small landholder farmers' existing knowledge and behaviors to increase adaptation to climate change. With better understanding of behavior, we will have greater adoption of conservation agricultural production systems that are resilient to climate change and provide rural farmers with tools for self-reliance. By understanding how farmer decisions are currently made (through cognitive mapping) and by understanding market conditions and current environmental conditions, we can develop community-based farming programs that are less environmentally disruptive than traditional rural agricultural development programs, provide greater real-time feedback of market conditions, and which are sufficient to change behavior that increases environmental stewardship, market stability, and ultimately food security. The consortium has expertise in plant scientists to understand environmental conditions on production, economists to understand market conditions, social scientists to understand cognitive condition, as well as on-the-ground research support in India. By targeting risk tolerant communities, we will increase adoption of climate smart technology using a community-based engagement model.