



Artisans Coached on Habitat Technologies

Development Alternatives (DA) conducted two training workshops, 'Adaptation of New/Existing Technologies: CSEB and Concrete Block Production Training' and 'Adaptation of New/ Existing Technologies: Pine Shingle, Timber Trusses and Timber Treatment Training' from 26th to 29th March and 2nd to 7th April 2018, in Kamad Village (Dunda Block, Uttarkashi District) and Forest Research Institute Campus (Dehradun, Uttarakhand), respectively. These were organised as part of the 'Technology Intervention for Mountain Ecosystem: Livelihood Enhancement through Action Research & Networking (TIMELEARN)' programme funded by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, in partnership with Himalayan Environment Studies and Conservation Organisation (HESCO). The trainings were held with the purpose of production of disaster resistant construction technologies – both developing new innovations and adaptation of already identified technologies. These were conducted for 55 trainees (of whom 15 were males and 40 females) by Pankaj Khanna (Consultant), Eesha Bajaj (Fellow) and Ramanand (Technician – Building Materials) from the Development Alternatives Group; and for 12 trainees by five scientists from Forest Research Institute (FRI), respectively. The trainees' eligibility for the programme relied on a selection process that included a detailed assessment of the artisans and their skills, followed by a registration process, by the project team. The trainings - conducted under the project 'Delivery Model for Eco-Friendly Multi-Hazard Resistant Construction Technologies and Habitat Solutions in Uttarakhand' - comprised of exposure to a new type of walling technology - Cement Stabilised Earth Block (CSEB) and Concrete Block in the first, and timber-based walling and roofing technology in the second.