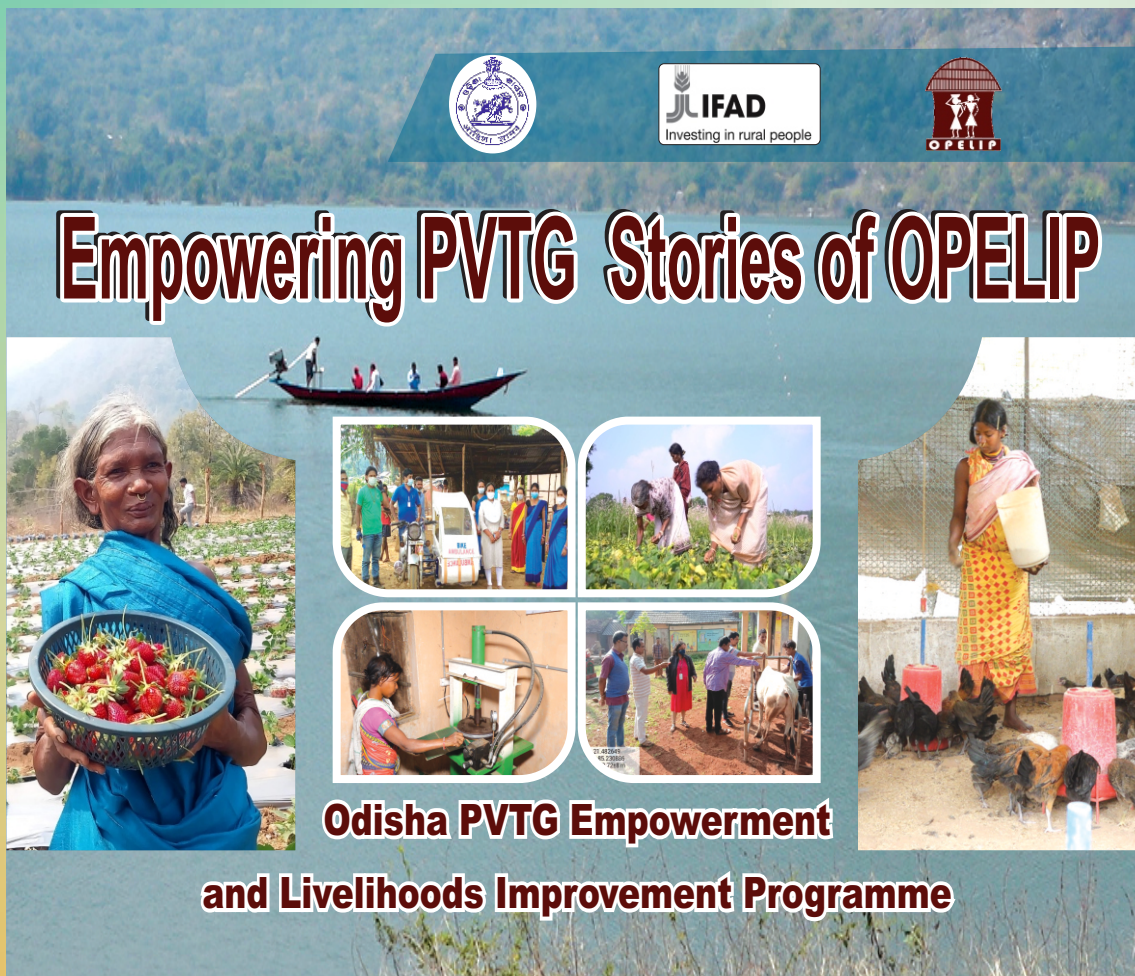




Empowering PVTG Stories of OPELIP



**Odisha PVTG Empowerment
and Livelihoods Improvement Programme**



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**Sri P.Arthanari, IFS,
Joint Secretary to Govt. & Programme Director,OPELIP
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I am pleased that Programme Management Unit, OPELIP is going to publish the Compendium “Empowering PVTG stories of OPELIP” which reflects the real field experience of implementation of various components and the impacts of the interventions among the PVTGs during its journey over years since 2016.

In past few years, the programme has adopted holistic approach of development through village development committees which are facilitated by MPAs & NGOs in ground. OPELIP has generated livelihood opportunity and empowered PVTGs through creation of infrastructure, IGA, agriculture, health & nutrition improvement programme.

My appreciation to the CBOs, CSOs and the team behind the stage at Programme Implementation Committee, MPA and PMU for their sincere effort and I convey my best wishes to the team to accept the challenge and bring positive changes in the grassroots.

Compendium of success stories is the field experience sharing of few of the implemented activities. However, there are so many such successful cases across MPAs. With the current developmental challenges before the programme, I wish the dedicated OPELIP team and the programme in attaining its objective and benefit the PVTG people of Odisha

(Sri P.Arthanari, IFS)

OPELIP





Sri D.R. Gantayat
Programme Officer(Capacity Building, Gender & Nutrition)
State Programme Management Unit,OPELIP
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Odisha,Bhubaneswar



Message

I am glad that our State Programme Management Unit (PMU) of Odisha PVTG Empowerment & Livelihoods Improvement Programme (OPELIP) is bringing its first issue of a compendium “Empowering PVTG stories of OPELIP” which speaks true stories on the positive changes in life and livelihoods of our PVTGs .

This publication attempts to capture and provide the success stories and impacts achieved and trends emerging in the programme as well as in the sector of livelihoods promotion. The programme is successfully moving towards becoming a developmental model for PVTGs not only in Odisha but in India too.

Much has been achieved and even more are to be achieved. With the current context developmental challenges before the programme, I wish all the best to the entire team from State to Community Level for future endeavor. I believe the programme touches new high in success of transformation of life of PVTGs of Odisha in the days to come.

(Sri D.R.Gantayat)

OPELIP





Goutam Kumar Mohanty
Programme Officer (Community Institutions & Rural Finance)
Programme Management Unit, OPELIP,
ST & SC Development Department, Govt. of Odisha.



PENS DOWN

I am extremely glad to share our Compendium “Empowering PVTG stories of OPELIP” prepared by the Programme. It is very nice experience in capturing good practices and success stories across all Micro-Project and putting all into one booklet form.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to the entire team of OPELIP who takes lots of pain in putting down all documents together to make this as compendium. My heartiest thanks and gratitude to our Programme Director, OPELIP & Commissioner cum Secretary, ST & SC Development Department, Government of Odisha, for affirming trust on our competence and expertise on the subject.

This book is focusing on success of activities carried out by the Self Help Group (SHG), vulnerable households like widow, women headed households, physical handicapped, migrant workers and the most deprived community i.e. PVTG Community in large. The story from the field reflects that there is a drastic shift in their livelihoods so as in income level due to the programme interventions. Further, the books also capture how the programme interventions help to the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) in reducing their drudgery, livelihoods enhancement and mainstreaming them with society like drinking water, processing unit in service mode, ghat cutting, successful livelihoods intervention i.e. agriculture & horticulture, livestock development, utilisation of PVTG Empowerment Funds for SHG. This gives brief idea about the programme activities and successful interventions.

The objectives of the compendium is to collect the good practices and share the good experience, personal learning with others so that other vulnerable and implementation agency can learn and can be replicated like vocal for local. I hope this will be an interesting piece of book to read and share with others. Wish all the very best to the readers.

Goutam Kumar Mohanty



Glossary of Terms

AWP & B	Annual Work Plan and Budget
BDA	Bonda Development Agency
CBDA	Chuktia Bhunjia Development Agency
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CCD	Conservation-cum-Development
CRP	Community Resource Person
CSP	Community Service Provider
DDA	Didayi Development Agency
DKDA	DangriaKandha Development Agency
FNGO	Facilitating Non-Governmental Organization
FRA	Forest Right Act
FRC	Forests Rights Committee
GPLF	Gram Panchayat Level Federation
Ha	Hector
HK & MDA	Khadia&Mankirdia Development Agency
ICRISAT	The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IGA	Income Generation Activities
IGS	Indian Grameen Services
ITDA	Integrated Tribal Development Agency
JDA	Juang Development Agency,
KKDA	KutiaKandha Development Agency



LDA	Lodha Development Agency
LSDA	LanjiaSaora Development Agency
MFP	Minor Forest Produce
MFP	Minor Forest Produce
MGNREGA	The Mahatma Gandhi National. Rural Employment Guarantee Act
MIS	Management Information System
MoTA	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
MPA	Micro Project Agency
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Produce
OLM	Odisha Livelihoods Mission
OMM	Odisha Millet Mission
OPELIP	Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihood Improvement Project
OPNIP	Odisha PVTG Nutrition Improvement Programme
PBDA	Paudi Bhuyan Development Agency
PEF	PVTG Empowerment Fund
PMU	Project Management Unit
PVTG	Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group
RKVY	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana
SCA	Special Central Assistance



Carpets Weaving: A Livelihood Opportunity for Empowerment of PVTGs

1



Soura Development Agency (SDA), Chandragiri supported particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) women through income generation activity of Odisha PVTGs Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme (OPELIP) at Mohana Block of Gajapati district. It facilitated to restore traditional arts through carpetsmaking among Soura community of Jagannathpur, Nilakuti and Labarsingh areas with the involvement of 17 Soura women. A three months training was imparted at Tibetan Training Centre of Laboring with support of two Tibetan artisans. The main objective of the training was to provide livelihood support to the PVTGs women and empower them through income generation activity. These two artisans trained 17 tribal women from March to June, 2022.

Ms Kumari Raita, a fifth class drop out girl due to severe poverty was one among the women who learnt weaving of Tibetan carpets. She belongs to a particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) of GuburigudaBatasahi village of Mohana block of Gajapati District in Odisha. There are 20 PVTGs households in the village. She has three brothers and one

sister. Mr. Dukhi Raita is her father who allowed her to learn Tibetan carpets with the support of Soura Development Agency, Chandragiri. She got support of Rs. 27000/- from SDA, Chandragiri to establish her production unit.

Under the guidance and support from SDA, Chandragiri, Kumari Raita learnt new skills, and taught women in the nearby villages. Gradually she became famous for her innovative ideas and Tibetan carpets. She was praised and encouraged by the district administration. She was nominated to participate in an international conclave on restoring traditional skills in New Delhi. She received one lakh cash award at CEO Conclave & Technology Awards 2022 at Greater Noida, UP on 9.12.2022 as Textile

Maestro for restoring traditional skills under SDA, Chandragiri. She exhibited her carpets in the event where contestants of 56 countries had participated. Mrs. Subarni Raita is her mother who expressed happiness with the success of Kumari Raita and thanks SDA for the support and guidance to enhance her knowledge and skill on Tibetan carpets making and promoting her across India.



Now, Ms. Kumari Raita runs a Tibetan carpet weaving unit at GuburigudaBatasahi. She aims to earn more than Rs.12000/- per month. At the same time, she also aims to train more youths who can promote carpets across the country and enhance livelihoods of the PVTG community. SDA, Chandragiri came forward with support of OPELIP to provide IGA support for establishing production unit of carpet weaving at different villages in PVTGs areas. Moreover, there is huge demand in the international market for Tibetan carpets. Hence, the Tibetan Multi-purpose Cooperative Society has agreed to procure all the Tibetan carpets from the weavers in the PVTG areas and sell in the international market.

PVTG Empowerment Fund (PEF) : A Source of Funding for Sustainable Livelihood of PVTGs



Didayi tribe is one of the PVTG tribes and are living mostly in the Khairaput and Korakunda Block of Malkangiri District. This is a story of utilisation of PEF and repayment the loan amount by a beneficiary Rita Bisoi. She has been able to increase her livelihood through PEF of the programme.

PVTG Empowerment fund designed for PVTG SHGs was given through OLM and OPELIP in PVTG areas in a very low rate of interest for livelihood improvement. The PEF is meant to support livelihood and to build the confidence among the PVTG SHG members.

Maa Asthabhuja PVTG SHG consists of 10 Didayi PVTG women of village Chilipadar under K. Gumma GP. Initially, the group members were not interested to avail loan. After regular follow up by the field team of MPA and FNGO, they were able to understand the better utilisation of the PEF amount, the scope and the opportunity to start a new venture with the loan having low rate of interest

and to make repayment as per the seasonality. At last the group decided to avail the PEF only for production purpose in individual loan. The group availed total amount of loan of Rs.90,000/- from Radhakrishna GPLF, Kudumulgumma. Individual member wise activities were finalised as per the feasibility and accordingly micro investment plan was developed. Out of 10 members in the SHG, only 9 members have taken loan of Rs.10,000/- per member. Mrs Rita Bisoi was one of the SHG members of this group and she has availed the PEF loan.

Mrs Rita has four children and her husband works as a daily wage labour whose income is not sufficient to manage the family. For taking the privilege of PEF loan, Mrs. Rita started a grocery-cum-tiffin centre in the month of November 2020 in her village at Chilipadar. The village Chilipadar is a centre place where most of Ghat area villagers come to weekly Haat on every Thursday at K.Gumma. The nearby villagers coming to the Haat bypass her shop at village Chilipadar and do shopping at this tiffin centre. Thursday is the weekly Haat day and she prepares snacks and tiffin items there. At present, on weekly Haat day, she is able to sell from Rs.1800 to Rs.2200. Apart from the weekly Haat day, she earns Rs.150 to Rs.180/- on daily basis by selling grocery items in her village. On an average, she got Rs.4000/- to 4500/- per month from her small business, after deducting all expenses. She has already repaid Rs.8500/- till July 2021 to the SHG towards PEF loan.

Mrs. Rita has clearly understood that the objective of PEF loan is meant for supporting to poorest of the poor for livelihood promotion. After availing the loan, she is actively engaged in her grocery-cum-tiffin centre and improved her livelihood. Now Mrs. Rita has not only increased her income but also been able to sustain her livelihood. She is living happily with her family.



Black Rice Cultivation Brings Happiness Among Kutia Kondh

3



Odisha PVTG Empowerment & Livelihoods Improvement Programme started working with the people of Balabhadrapur village during July, 2017 when local community relied desperately on income from off-season migration, seasonal farming and sporadic vegetable, normal paddy cultivation along the stream bank. The land use pattern and land holding size was inadequate to address the food security and improved livelihood options for the community in general and the poor vulnerable households in particular.

As firmly believed on participatory and partnership approach, Kutia Kondh Development Agency (KKDA), Lanjigarh held several rounds of interaction with the people formally and informally and shared the idea and concept of OPELIP way of community development through various targeted interventions. With initial support from OPELIP under IFAD, thirteen (13) selected farmers (both men and women) from the community got the training on cereal crops –line transplanting, system of rice intensification (SRI) & millet apart from an exposure to a nearby OPELIP area Tangankana village to see and believe the process of

cultivation and impact of interventions on Black rice cultivation within the OPELIP operational area. They motivated and mobilized people then endorsed in one voice the concept of Black rice cultivation as a road map to be adopted for implementation and actualization. The plan document was then prepared through participatory method involving all members of the village. Now the implementation of Black rice covering 3 Ha and 20 HHs is in progress with the wholehearted involvement of the farmers. The following farmers have selected & cultivated the Black rice cultivation & got benefited.

Out of above Sri Dayanidhi Mali, S/o Mohan Mali of Balabhadrapur village cultivated Black rice in one acre of land. He got support from Balabhadrapur Village Development Committee of 12 kg of Paddy (Black rice) seed of Kalabati variety with other agri. input support as 100 kg of organic manure and followed up the process guidance and support provided by field experts. After 150 days when the crop was ready to harvest, crop cutting experiment has been done at his field in presence of AAO, Agriculture Department. It was found that average 12 quintal of seeds was harvested in one acre of land. Sri Dayanidhi sold his harvested paddy to Pathway India @ 30/- kg got Rs. 36000/- only.

Earlier Dayanidhi was cultivating traditional paddy varieties whose production was 10 to 12 quintal and sale price was 1500-1600 per quintal but now, he sold Black Rice@ Rs. 3000/ql. During the program interventions under OPELIP, people have volunteered to support and supplement in terms of their labour and in kinds contribution in every planned activity to be implemented.



Page Continue...

The few best practices followed in the Black rice cultivation at Balabhadrapur village are as follows

1. Farmers are entrusted with line transplanting of black rice paddy having spacing of 25 cm row to row and plant to plant to care & maintenance of the cluster area.
2. Farmers have taken vermin composting as micro enterprise on pilot basis to promote green manure.
3. Benefit sharing through sharing of responsibility as decided by VDC among farmer.
4. Arrangement of buyer for selling of harvested product through WhatsApp group & social media.
5. Follow up package of practice (PoP) at the time of cultivation.

The success of Black rice cultivation enhances the double income and indicate the understanding and commitment level of the community to own the activity as collective responsibility. During implementation of various activities both in private and community land, members of eligible households have contributed their share indiscriminately. Women members of households are mobilized and brought into SHG fold for main streaming them in the developmental process.

Sl. No	Name of farmer	Area Cultivated (acre)	Yield (Qtl)	Sale Amount
1	Gorekha Mali	0.25	3	7620.00
2	Manahara Mali	1	9	24810.00
3	Budu Mali	0.50	6	17880.00
4	Dana Mali	1.25	13	37320.00
5	SankaraChandi	0.50	6	16800.00
6	Mahindra Patel	0.25	3	7740.00
7	DasarathaGiri	0.25	1	1890.00
8	Benudhara Mali	0.50	4	11550.00
9	Dinabandhu Mali	0.50	5	13815.00
10	Dayanidhi Mali	1.25	14	39300.00
11	Giri Mali	0.25	2	4080.00
12	Kamala Harijan	0.25	2	5205.00
13	Dhana Majhi	0.25	1	1500.00
		7	69	189510.00

Goat Rearing Enhances Livelihood of Didayi Community

4

Petiaguda is a small village of 18 households located in the Nakamamudi GP under Korukunda Block of Malkangiri district. The Village is surrounded by dense forest, ghat and hill area in a corner of Nilapari revenue village.



There are 31 male and 32 female Didayi PVTG communities residing in this village. The major source of income is rainfed paddy and podu cultivation as well as daily wage labour. Apart from this, other source of income is livestock rearing.

DDA, Kudumulgumma MPA has been working in this area for livelihood improvement of Didayi PVTG tribe under OPELIP. It is observed that villagers are deprived of access to different govt. schemes and programme due to lack of sensitization to form a self-help Group. Due to regular meeting, training and a series of capacity buildings programme, the SHG are being strengthened. The group members participated actively in all training activities. Some of SHGs were also recognised for their good work at the GP level. In the financial years 2019-20, plan was developed by the SHG with support of field experts of OPELIP to start goat rearing activity. The plan was approved and financial support of Rs.3,00,000/- was provided to the group. Accordingly, the group constructed a goat shed and purchased 55 nos. of goats through this financial support. All SHG members were actively involved in preparing the goat shed by collecting woods, bamboos etc. from their

local resources. The goat shed was made 30ft length and 20ft. wide with the active participation of all beneficiary households. SHG members themselves procured 50 female goats and 5 bucks. On a daily routine basis, two members took care of goats such as cleaning goat shed and grazing in the field. However, timely health check-up and vaccination was facilitated by local Livestock Inspector and para-vet engaged by OPELIP. Now, 16 kids took birth. SHG members are expecting that after three years if one female goat give birth two nos. kits then total no of goat will be 100. The market value of which will be $100 \times \text{Rs. } 5500 = \text{Rs. } 5,50,000/-$. After distribution among group members, on an average one member will get around Rs. 30,555/- from this goat rearing.

Smt. Sumitra Rasapeda, president of Sri Jaganath SHG shared the impact of goat rearing under SHG likes all households have been included in SHG, and are able to build better cooperation and coordination among themselves. Moreover, the members are getting knowledge, information and exposure from meeting. They have also one livelihood activity through livestock rearing at the village.





Mr. Niranjan Angra is a resident of Oringi village of Rasabeda GP in Khairaput block of Malkangiri District. Mr Angra aged about 22 years belongs to Didayi PVTG Community, and he has 10th passed educational qualification. He was a migrant worker and working in different states for earning livelihood. Earning from daily labour was the major source of income. In search of work, he visited different states especially western states with his friends. Somehow he was able to manage his family whatever he earned. But it was always not sufficient. Due to several challenges he was compelled to come back to his village. He managed family to some extent by working daily labour in and around the nearby villages..After some day, there was no work and no earning due to lack of work. It was very crucial time for him and family. In the meantime, he attended a training provided for community service provider (CSP) under OPELIP on Livestock Inspector at village level. Being a literate, he showed his interest for CSP Poultry activity and also applied for the

same. He was selected and sent to attend 45days training in Bhubaneswar for this activity. He had undergone the training from 3.4.2019 to 17.5.2019 at OMFED Training Centre, Jaganathpur, Khurda for capacity building on Poultry rearing. After completion of training, DDA-K. Gumma provided support with vaccination Kit to extend services at household level for better vaccination and treatment of livestock.



In the financial year 2020-21 Oringi OPELIP Unnayan Sangha provided financial support of Rs.160000/-to establish a Mother Chick Unit,construct a shed for the unit and purchase chicks. As soon as the completion of mother chick unit shed, he started 1st batch with 200 broiler chicks on dated.03.12.2020. It was inaugurated by Special Officer, Didayi Development Agency, Kudumulugumma. After rearing one month chicks he sold all birds in nearby villages and some birds to chicken cutting centre as per demand. From the 1st batch

he got profit of Rs.5200/- after deducting all expenses. Thereafter he started the 2nd batch with 150 poultry birds. From 2nd batch he also got profit of Rs.7300/- from the unit after deducting the expenses. As a rotation he started the next batch after giving some day's gap in between.

Mr. Niranjan Angra CSP LI is the most active and energetic person not only effectively manage the mother chick unit but also actively provide service to the household level in his village and nearby villages for vaccination and treatment of livestock. Now he is very happy and ambitious towards his goal to establish a big mother chick unit to fulfil the growing demand of locality and to provide good quality chick in affordable price. As per his view he will supply chicken at all SC & ST residential schools in the district. Mr Niranjan Angra thanks OPELIP for providing financial, technical and kind support as well as show path of a new source of livelihood.



Duckery Farming enhanced livelihood of Paudi Bhuyan Community

6



Smt. Laxmi Nayak a PVTG widow aged 45 years, hails from Naikanipalli village of Seegarh GP. She has one son and one daughter reading both in 10th standard. She has one acre of cultivable land where she cultivates paddy in Kharif and vegetables such as tomato, brinjal, chilli and potato during Rabi season for consumption only which are the livelihood support of her small family. Besides cultivating paddy and vegetables she also collects cashew, *Mohua* and *Tolla* seeds from the nearby forests and sells in the market. It was very difficult for her to manage family and support for the expenses on study of two children.

During a Village Development Association (VDA) meeting under OPELIP at Naikanipalli, she expressed eagerness for getting an Income Generation Activity (IGA) support for Duckery farming which was new in the locality. According to her, OPELIP came forward and supported her 100 no. of ducks, 2 qtl. of poultry feed, feeder and drinker as per the OPELIP guidelines. Out of 100 ducks supplied by OPELIP, 20 ducks died and she grew up the remaining 80 ducks properly. She sold 35 ducks @ Rs.500/- each single which were of around 2 kg weight and got a sum total of Rs. 17, 000/- from these. She spent Rs.8, 000/- in purchasing poultry feed, medicines. However she spent Rs.9000/- in her daily expenses as well as study of her both children. She is planning to sell the remaining 45 ducks and purchase another 120 ducks. It is very difficult to develop ducklings from the eggs with the earning. She also got support in cultivating mushroom from Maa Kusumanali WSHG where she is an active member.

Although it is very difficult to manage her family's daily bread and butter from the low earnings but she manages wisely and systematically. She thanks to staffs of OPELIP, PBDA-Jamardihi for timely support, guidance and encouragement.





Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihood Improvement Program (OPELIP) is implemented with the Collaboration of Dongaria Kandh Development Agency (DKDA) and FNGO Shakti in two Gram panchayat Samely Sibapadar and Munikhhol of Muniguda block of Rayagada district. There are 70 farmers who live in OPELIP Project operational villages named Badadahikhal under Sibapadar Gram panchayat. There are 182 households in this village. The main occupation of the villagers is agriculture & daily wage labour.

Promotion of sustainable livelihoods activities like with vitamin of sunflower in cluster 70 farmers were selected with the initiative of local CRP, VAW, AO, JAO, PM& Team Leader of the project.

Mr. Rajendra Behera, CRP and team members of FNGO along with OPELIP Badadahikhal VDC took special interest for promotion of sustainable livelihood program through sunflower cluster among 70 farmers. VDC members put farmers name in AWB&P for sunflower cluster and provided seeds (500gm for each farmer) and fertilizer through Badadahikhal OPELIP Gramya Unyana Sangha.

After the intervention of OPELIP project, staffs of FNGO-Shakti and staffs of MPA visited and linked farmers on agriculture related livelihood program. As a result local CRP and VAW have taken strong initiative for inclusion of 70 farmers in promotion of sustainable livelihood through sunflower cultivation with cluster mode. As a result, farmers are very happy because each and every farmer has income Rs.12000-Rs.15000 from 0.25ac of land and this additional support has great impact on their livelihood. As a result, they created a new identity in the project operational areas through this initiative.



Sabai Craft Business: Making Rural Women Shine in Lockdown

8

Village Ganga sole and its adjacent areas are rich with Sabai grass production. Sabai grass is a natural growing grass. Bi-product of Sabai grass is the major source of livelihood among PVTGs in this area. Most of the PVTG women are always busy in this painstaking job of Sabai rope making that is major source of income earning. Earlier, this grass was traditionally used just for making of ropes which was labour intensive. Traditionally, the grass is collected and dried to make ropes by manually operated machine.



OPELIP always focused for improving the economic condition of PVTG families' especially in destitute and vulnerable category. Considering the gravity of the situation, the Lodha Development Agency (LDA) Morada extended support to the Lodha PVTGs in this area. OPELIP provided skill development training to the PVTGs on Sabai Craft under CCD scheme. The skill has been helping for fulfilment of their aspiration. The special effort has been taken to provide IGA support to fifteen numbers of PVTG women.

A sum of Rs.15,000/- has been provided to each PVTG beneficiary of the Gangasole VDC for Sabai product business. Anjali is one among them. Anjali Mallik is the President of Maa Laxmi SHG, Lodha Colony of Gangasole Village of Baghada GP, Suliapada Block, Mayurbhanja, Odisha. At the age of 13 she got married in her own village. But her husband was absconded since last ten years. Anjali is illiterate and her socio-economic condition

was miserable. She was vulnerable to food insecurity with ill health. She lives with her age old widow mother who is unable to earn.

Mrs. Anjali has come out of poverty with the support provided by OPELIP and has been able to earn Rs. 3000.00 to Rs. 4000.00 from sabai crafts.



Bike Ambulance: An alternative arrangement of transportation of patients in emergency



Village's of Andrahal GP under BDA Mudulipada of Malkangiri are mostly living in hilly and inaccessible areas; roads have been clogging for reaching in a fair weather road. The major parts of the GP, i.e. of the Khairput Block side are of the un-serviced and extreme inaccessible tribal areas. Accessing to a healthcare facility during emergency is a major and great challenge in this area. Eventually, the idea drew the OPELIP-BDA-Mudulipada, the idea behind the project is to reach medical help to the needy much faster, given the high forest density and not reachable areas where movement of four-wheeler ambulances becomes difficult. The project adopts a doorstep timely emergency treatment & it will reach the patient before the condition gets worse. This has led to solutions like Motorbike ambulance. The OPELIP has witnessed the launch of this service in Andrahal GP under Confidence Building Measure (CBM). Local youth club named as "Bali PahadJubak Sangha" extended their support in operation

and management of ambulance facility in a user fee model which become an example for others. Now the service is managed by the community, for the community, of the community and facilitating the emergency ambulance service to the needy people at door step with a collection of nominal user fee.

The bike ambulance project is the initiative of Bonda Community & has become an eye opener for others and first time services in the Malkangiri district. The project cost is Rs. 3.30 laks out of which OPELIP grant is Rs. 3.00 laks supported under CBM component under AWPB-2020-21. This service has come as a blessing for the Poor PVTG people in Andrahal GP areas, where they don't get any medical help when an emergency happens. Many times people residing in the remote areas don't even have motorable or no road conditions, which makes difficult for a four-wheeler. But motorbike ambulances can comparatively reach even to the inaccessible areas. These ambulances also help pregnant women to reach the nearest health centres like Lamtaput Primary Health Centre/ Mudulipada Health Centre.

At present, the Motor Bike ambulance is acting as a means of communication in inaccessible areas. The designing of motor bike ambulance includes comfortable sitting / semi sleeper arrangement to accommodate along with essential first aid tools and equipment. The bike ambulance extended its facilities like Labor pain, Drop back to home after institutional deliveries, Antenatal Checkup, Child Health Checkup, Emergency Care, Referral linkage to higher level of Public Health facility, etc. Similar motor bike ambulance services have been initiated in other OPELIP operational areas of Odisha and have shown positive response on its acceptability and accessibility in tribal setup.



Enhancing Agricultural Productivity by Using Diversion Based Irrigation

10



A diversion drain is a channel constructed on the high side of a site to divert surface runoff from rain water, Stream water that would otherwise flow down onto the disturbed or active work area. Saria village is situated 46 km distance from block and 45 km distance from the district head quarter Saria village of Baragarh GP under Banspal Block of Keonjhar District is one of the PVTG villages under Juanga Development Agency, Gonasika & is fully surrounded by natural resources and with tribal people. A total of 94 households Juanga community are living in this village.

Around 43 Nos. of farmers used to cultivate only upland paddy in Kharif season over 45 ha of land by broadcast sowing method. As there was no source of irrigation facilities, the farmers were facing drought due to erratic rainfall and scarcity of water from September-October which is very crucial period for ripening stage of paddy. The land was laying barren after monsoon. They never

hope to take double crop. Survival of kharif crop was always a challenge for them. They were able to harvest 5 to 6 quintal per acre of land with this vagaries of monsoon. Keeping in view of the above challenges, field experts visited to this village and discussed with the farmers regarding creation of irrigation source in order to provide protective irrigation over 12 ha cultivable land.

In this regard, several rounds of village meeting were conducted to identify a need base activity for the livelihood development. Village development association members demanded to create irrigation facilities, so that 36 ha. of land can be cultivated throughout the year. Basing on their demand both JE of MPA and FNGO surveyed, and reported that the site is feasible for construction of diversion drain as there was a perennial source above the head of the land. The JE briefed regarding the construction of diversion drain under RKVY and its utility towards protective irrigation to rained land. The villagers finalized to take up the projects i.e. construction of diversion drain having approved project cost of Rs.5,40,000/- and approved the resolution of VDC through proper process of planning and budgeting. The VDC advised to open a separate account for RKVY purposes. The JE prepared a plan & estimate for construction of the project having estimated cost of

Rs.540,000/- for construction of diversion drain. Finally, 300 meter diversion drain was constructed during 2020-21 with expenditure of Rs.540,000/-. Farmers in the village were benefitted by irrigating 12 ha. of land after monsoon. During construction of diversion drain the earthen work have been contributed by the stakeholders.

The VDC members monitored and successfully completed the work. For the protection and the smooth management of the project, a User Group has been constituted. Now project has been completed and 43 farmers are cultivating Paddy in 25 hectares area and they can get to harvest 7 to 8.5 quintal per acre. Now the VDA has prepared a plan to take second crop in Rabi like Cabbage, Cauliflower, Brinjal, Radish, Tomato, Potato, etc. After their own consumption, they hope to earn Rs.50,000/- profit from this cultivation in a season.



Millet Processing Unit, Parsali



Ragi is main staple food among Dangaria Tribe. Mandia Jau (ragi porridge) is a regular healthy drinks among the Dongarias which is made from ragi flour. They used to grind ragi through traditional method (single wooden grinding mill, hand processing through using stone and wood) at their level which involves more drudgery and wastage of time. The women folks are working hard in their sloppy mountainous shifting cultivation field. The women of Dangaria community do agriculture work and it was difficult in their part to do processing traditionally along with daily household chores at the same time in rainy season. They remain hungry most of the time due to lack of time in the rainy season for doing a lot work at the same time. Due to lack of taking minimum intake of nutrition in time, they suffer from anaemia and other diseases. The children become malnourished and improper growth at early years. Situation before implementation of OPELIP project in this area was very challenging.

Around 15 nearby villages like Parsali, Pakeri, Sandenganali, Nirgundi, Nisikhal, Sarijhula, Bangapadu, Badadenganali, Damaguda, Mayabali, Tota, Bhaleri, Patalamba, Kansur, Gumaetc. used to go 10 to 15 km. to Kalyansingpur, a nearby town to grind their ragi.. These

villagers particularly the women and the adolescent girls, move to Kalyansingpur on foot or with rented local vehicle for processing the minor millets wasting almost one day and money. But they suffer a lot in rainy seasons almost four months because they cannot cross over the Kalyani River for processing their products at Kalyansingpur bereft of bridge over the river for long. During pregnancy and physical illness, the women folks faced lot of problems to go to Kalyansingpur and coming back home after processing their product.

The millet intervention activity has created massive awareness among farmers on the importance of millets in the dietary requirement through training/meeting to SHG members and farmers for production and value addition. Several field demonstration activities were organised to showcase the yield potential of the high yielding varieties/hybrids with a package of nutrient management technologies. As impact of this intervention, the villagers now-a-days are thinking about to replace low yielding varieties with high yielding varieties (hybrid). The members of this community understood, Millet fulfils both their nutritional requirements and their livelihood security. The Processing Unit has been running well since 2019-20 by Maa Tarini Self Help Group of Parsali village. More than 346 households having 1387 population from 15 villages (as given above) depend on it for processing their minor millets for their daily consumption and sale. The group, MaaTarini SHG is consisting of ten PVTG women members who are age old persons, the most vulnerable persons in the community, widow, single women, landless households etc. Now days, is an organised and disciplined with learning the new enterprise to run the Processing Unit well. Before



commencement of OPELIP, the women of this village were afraid of talking to anybody/any outsider. They were also poorly communicating with the outsider/Government officials in Odia language for which they suffer a lot in availing the benefits from various Government Schemes. Earlier the women folks of these villages were not interested in taking the responsibility to their shoulder. Due to their lack of confidence upon themselves they were not interested on the OPELIP interventions. One of the major challenges was that they are unable to talk in Odia language. Describing her happiness, a woman member of Maa Tareni SHG, Parsali told that “traditional method of grinding of ragi involves lot of drudgery, more time consuming and tedious work. After establishment of this processing unit, the PVTG women are not using traditional method as it is a tedious and time consuming work. After installation of this processing unit, the community and the women folk saved their time and money and became happy by reducing their overload burdens. Another thing is that village Parsali (where the unit has been established) is situated in the footstep of all Dangaria villages. So, all the villages (around 15 nos. of nearby villages) get chance to grind their ragi here instead of going far away and saved their money and time and all Dangarias are very happy for this unit.”

For better operation, the group has given charge to two women to take care as unit operator/manager and in times of need these two persons are coming every day for cleaning and working. Now the self-willingness has grown among the group members and they are coming forward for group work willingly. Now they have also taken charge of NRC center established at Parsali. The group also prepared product for Adivasi Mela in Bhubaneswar for 2020. All these social changes are possible because of intervention of OPELIP project.





Sarukudar Village of Talachampey Gram Panchayat is situated 27 km. distance from block quarter and 11km. from Gonasika MPAs office. In this village total 121 families are residing and out of them 16 are PVTGs. Eshadaru SHG of this village has 10 PVTG members. SHG members conduct regular meeting and saving in each month. They have done vegetable cultivation successfully. Earlier, the group has sought financial support for PVTG people from the VDC to start income generating activities. The VDC has assured the group to provide financial support whenever fund will be available to them. In the meantime a Central Sponsored Scheme namely Rastriya Krushivikash Yojana (RKVY) came into force under JDA, Gonasika, Keonjhar for Agriculture Production Enhancement in the remote and tribal areas. The programme has been started with the objective to enhance sustainable livelihood activities and eradicate poverty of the PVTG's in OPELIP implemented area. Adding to the objective, the effort has been given to improve their living condition through different developmental activities. Opportunity came knocking to the SHGs door in the form of Sarukudar-OPELIP- Unnayan Sangha, under OPELIP project. The group got assistance to start vegetable cultivation. Thereafter the group organised meeting among themselves to execute the vegetable cultivation activities.

In the month of March, i.e. early period of 2nd wave of COVID-19 pandemic situation, the Eshadaru SHG started Okra cultivation under RKVY Scheme covering an area of 2 hector with the support of OPELIP. During pandemic also they did not stop their activities and busy

remainder with their Okra cultivation following COVID-19 protocols and guidelines like wearing mask, maintaining social distancing, etc. For this cultivation, training as well as technical guidance has been provided to the SHG members by JAO and AO under OPELIP during this pandemic despite their day to day busy schedule in COVID-19 activities.

Time to time monitoring and supervision work support has been provided by the field functionaries. In this 2 hectors of land area, the SHG group cultivated high yielding variety of Okra. This cultivation is about 90 days' time period. An amount of Rs.82,453/- assistance has been provided to the SHGs through their bank account. For this cultivation, they have spent total Rs.82,453/-. Out of the total expenditure, the group has procured 30 kg of high yielding variety of okra seed which costs about Rs.48,000/-, 40 kg of fertiliser which costs about Rs. 22,000/-, for 4 litters of pesticides which costs about Rs.8453/- and other expenditure which costs about Rs.4000/-. They have harvest okra in 3 months and got 34 quintal in 2 hector of cultivation. By this the SHG got Rs.1,36,000 by selling Okra at Rs.40 per kg. They got a net profit of Rs.53,547 from Okra cultivation. Now the group members are happy, getting encouraged by their self-motivated activities. Their self-confidence level has been developed by this group activity in this pandemic situation. They have conveyed their special thanks to OPELIP for timely financial, technical and moral support.



Connecting Lifeline with Mainstream and Supporting Livelihoods

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Tuseipada, Sindhiguda, Patraput, Khalaguda, and Bhaliapadar are PVTG villages of Andrahal GP under MPA Mudulipada of Khairput Block of Malkangiri district. These PVTG villages are situated in remote area of Bonda Hills adjacent to Chitrakonda River and high terrain and mostly inaccessible difficult areas affected by left wing. The problem of communication, sustainable livelihood, migration, and accessing health care facility are not addressed since long due to geographical barriers and also due to left wing prone situation since 20 years. Fishing and cultivation in a small un-irrigated land is the major livelihood of these people. Their livelihood majorly depends on boat with river whether it fishing and ferrying. Basically, these people are of traditional fisherman doing ferrying in Machakund river. They had old small boat on which they were ferrying people; catching fish from the river and selling in local haat. In the meantime, their boats were getting damaged and become in repairable. As a result, their income level went down and was difficult to manage their house. For this reason, these families were in difficult condition. Day by day their living condition was deteriorating.

After intervention of OPELIP project, the villagers requested the VDC, to get new boat for ferry as well as fishing for livelihood support. The VDC members realized that the boat was becoming old and not suitable for ferry as well as fishing as far as safety is concern. After discussion in the VDC meeting, the committee finalized the proposals and agreed to provide financial support for purchase of new boat. Field experts of OPELIP at BDA Mudulipada examined the ground realities and assessed the situation. Steps

were taken to provide support-Fishing Boat unit to enhance the daily engagement and income by nature gift of Chitrakonda River. It was thought of that provisioning of Boats in cut off areas of Malkangiri (Extremities Dominated Areas) will boost economic activities and create better livelihood opportunities for the people. Basing on this, during FY 2019-20, support for 5 nos. of fishing boat was provided to the beneficiaries with an expenditure of Rs.3 lakhs from SHG improvement activity. Since the programme is to boost up by the involvement of community of above five villages, further an amount of Rs.13,20,000/- was sent for five villages under IFAD CBM to drive the chain of sustainable livelihood among the residing PVTG of above said villages. Total 22 boats with fishing nets were provided to villages like Tuseipada, Sindhiguda, Patraput, Khalaguda, and Bhaliapadar whereas unit cost of each boat & net is Rs.60,000/-. In this way support of 22 of boats which is coming around Rs.13,20,000/- were provided.

The beneficiaries are maintaining daily records to know and ascertain the earning from Boat. At present they are

financially independent and able to manage their small family in a dignified manner and educate their children as it is complementing the objective of projects that was implemented in remote area which created an example for other villages for implementation.

People are also feeling happy as the issue of their connectivity with main land is smoother now. Because the distance between cut off area to main land is more than couple of kilometres which takes several hours of journey through the reservoirs to



reach one-side end. Now this issue has been addressed for smoother journey, boats have been provided to the PVTG households. Provisioning of boats in cut off areas is helping to boost economic activities and create better livelihood opportunities of these people. It is helping to reduce their poverty, to check migration, unemployment, effective utilization of natural resources and a path connectivity in River through multipurpose use of Fishing Boat to nearby village, market (Haat).

Generally, Self Help Groups have been taking loan from different financial institutions without proper assessment and business plan about the utilization of loan amount. Sometimes, they use loan for consumption purposes and fall on poverty trap again. PVTG empowerment fund is the fund which was introduced by OPELIP in a joint intervention with OLM to avail loan among PVTG SHG with only 4% interest per annum. This is a story of Damuni Majhi, a member of Maa Banadurga SHG of Purunagumma village.

Maa Banadurga SHG consists of 10 Didayi PVTG members. The group conducts regular meeting, saving as well as does credit linkages. For proper utilisation of PEF loan, OPELIP technical support staffs organised a meeting with Maa Banadurga SHG on 5.6.2020 for preparation of MIP. As per MIP out of 10 members 9 members took a loan of Rs.10,000/- per member for production purpose from Radhakrishna GPLF of Kudumulugumma. Mrs Damuni Majhi is one of them who planned for pisciculture farming in her one acre farm pond. Her family consists of five children and husband. Her husband is working in own agriculture field, and sometimes he works as wage labour in their village. For taking privilege of PEF loan, she started pisciculture on 12.7.2020.

After a period of eight months of proper rearing of fish, she was able to sold fish and earned money of Rs.14,200/- and got profit Rs.5,700/-. The detail expenditure are given

Sl No	Name of Variety	Purchase	Per kg	Total price
1	Vaccur	6 kg	700/-	4200/-
2	Grass cop	3kg	700/-	2100/-
3	Rahi	2kg	700/-	1400/-
4	Fish feeding	L/S		1200/-
			Total	8900

below. PVTG empowerment fund built confidence among SHG members for proper utilization on production purpose. This year she has started again pisciculture. Mrs. Damuni Majhi has clearly understood the objectives of PEF loan & she has repaid her loan monthly without default and earns additional income.



A successful Kutia Kondh PVTG woman entrepreneur

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Hemalata Majhi, aged 27, W/o Pituku Majhi is hard-working PVTG woman of Deogada village of Belghar GP of Tumudibandha block in Kandhamaldistrict under KKDA, Belghar. She is having two children, one daughter aged 10 and one son aged 8 years old respectively. Her husband is a simply shifting cultivator. Goat rearing and poultry was another additional source of income for living. She had formed a SHG named Pitaki Self Help Group constituting 10 members on dated 12th July 2006. But due to lack of encouragement and hand holding support, the group was defunct for 8 years.

The OPELIP started intervening and picked up the Pitaki SHG in 2017 and identified leadership quality from Hemalata who is a honest woman having interest and constructive attitude even she studies 7th class. In her first step, she successfully counselled her drunker husband for bringing

peace at her family by the facilitation of OPELIP staff. She strengthened each and every member of Pitaki SHG to get finance support through PVTG Empowerment fund to start goat rearing. It was not just finance but also she leads women to be independent financially and hope to raise support for their family. Hemalata earned at least earned 3000 (Three Thousand) every month by investing Rs. 20000 as PEF in Goat business. Pitaki SHG also owns oil extraction unit. Now she is a well-known leader of her village Know a in the block. By her leadership they formulated



a hill broom producer group that also contributed to her group, family and village income as whole. As a grand total she contributed at least Rs. 4000 (four thousand) only in a month. As a leader she has marketing skill, good vocal for public speaking and can influence Govt. officials and Political leaders. She was a

CaronaYodha to create awareness among community during high pandemic situation. Deogada villager livelihood was depending on either forest work or animal husbandry. But her leadership facilitated villager to earn from other sources of income like vegetable cultivation, livestock rearing etc.

On dated 24th January 21, out of 4 GPs Pitaki SHG was selected for participating State level Adivasi Mela held in Bhubaneswar where around 90 groups from different districts participated for exhibition. Hemalata proved her skill of stall management, bargaining and influencing customer etc. she was awarded third position as a role model for her village and block. After successfully participated in State level Adivasi Male-2021 held in Bhubaneswar, she has been selected by ORMAS to participate in SARAS AAJEEVIKA MELA 2021 at Noida Haat, Uttar Pradesh in Delhi NCR.



Dongaria Kondh Women Earn Through Paper Plate Unit



Siali leaf was abundantly available in the Niyamgiri hills in Dangaria areas of Rayagada district. It was one of the sustainable livelihoods opportunists for primitives earlier days. The Siali leaf has huge demand in the society. Siali leaf has potential which can add the additional income to the tribal community. For value addition it needs to be stitched with machine and press. The women SHG could be able to get income and improve their livelihood from Siali leaf stitching.

There is huge market demand throughout the year in locally and outside the gram panchayat of the PVTGs communities. Leaf Plate can make in 2 forms i.e. one is 18 inches stitching of khali and another one is by pressing it, stitching Kahali and press khali through press machine. Eyeing on the availability of the raw material, it was proposed for a Khali press unit at Khajuri.

Maa Mangala SHG was selected to operate the press unit. Maa Mangala SHG has twelve members. They got a support of Rs.2.8 lakh from PVTGs Empowerment fund provided by OPELIP during 2020-21. They ran for a few months but the quality of the pressed khali was not accepted in the local market. Also the cost of the pressed leaf plate was little higher as compared to the plain handmade khali. So in the very next year i.e. 21-22 FY, they shifted to the paper plate unit. Initially they got training; however they got scared of operating the machine. After repeated follow up, they started operating the machine and produced a good number of plates in the year. They started selling in the local market as well as in the PVTG villages. They also took orders for the marriages and festivals to supply paper plates. In the year 2021-22 the SHG had marketed a sum of Rs. 36950/-.

The SHG members were excited this time and resulted to start the unit soon after the agriculture work and procure raw material in a cheaper rate to generate more profits. The SHG members are very much thankful to the OPELIP and DKDA officials for encouraging and creating another livelihood opportunity for them.



Empowerment of Mankidia PVTG Through Goat Rearing

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Kendumundi is a tribal village of Patbil GP which comes under Karanjia Block of Mayurbhanj district. There are around 350 families are living in this village. Out of 350 families, 37 families from Mankidia belong to PVTGs. The main source of living for the families was the collection of non-timber forest products. Except for this collection, there no other sources of income for their living. The Mankidia PVTG families were staying at part corner of the Smilipal Tiger Reserve Forest (STRF) earlier for long years where small rivers and Nala were flowing from Similipal. Their culture and language were similar to Santali Tribe. There was no land for cultivation like paddy, Ragi, and vegetables. The main sources of collection were Siali Lata (Creeper),

Jhuna, Honey, Palua, Anatamul, and Sugandhi roots. Based on these collections, they were maintaining their life. They were making rope and sikka (easily carrying materials). They were living in a thatched house, shaded with branches and leaves and grass. After some years forest department observed their economic activity and day today living condition and lifestyle & observed forest was deforested day by day. The forest department arrests them and take away their instruments used to blaming for cutting trees. Then forest department discussed with the Mankidia community and planned for displacement from their own place to Kendumundi Village where the department will construct the housing and road facility. And the department will provide the plastic thread instead of Siali Lata and accessories for rope making. Finally, they became agreed and planned for displacement. Finally, it has been 35 years since they shifted from the forest zone area to Kendumundi village. After shifting from the forest zone, different line departments of the Government of Odisha such as Mission Shakti & Animal Husbandry intervened their activities. Further, other developmental players especially like minded NGOs also executed activities for this community.

About 33 years ago, the Hill Khadia and Mankidia Development Agency (HKMDA) were established for their development. That was limited to bringing changes in their improvement of livelihoods. Mission Shakti has also formed three of SHGs to improve their Socio-economic conditions. HKMDA also provided support for changing the lifestyle. But it was not sufficient for them. To address the issues, Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihoods Improvement Programme (OPELIP) came forward in 2017. This was funded by CCD and IFAD which was implemented by the Government of Odisha. Looking at the current situation

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& needs, different types of activities were executed by OPELIP like individual income generation activities (IGA) and group income generation activities (IGA) for the well being of Mankidia. During the year 2020, for generating income for their livelihoods, support like a Goatery Shed and 44+2 no's of goat for rearing were distributed to Iswar SHG of Mankidia community. The other auxiliary services were also provided from the program sides such as insurance and other related required vaccines for each Goat. As the communities were forest dwellers and dependant upon forest resources, considering this aspect, OPELIP supported this type of income generation activity to them. Secondly, it has no other expenses except minor treatment which is provided by OPELIP-ADI CSP(LI). The Mankidia community are also happy to get the support because, after one and a half year of the goat limb, it is sold around Rs. 7000-8000/- and grazing area is also adequate and sufficient for goat. Now the number of goats increased to 96 for the group. All SHG members have also sold their two goats at Rs. 7000-8000/- per goat. They have utilized this income for their children's education and other household expenses during COVID 19 locked down period. They also do vegetable cultivation along with this livelihoods. Besides, one insurance is also claimed of Rs. 5000/- and received fund from the insurance company by Sapani Mankidia. This amount is kept for crisis like Corona and avail family medical facilities. They have taken steps to mobilize other members for ensuring goat insurance for all. The Forest department has provided 6 acres of land for raising nursery vegetable for cultivation along with support for manure and construction of housing.

OPELIP has provided drinking water supply to all houses, facilitate vegetable cultivation & kitchen-garden. Besides these supports, OPELIP has imparted various training programs on the strengthening of SHGs, management of VDC, goat rearing practices. OPELIP also has supported through Nutrition Resources Centre (NRC), Community Hall, Cultural and Information center along with irrigation facility to their land. Different vocational training on skills, health camps, and vegetable cultivation activities are also currently continuing which they consider a ray of hope & the Mankidia community is happy with the initiative undertaken by OPELIP. Different convergence programs are also executed through OPELIP for the socio-economic development of the Mankidia community. As the Mankidia Community are tribal community they were drinking local handmade Desi (country) liquor (but after regular counseling, they have stopped and are not drinking alcohol. They are progressing towards development streams.



Goat Rearing is a Hope for PVTGs SHG Members

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Kinamjodi village is one of the PVTG villages in Chanchdaguda Gram Panchayat of Bissamcuttack block under Rayagada District. Kinamjodi village is located in remote hilly area adjacent to Niyamgiri and is about 10 KM away from block headquarter Bissamcuttack. Due to hilly terrain people in this village survive through shifting cultivation and selling forest produce (pineapples, bananas, turmeric, ginger, oranges, tubers, hill brooms and sialileaves) in weekly local market of Bissam cuttack.

All experts and other LI,VLW, CRP of OPELIP programme conducted village level SHG meeting and motivated members to take goat rearing as their livelihood. Initially SHG mothers did not show interest, but after regular interaction

and meeting with them, a few days later, around 30 members from 3 SHGs came forward to OPELIP office and expressed their willingness to take goat rearing activities, and they requested with an application for loan, so that they can take this activity. Looking at their interest and willingness, LRFO, OPELIP prepared necessary documents like Business Development Plan for all 3 SHGs and facilitated them loan of Rs. 1,00,000/ (Rupees one Lakh) only for SHG from PVTG Empowerment Fund supported by OPELIP

SHG members conducted a meeting with AKSSUS, OPELIP, DKDA staff as to from where to buy the goats and how to take care of these goats. Based on this AKSSUS-OPELIP-DKDA staff, a training programme on goat rearing, goat vaccination and treatment of diseases was organized. All members of three SHGs jointly bought about 60 goats from their PVTG community nearby their villages. They constructed a goat shed in the village and kept the goats together. Livestock Inspector of OPELIP helped them to get their goat vaccinated and ensured insurance in time. Members of SHGs decided among themselves to graze the

goats on rotation basis, so that everybody has their turn to look after the goats.

A few mortalities were witnessed in the financial year 2021-22, and the herd size is increased to a good number. According to two sisters namely KudunjiWadaka and LandiWadaka, they grazed goat in a rotation basis and it was found that they have now 17 goats and they had sold 2 of goats in the nearby market and repaid their loan amount.

Now income of all SHG members has been increased. All 3 SHGs repaid their loan of Rs. 50000/- to PVTG Empowerment Fund (PEF) within a period of one year. Now goats have given birth to 42 child goats which is a good income for the community.





Lack of access to electricity is one of the important issues faced by the poor PVTGs of Bonda Ghati. The vast majority of these people live in interior tribal areas may be in too remote location to be reached by the electric grid. For their lighting needs they rely on candles, firewood & kerosene lantern. The traditional lighting methods are toxic and lead to chronic lung problems, especially when children are exposed. Generally, a family will use about 3 liters of kerosene per month. Using these dimmer sources of light for studying or handicraft production can strain the eyes and cause long-term vision problems. Long-term, solar energy is the most practical and economical requirement of bringing electricity to the poor and remote PVTG communities.

A basic system consists of a small solar panel, a battery, a charge controller, LED lights, and a universal outlet for charging cell-phones or other small appliances. A basic system that costs roughly 3700/-. There are a lot of benefits to adopting a solar home system. Besides households, solar home systems could provide power for schools, clinics, or small businesses. Having this bright source of light during the

night can also deter wild animals that are dangerous or eat their crops and livestock. They replace kerosene lamps and candles traditionally used for lighting. Having a solar system will allow children to study and small businesses to continue their production later in the night. This increases the population's ability to be self-sufficient, raises their incomes, and allows them to enhance their livelihoods and come out of themselves out of poverty.

Bonda Development Agency (BDA), Mudulipada has supported the Solar Home Light in 13 village of Andrahal & Mudulipada GP under Confidence Building Measure (CBM). The installation of a Solar Home Light was found to improve the comfort and living standard of the PVTGs in Bonda Hills. This helped the Bonda community to become part of a more global culture and avail various benefits. The standard of Solar Home Light components is to ensure sustainable development; it has gain popularity among the mass population.



Farm Pond at Butiguda Village Under MGNREGS

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Butiguda village is situated at interior part of the Bonda Hills that comes under Rasabeda GP of Khairput Block of Malkangiri District. There are 122ST & SC households with poor socio-economic background residing without proper basic amenities for their living. Due to lack of hygienic & pure safe drinking water, the PVTGs depend on stream water and remote water resources. They have problems for connecting outside for their basic needs and it was difficult during rainy season for going outside of the village. During summer, villagers have water scarcity even for agriculture and domestic uses for which they depend upon the stream water that is not pure and safe for consumption.

After OPELIP project intervention, the villagers desired implementation of the farm pond during the VDA meeting while people of Butiguda village discussed about serious issue of water scarcity, and approached Special Officer of Banda Development Agency (BDA), Mudulipada. After approval of Special Officer, BDA, Mudulipada started work in 2021-22FY under MGNREGA, however, it was executed, implemented by the community in a participatory approach.

OPELIP has given due priority to solve water scarcity problem within Khairput block with an objective to uplift the under privileged tribal people by making them self-employed. In a bid to achieve this, a number of schemes of farm pond on private land have been taken up in the current year under MGNREGA. Around 81000 cub liters capacity three farm ponds had been constructed on the land of Ghasi Macha, Samaru Dora & Madhaba Dora at Patiguda hamlet of Butiguda village. In this case, the earth work for construction of the farm pond was undertaken with an unskilled manual work amounting Rs 4, 30, 000/- in the private land. The pond plays an important role in storing the excess supply of water during the rainy season and provide the beneficiary a handsome income up to 20 to 30 thousand rupees per annum with fisheries and agriculture activities.





Millet is the staple food among PVTGs across many MPAs under OPELIP working areas. Chukitia Bhujia at Komna Block of Nuapara District mainly depend on millets cultivation and its consumption throughout the year. Chukitia Bhujia Development Agency (CBDA), Sunabeda has facilitated to promote millets with convergence of Odisha Millet Mission (OMM) for PVTGs of OPELIP working areas. There are several community institutions like SHGs, PGs, VDVks etc. being promoted at CBDA, Sunabeda. 10 members of both PVTG and non-PVTGs formed a SHG named Maa Dharani SHG at Sunabeda gram panchayat.

Maa Dharani SHG was selected on the basis of several criteria fixed by OMM and facilitated by MPA staffs of CBDA, Sunabeda. This SHG was selected for installation of millet processing unit as well as doing marketing of products. With convergence, they were given one pulverizer machine for the value addition of millets through processing and packaging. With adoption of improved package of practices, they have availed incentives for 25 acre of land cultivation. Moreover, they have sold their produce through government procurement system. Staffs of OPELIP supported them to make registration at Mandi for ragi procurement so that they could be able to sell ragi at the rate Rs.3377/qtl at Mandi. They had sold 110 quintals of millet to TDCC through OMM at Sunabeda. After joining of Sri Himanshu Mohapatra in-charge of Special Officer, he made a visit along with Scheme Officer of Odisha Millet Mission to Maa Sunadei SHG and discuss for value addition of millet and to sell in the local market.

Smt. Gangabai Barge President of this group expressed their interest for

getting a processing unit and engaging with livelihood activities. It was discussed in the meeting and application was submitted with specific format & through DPC of OMM to get it. Finally, after fulfilling various selection criteria they got the pulverizer machine in the month of February-2022. They pulverized five quintals of millets and sold around @ Rs.40.00 to Rs.42.00 per kilogram in local market and they also consumed like Mandiakhiri, Mandiapitha and Madianchhatua to improve their nutritional status. It has created a livelihood opportunity for them to process millets and sell in the market regularly so that their economic condition will be enhanced.



A PVTG Youth Engaged in Income Generation Activity

22



Jimbili Wadaka a PVTG young girl lives in Khajuri village of Bissamcuttack block of Rayagada district. She is the live example of a girl who is financially independent, and lives her life with dignity by earning food from her tailoring unit. Her father is a farmer and daily wage labour. Her father is the only earning member of family. Jimbili has 2 sisters and one brother.

After she completed DDU-GKY training programme at Tailoring Garments, Bangalore, she returned to home during the time of corona. In the

financial year 2020-21 OPELIP supported 13500/- to open a tailoring unit. She brought one tailoring machine along with cotton, thread, needles, measurement items and other required items which were necessary to run a tailoring unit.

After getting support from OPELIP, she started a tailoring shop in her village. She stitched small cloth material work. Also prepared 300 masks and sold. Now, she is earning Rs. 4000-6000 per month from her tailoring unit. From her earning she is getting support for livelihoods and to feed her family. Now she leads her life with dignity and is able to manage her family in a better way.



OPELIP



hands and worked in the field day and night.

Initially, Ajmber Tung was able to cultivate green gram, Potato, Groundnut, Cowpea and Pumpkin as rained crops. He had been supplied 3 kg of sunflower seeds & Rs 560/- as incentive by OPELIP under IFAD intervention in Rabi season 2020-21. He had done cultivation of the sunflower in 0.28 Ha. of land as suggested by JAO/AO, OPELIP for the first time. Training and technical back up was provided for the success. During lockdown he harvested sunflower. He got 2



In Lodha Development Agency, Morada, the majority of farmers hold less than 2 hectares of land. These farmers generally practice subsistence farming where they need to produce only paddy. During the VDA meeting, Ajmber Tung, a small farmer of Karatanala village of Kantisahi G.P. decided to start cultivating Sunflower and other crops under OPELIP to come out of poverty and provide better livelihoods to his family. He first enrolled his name in the beneficiary list under land development proposal prepared by VDC. His one acre of land was unutilized since long time. Except this piece of land, he had no other resources to work upon except his 2 acre land for paddy. VDC leveled his land and put bunds under Land Development programme of OPELIP. After land development both Ajmber Tung and his wife Kalpana Tung joined



quintals seeds. He is committed to increase area under Sunflower by motivating other farmers of the locality. Now the vegetable cultivation has started giving additional income. Other farmers from the village are coming to him and helping each other through sharing knowledge and skills. Now other small farmers are also motivated to use the barren land they have since a long. Sunflower cultivation gives smile in the face of farmers.

Village Agriculture Worker, Agril. Officer of FNGO SPAR and JAO of LDA, Morada are constantly in touch. Their regular guidance and support have made him and other farmers in the village to take agriculture activities in a sustainable manner in future.

MCU : A New Opportunity For Livelihood

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Chandrasekhar Kuanris aged 24 resides with his family at Gadaruan village of Kuliposh GP under Lahunipara Block. He stays with his father and mother. He is a young tribal youth. He has dropped out his education after matriculation. His father is a small farmer. He used to support his father in agriculture work. He attends regularly the Village Development Association meeting in every month. He knew about the training programme of CSP-Goatery at VDA meeting. He proposed his name for the above training programme. Then, he submitted his documents along with application for training programme. After that, the OPELIP officials from PBDA, Khuntagaon had counseled with him about the training programme and his objectives.

Chandrasekhar went to Bhubaneswar for a residential training of 45days at OMFED, Baliana , Khurda. He started the training from 20th October 2019 and completed on 04th December 2019. During this 45days training programme on Goatery, he learned many things about the goatery and made the new friends of other tribal youths.

After that, he got the support of Mother Chick unit from OPELIP Programme through the Village Development Committee of his village. The Mother Chick Unit cost was Rs. 2 Lakh. Here the project support was amounting to Rs. 1, 60,000/-(Rupees One Lakh Sixty Thousand) only and the beneficiary contribution was amounting to Rs. 40, 000/-(Rupees Forty Thousand) only.

The Mother Chick Unit Shed was constructed with an investment of one lakh rupees. Then he got the support of 500 chicks (Sonali Breed-Variety) with additional inputs like medicines, feeds, etc. amounting to Rs. 60,000/-. He was contributed electrification facilities, gunny bag, fan, line dust, tasu etc. with an amounting to Rs. 40,000/-only. He took all possible ways of rearing chicks in better way. He has been vaccinated the chicks in timely. He was regularly in touch with LIs of OPELIP and local Veterinary Officer, Khuntagaon for health checkup of chicks. As a result, he lost only 2 chicks out of 500 in his farm. Now, all chicks are in healthy condition. He is very thankful to OPELIP and PBDA for creating such platform for tribal youth so that he is able to support to his family financially and take care his old parents in better way.



Sahajoga Grocery Shop of Mrs. Jamuna Ambadi



Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihood Improvement Program has been implementing with the Collaboration of Dongaria Kandh Development Agency (DKDA) Supported by IFAD. The Project Management Unit (PMU) Bhubaneswar is designing the strategically planning through the local FNGO Shakti in two Gram panchayat namely Sibapadar and Munikhol of Muniguda block of Rayagada and started with strategically effort on Empowering the tribal and enabling them to enhance their livelihood promotion, food security, increase their income and improve overall quality of their livelihood with specific objectives through various scope for implementation of different work with specific activity for PVTG. The promotion of livelihood program through Community mobilization and community Participation Process of the community was made in the OPELIP planning. The overall strategy focuses on empowering of the community. MPA experts and CRP Mr. Dayanidhi Ambadi planned on financial inclusions, inclusive of social security schemes and promotion of sustainable livelihood program to Mrs. Jamuna Ambadi.

The poorest of the poor women candidate Mrs. Jamuna Ambadi 58 years old lives in OPELIP Project Operational

villages namely Kudulima closely located in nearby Hatadahikhal villages under Sibapadar Grampanchayat of Muniguda block of Rayagada district. Village Kudulima is 35 km away from MPA@DKDA Chatikana office and 85km away from District Head Quarter Rayagada. There are mixed categories like ST, SC and OBC Households living in this village. The main occupation of this village is cultivation & daily wages and Maximum are BPL categories out of them Mrs. Jamuna Ambadi entire family members are BPL

For promotion of sustainable Livelihoods activities through Income Generation Activities (IGA) namely Grocery Shop, Mrs. Jamuna Ambadi has been selected with the initiative of local CRP Mr. Dayanidhi Ambadi which was supported by DKDA Chatikana under OPELIP. As a result VDC provided grocery items as per the need of the locality. Now she and her family members are happy and getting daily income to meet their daily family maintenance for the purpose of sustainable livelihood development.

Mr. Dayanidhi Ambadi, CRP and team members of FNGO has taken special interest for Mrs. Jamuna Ambadi for promotion of sustainable livelihood program through Grocery shop because she and her family were very much needy for any support from any agency or any individuals. As a result OPELIP has one opportunity through AWBP-2019-20 for promotion of IGA program at individual and group level. CRP put her name in AWBP for grocery shop and provided grocery items through Kudulima OPELIP Gramya Unyana Sangha for her sustainable livelihood development. Our major target groups are PVTG, ST, SC and other backward community out of that Mrs. Jamuna Ambadi one of the most vulnerable target beneficiaries of OPELIP Project and her family actively participated in different activities of the OPELIP project.

After the intervention of OPELIP professionals were visited and assured to link in any livelihood program. In the year of 2019-20 financial year Livelihood & Rural Finance officer and local CRP has been taken strong initiative for inclusion of Mrs. Jamuna Ambadi in promotion of sustainable livelihood through grocery shop. With hole hearted all MPA, FNGO professionals and VDC members and also community members were provided moral and technical support to her, as a result now she and her family members are very happy and her daily selling is around Rs2000/- to 2500/- and try to stand with the local CRP and VDC members. Mrs. Jamuna Ambadi created a new identity in the project operational areas through this small initiative.





Hill Kharia PVTGs of OPELIP working areas are mainly depended on NTFPs collection from Similipal. The villagers were collecting honey, Palua and Jhuna from the beginning of the establishment of Khadia community. However, their main source of income was honey and Jhuna collections and selling in the local market without proper marketing linkages. Communication in rainy season is difficult because the earthen roads are washed away through heavy rain fall, and the area is highly hilly with up-down narrow roads. To facilitate the marketing linkages for NTFPs collectors, a producer group named as Similipal Producer Group was promoted by the HKMDA, Jashipur at Similipal of Mayurbhanj District. Before formation of the PGs, there were four times meeting at Gudgudia VDC formed by OPELIP and it is 30 km away from Jashipur block, 60 km from Sub-division, Karanjia and 280 km from State office, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. At Gudgudia, SHGs have constructed work shed and a go-down for the purpose of marketing

linkage for the members.

Similipal Producer Group has 120 women members from different SHGs of Gudgudia VDC and it was formed in the month of February of 2022. The objective of the PG is to enhance the marketing



of NTFP products in state, national and international market through empowerment of PVTGs especially women. Due to availability of more NTFPs, Gudgudia VDC was selected to form PGs and undertake marketing activities. The primary collectors/stakeholders are also more interested for collection of honey, Palua and Jhuna. It is coming under the region of National Similipal Tiger Reserve Forest areas, there is better road connectivity to facilitate transportation of NTFPs to outside.

These as barter system and without weighing measures (locally called as "Bhaga" means rough measurement). They were also not aware about the market price and local selling price. OPELIP promoted them and made them aware on market since 2017 for upliftment of

the specific society. As the area was potential and was poor technical knowledge of primary collectors OPELIP promoted and strengthened the producer group. Besides these other NTFP products are also available like Harida, Bahada, Bela, Amla, Anatamul, Sugandhi, Nagarmatha, Awagandha, Sarpagandha, BhuinKakharu, Bhuinleem, Palua etc.

Therefore OPELIP imparted 5 days residential training for honey collectors on both box bee keeping and wild honey harvesting. The project was also exposed in different times and assembled at Adivasi Mela on yearly basis. They have also participated in the programme and doing marketing activity by weight measurement and price without 'Bhaga or Barter System'. So, though regular mobilization and inspiration the producer group procured 263 kgs of honey for proper bottling and refining for better price.



Ghat Cutting : An Initiative to Connect Remote Villages

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Marchidihi is one of the hamlets of Badjal village under Fuljhar gram panchayat of Lahunipara Block. There are 12 PVTG families who reside in deep forest and on the top of the hills. Marchidihi is the nearest distance from Badjal revenue village. The hamlet is far from the mainstream of the society. There is lack of proper road connectivity, drinking water and electricity. All the families depend on the forest for their livelihood. They cultivate black gram and minor millet in their traditional way. They collect forest fruits, flowers and leaves for their daily needs. Education and health are like the dream for the PVTG living there.

In FY 2021-22, the connectivity has been provided to the community by ghatcutting of 3.5km. Ghat cutting has been done under the guidance of village development committee with an amount of Rs. 2.5 lakh under CBM of OPELIP areas.

Now it becomes easier and safe to the community. Because the health is one of the major issues for the community. Whenever people are in sick, they have taken sick people to nearly about 3.5 km. distance to Fuljhar hospital. After ghatcutting, the ambulance and other vehicle are reaching the community easily. In any emergency, people could get the quickest treatment by taking to the near hospital, Fuljhar and also the electricity grid has been established in hamlet from CCD fund in FY 2021-22. It helps the community to avoid the darkness in their houses. All the 12 families have been getting two bulbs point and one point of fan connection from the grid. "Now, we are getting access to outside, easy to go market, easy to reach government officials, and we are not afraid of snake bites or any wild animals" said by Mr. Makulia Naik one of the villagers. Now the land development work has been completed. Villagers are

happy and eager to start agriculture work. They will start the paddy and wheat like cultivation nearby their habitants. They have expressed thankfulness to OPELIP and PBDA, Khuntagaon for providing such benefits for their village.



Khajuri is a village located under Kurli Gram panchayat which is around 52 km away from of Rayagada district Headquarters. Around 618 people lives in the village who belong to PVTG category only. There is poor road connection to the village and full of hilly land where people fall under the vicious cycle of poverty.

Biju Kadraka, a PVTG farmer lives in Khajuri village. He is an intermediate passed out student. After the death of his father, he left education and struggled to feed his family. He is from a poor family and all the family members depend on him for their household expenditure. He has old mother, three brothers, and four sisters. None of his sisters are married whose burden was living on him also. Biju has only 4 acres of forest hilly side upland. He showed interest to start a petty shop. The OPELIP team members have taken effort to start the petty shop with (Grocery) which was a big support to Biju.

With the support of DKDA-Chatikona in OPELIP project Biju Kadraka received Rs.20000/- from OPELIP and purchased rack, other accessories by which he started the grocery shop in his village. He also contributed Rs.10000/- to increase grocery items in his shop.

OPELIP has introduced a grocery shop in their village and enhanced the entrepreneur skills of Biju Kadraka so that farmers of the village are able to get required grocery items at their door step. However, Biju is earning around Rs.6000/- to Rs. 7000/- per month and managing his family in a sustainable way. He has also purchased a refrigerator to keep cold drinks and diversified products at his shop.

Now his daily business is Rs.1200-1500 and getting monthly income INR 6000-8000. Now he purchased a fridge and added the cold drinks business.



Enhancing health status of Bhuyan Child

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Gouri is the PVTG Bhuyan child of Kuliposh colony, PBDA, Khuntagaon. She is the 4th girl child of the family. There are totally six members in her family including her parents. Her father is managing the family with daily wages in nearby villages. Her mother is a house wife and illiterate. She is not taking proper care about her children and render herself in very poor health and hygienic condition. She was not taking the care about the children maintaining poor health hygienic. Gouri also was neglected about health well ness all. Gouri unknowingly neglected from her family on Nutrition feeding and health hygienic care. Gouri was born on

16.09.2019, her birth weight was 2.600 Kg. She is at 2yrs 10 months old. When she came to entered in the creche of PBDA, khuntagaon in the month of April –2022 her weight was 8.400 Kg.

Our GPNA and Creche workers regular intervention brought her to creche center frequently. Her growth gained slowly and is now 9.200 Kg. In the creche effort and special attention of Creche worker and GPNA providing of morning snacks, hot cooked meal and evening snacks, hand washing before feeding, always care protection and distancing from infected garbage from the road, regular follow up, playing ECCD activities now she is well and weight gaining smiling & dancing girl. She was Severely Underweight during entry in the creche now she is has turned to Yellow colour in the growth chart and Continuously growth increasing. In the month of June and July her face was fully covered with boils. She was unwilling for coming to Creche and other

parents were reluctant to leave their child to creche and made them agreed in counseling Creche committee meeting.

A part from these counseling to the Parent of Gouri by GPNA she was referred to Khuntagaon PHC and Well ness center with personal consultation of NC in PHC to Medical Officer for free medical and medicine services. Gouri is now curable condition. Gouri never discontinue the creche center and enjoying all the entitlements. The creche center at Kuliposh has been a way of joy and enchanting of Bhuyan children as well as family. Gouri every day enjoy her life with other children with a sweet smile in emotional face.



Watermelon Cultivation Brings Smile for a PVTG farmer



Lodha Development Agency, Morada is working for the development of the Lodha PVTG at Moroda Mayurbhanj District. Majority of the PVTG are living below poverty line category and are small and marginal farmers. They don't have better access to improved package of practices and agriculture inputs, and hence having less production. Most of the PVTGs are dependent upon forest for their livelihoods. They have FRA land and most of land is covered with forest and stumpy bushes, and less land is available for cultivation. However, farmers of the village don't have interest to adopt new technologies to increase production from the small pocket of the cultivable land.

Kansa Naik, aged 48, is one of the progressive farmers who lives at Sanasole village which is 38km away from district headquarter. However, Kansa Naik took interest to adopt new crops and technology to enhance his household income. He is a good learner and followed discussion in the VDC meeting conducted by SPAR, an NGO in the coordination with MPA staff. In the financial Year 2021-22 of AWPB plan preparation, he took part and showed interest for watermelon cultivation, household crops, lemon grass plantation in Sanasole village. It was approved by the VDA and hence, he submitted documents (like Aadhar card, ROR, Passbook etc.) to the VDC for further implementation. After approval of watermelon cultivation by VDC, they submitted all these documents to MPA for fund sanction.

As soon as Kansa Naik's proposal was approved, he started field preparation. At the same time, he was supported with watermelon seeds of Augusta variety from LDA, Morada of OPELIP with worth of Rs.24, 200/- to cultivate it. He adopted all improved package of practices with close supervision of Salkhu Soren (CRP), Satrugan Bindhani (CSP), Hemanta Kumar Singha (NRM Cum Agriculture Officer) and Deepak Kumar Sahoo (JAO). He also did Lemon grass plantation in MGNREGA 2021-22 in FRA land. He got 60 days wages of amount Rs.12,984/- from job card. With all these interventions, he is able to cultivate many crops and get sustainable income. He is an example for others to adopt improved package of practices especially on watermelon cultivation and increase his income.



A PVTG Empowered Leader

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Community Resource Person(CRP) Smt. Laxmi Sikaka, has been Empowered and is Capable enough and now has been elected as a Sarpanch of Parsali Gram Panchayat: A Successful Leadership of a Dangaria Woman from CRP to Sarpanch. Smt. Laxmi Sikaka is a 25 years old woman belonging to Buduni village has successfully worked as Community Resource Person(CRP) in Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihood Improvement Programme project from 2018 to 2022 under DKDA, Parsali. Buduni a village under Parsali Gram Panchayat is 11 kms from Block headquarters, Kalyansingpur and 66 kms from district headquarter, Rayagada. The Dangaria Kandha Primitive on Dangara cultivation and non-a firewood collection. The story of demonstrates that a PVTG Youth's her activities during her tenure as played a very cohesive role in members to participate in Village Village Development Association activities. She also participated in the SHG Members for regular GPLF and engage in income organize VDC and SHG meeting on the villagers to take up agriculture new technology to boost



village is dominated by the households (26) who fully depend timber forest products and above Dangaria Woman leadership was clearly visible in a CRP under OPELIP Project. She mobilizing the community Development Committee and to take up the OPELIP planned formation of SHGs and motivated savings and to take loan from generation activities. She used to monthly basis. She also mobilized activities following and adopting agricultural production.

She had a dream to have a better life for herself and others. Because of her acceptance, good rapport and popularity in the community, Ms. Laxmi Kadraka was referred as Sarpanch candidate for 2022 Gram Panchayat election. Finally, she won as Sarpanch candidate and elected as Sarpanch of Parsali Gram Panchayat because of wide acceptance in the community and Parsali Gram Panchayat. Laxmi's dream of better life comes true when she was elected as a Sarpanch. While telling the story he bluntly gives the entire credit of this change to the opportunity she availed by becoming Community Resource Person of OPELIP Project under Buduni VDC. Laxmi feels empowered and confident enough as a Sarpanch of Parsali Gram Panchayat. She thanked OPELIP-DKDA and the villagers of Parsali GP for giving her the chance at a time when she was in a deep mood to be the Sarpanch of Parsali Gram Panchayat.

Seed is the first basic input of agricultural production system. Production enhancement depends on seed quality along with technologies and inputs support. This has been well recognized by agricultural researcher as well as policy-makers. Post harvest phase of seed multiplication system is very critical. This phase needs synchronized efforts of man and machine for consistency and maintaining seed quality till planting. Hence, quality seeds and food grains must be supplied to the consumers for making different products and marketing as well as to the farmers for sowing and growing healthy cereals and pulse grains.

The traditional methods of grains storage and preservation were developed in the communities and passed on from generation to generation. The traditional storage system is considered to be effective and gives satisfaction in which they continue improving so as to sustain grains from damage. The process of heating grain in the sun to kill insects is called solarization. It is an old age practice by farmers before storing the grains and pulses in regions where the outdoor temperature reaches 20 °C or higher. The solarization time varies based on the products; the dried grains are chewed to determine whether the grains are dried to satisfactory level.

In Bonda Hill they used traditional storage for seed storage structures basically made of bamboo and plastered with either mixture of cow-dung and soil and covered by paddy straw. Generally it has round base and large inlet for grain filling at the top and after filled up the grain, inlet also sealed with mixture of cow-dung and soil. Small opening has been provided in the lid for taking out the grain without opening the sealed lid. Height and capacity of the storage structure varies and 3–12 quintals of grain can be stored. The storage system is balanced on several stands or on foundation made with wooden plank, stones and bricks, etc., whose height is kept nearly 12 inches above the ground level for preventing the migration of soil moisture into storage grains, where its outer and inner side was plastered with help of mixture of cow dung and clay and let leaves for drying in sun. After drying, top portion of structure has been covered with crop residues, long grasses, straw and leafs of locally available trees, etc. in conical shape for avoiding the enter of rain water into the structure. Generally Paddy grasses are used to prevent it from rain.



Mango Plantation under MGNREGS

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Butiguda Village is situated in interior part of Rasabeda panchayat coming under Khairput Block of Malkangiri District. Total 150 household ST communities are residing with poor socio-economic background. Butiguda village has healthy forest cover, and the scope for horticultural activities was immense. Agriculture is the main

source of earning. Butiguda has a predominant ST population. Agriculture was the main source of income, and most of the villagers were MGNREGS workers.

Rice was the main crop. But due to the undulating terrain and presence of dense forest coverage, the scope for horticultural activities was immense. People used to grow fruits in their backyard for consumption. The local fruits grown were scented lemon, areca nut, pineapple and bananas.

The idea of harnessing this potential economically was something no one paid heed to, until MGNREGS decided to, during the FY 2021-22. The officials of OPELIP along with MGNREGS undertook outreach activities in Butiguda village under Khairput Block, and were able to convince 13 beneficiaries to work on a piece of barren land to create a Mango orchard. The project was designed and sanctioned under MGNREGS. In the FY 2021-22, an area of 4 hectares was selected in Butiguda for developing a high density Mango plantation. Land was leveled and the saplings were planted under MGNREGS. About 800 saplings of grafted variety of mango were planted. The work was completed at a cost of Rs.3.61 lakh.





The Bondas are confined to the Malkangiri Hill range in the Khairput Block of the district, North-west of river Machakund which separates Odisha from Andhra Pradesh. A population of about 6000 is dispersed in 32 villages and

several hamlets which increase & decrease in numbers depending on social and population pressures, in the hilly terrain. The denuded hill slopes, due to slash and burn cultivation, the perennial streams and the monotony of the bare hills broken by patches of forested hills and there are many more in the peripheral's religion forms the natural abode of the Bondas.

The Bondas are a primitive tribal group, they have been included in the particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) as their population often sees a decline. The Bonda Hill of Malkangiri in Odisha is now witnessing a remarkable transformation. The women folk of the community, who usually get married to male children 8 to 10 years younger to them, have begun to reverse the trend. They are now opting to marry boys who are senior to them. According to intellectual, the Bonda women above the age of 17-20 years old marry boys in the age of 8-10 years traditionally. The Bonda women believe that marrying with younger boys would be useful for them as they would take care of them when they grow old or become weak after child birth. This practice was quite detrimental to

their health. The early marriage age led to the Bonda Mothers suffered from anemia, other diseases also mother often gave malnourished babies, stunted and stillborn babies. OPELIP felicitated Bonda couples who tied the nuptial knots after attending the existing prescribed marriageable age (18 years for girls and 21 years for Boys). Each couple was given a support of ₹20000/- from OPELIP under late marriage incentive activity. Thirteen couples have been selected to receive the support from OPELIP in the FY 2021-22.

Now the Bonda people have undertaken an aggressive campaign against the early marriage system and also people work as volunteers to encourage Bonda children to enroll themselves in schools and colleges.



Enhancing Livelihoods of a Youth

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Miss. Sukanti Kirsani is a resident of Dantepa revenue village under the OPELIP-BDA-Mudulipada project area, which comes under the Dantepada VDCs, of Mudulipada Gram Panchayat of Khairput Block. During the year 2021-22 the VDC gave support to the beneficiary under IFAD Top up for a grocery shop as there was



Miss Sukanti Kirsani D/o Guru Kirsani was a student of Kalinga Institute of Social Science, Bhubaneswar. During the COVID-19, all schools& collages were shutdown, she returned to home i.e. Dantepada Village, Mudulipada, Khairput. In this pandemic situation she want to run a new grocery shop for their livelihood. The source of income was from small piece of non-irrigated land to maintain livelihoods. In the meeting at the VDC level the villager's raised the voice on behalf of Miss. Sukanti Kirsani for support to enhance her livelihoods.



no grocery shop in the village as well as nearby villages. The beneficiary was boosted by the experts and villagers for running grocery shop. Now she is selling up to Rs. 400/- to Rs. 500/- per day at the village and Rs. 600/- to Rs. 700/- in the weekly market at Govindpalli & Khairput The assistance given to Miss. Sukanti Kirsabi has proved truthfully. She is leading a better life.

Sindhuba village is covered by hilly area of Gunupur block of Rayagada District where the Lanjia Soura PVTG live in a hazardous condition. To reach Sindhuba village, it is required to cross ghat roads from Gunupur Block of Rayagada District. There is no grocery shop and no facility to get daily consumption items & the villagers depend on Puttasing GP which is 14 km away to reach there. Sindhuba Village is one of the PVTG Village of LanjiaSoura where all most all the people live in a miserable condition. In this village, Sri Sumay Sabar was one of the PVTG persons who lives in a very financial deficit condition to survive his family and he had no option to do any other work. As a daily labour he could not maintain all the needs of his family.

In this period the OPELIP Team intervention became a blessing to Sumay Sabar. After the OPELIP team is intervention Sumay Sabar was identified through VDC for getting support from OPELIP for a grocery shop, he can provide daily needs to the villagers of Sindhuba. Initially, he submitted an application form to Sindhuba OPELIP Gramya Unnayan Sangha, Sindhuba and the VDC members of Sindhuba selected him for running grocery shop on priority basis..

OPELIP supported to Sumay Sabar Rs. 22,500/- and Rs.2,500/- was beneficiary contribution. As Sindhuba Village has no facility for getting daily needs, Sumay Sabar sells not less than Rs. 800 to Rs. 1000/- daily and his daily income is roughly Rs. 250/- per day. He purchased grocery items from Gunupur. Villagers of Sindhuba got facilities to get on spot all the required items like Kirana items etc. in their village. Every day he sells the items by evening and all most all the times the shop remains open and give a good service to the people. Sumay is now able to maintain his life in a good condition and his financial crisis became changing and able to live in a good condition.



Enabling a Differently Abled Youth for Self-Employment

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Rabi Raita, son of Pratina Raita is 28 years old and is an unmarried differently abled youth who lives with another 10 family members at Bhubuni village of Gumma block of Gajapati District. Previously he was having a small grocery shop near to his house but it was almost defunct. Hence, he was depending upon daily labor and sometimes going to nearby districts as a construction labor. Due to problem in his left leg, he was facing a lot of problem at construction site.

The situation before was not so easy to manage the family due to physical issues. He was managing his household expenditure from the small shop and other works which was too hard and difficult for him. From PDS the family was getting only rice but it was difficult to manage other household expenditures. Sometimes he was unable to afford cost of medicine for him and his family.

Due to less grocery material the shop was not running properly. Daily wage and grocery shop was only means for his livelihood which was not sufficient to maintain his family. Rabi applied several times for help or assistance at Guma block with his disability certificate but failed. Socially the family is neglected not only by the villagers but the line department also.

In a VDA general body meeting Rabi shared his problem and approached to support him with grocery materials. By analyzing his poverty, previous experience, self-interest and necessary documentation VDC decided to support him grocery items to increase his business.

After the selection procedure, FNGO staffs visited him with VDC representative and discussed with him and felt that he could rollout the avenue properly. Then he was supported Rs-18,000/- by his account and purchased grocery materials from Paralakhimundi with VDC members.

He set up his shop near to Govt. residential Asram school where he sells sugar, tea, turmeric powder, chilly powder, amul, shampoo, oil, soap, surf, salt, potato, onion, suji, wheat, ujjala, chocolate, cake, dal, jaggery, palm oil, peanuts, cold drinks, diesel, petrol, etc.



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Now he is able to manage all his household expenditure relating to food cloth and shelter. After 15 days of money transferred, he purchased a refrigerator for cold drinks business. He started selling different vegetables and petrol at his shop which is an addition to his business. He Himself and his family are very much thankful to JKP/ OPELIP/ Bhubuni VDC for the support which made easier their life. Everyday Rabi is selling materials costing around Rs-1200/- out of which he is getting Rs-400/- as profit.

During the period he paid electricity bill Rs 3000/-, purchased a refrigerator of Rs.12000/- and cash at his bank account is Rs.6500. He is thankful to OPELIP program at his village and says Bhubuni VDC was a hope for him for his future.



Ushering Dawn: A Success Story of Kansa Naik

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Mr. Kansa Naik a PVTG lives in the village Sansasole with his 2 kids and wife. The village Sansasole is situated 35 K.M. far from Morada block and 5 K.M. far from its G.P. office Ufalgadia in Mayurbhanj District. Total household of the village is 158 sing 3 hamlets. This village comprises of Santal, Bindhani andLodha community. However, Lodha PVTG community hamlet is situated very closer to the jungle.

Mr. Kansa Naik was a wood cutter. He used to collect fire wood and sells in his own village and nearby villages. Most of the time cutting down the growing saal trees was prohibited. He was even warned several times by the VDC and forest sub-committee for stopping cut down of the growing tree. But he continued as he had no other source of income for livelihood. He was a threat to village forest.

During a VDC meeting his name was selected for IGA beneficiary for NTFP collection and vending. He was supported rupees Rs. 15000 by the VDC to start the business activity. He has to collect all NTFPs from different villages and do marketing. Now it is running well. He buys NTFP from local people and stores with him and sometimes adds value to it through grading and packaging. Vendors collect NTFP item from him and he gets Rs.3 to Rs.7 as profit per kilogram.Following NTFPs are being collected and marketed by Kansa Naik

SI No	NTFP Name	Month of Collection	Selling price in KG (Rs)
1	TangiaChera	September to December	20-40
2	Ananta Chera	September to December	80-110
3	Kachila Manji	September to December	25-30
4	Chiranji Manji	April to May	80-130
5	Saal Manji	March April	6-10
6	Kuduchi Manji	May to June	150-200
7	Mahua Phula	February to March	30-35
8	Mahua Phala	May to June	20-25
9	Tentuli	May	25-35

Now he is earning more than Rs 7000/ per month from the business. He is not cutting down growing trees now. Apart from the NTFP vending he also works as a daily laborer in his village.



The PVTGs are the most disadvantaged people even among the scheduled Tribes in the State. They are found inadequately on all development indicators such as food and nutrition security, literacy and health. The extreme poverty and malnutrition are the features of PVTG population in Odisha and it is principal rationale for OPELIP.

Odisha is geographically the eighth largest and the 11th most populous among Indian states situated in a sub-tropical region along the eastern coast. Odisha has varied topography and a complex ecology. Odisha is an Agrarian State. Almost 70 per cent population of the State is dependant on agriculture. The agriculture sector contributes only about 26 per cent of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), with more than 70% population dependence resulting in low per capita income in the farm sector. Weather of Odisha favours a lot of crops for cultivation, such as rice, pulses, oil seeds, jute, sugarcane, coconut and turmeric. There are also cash crops like tea, cotton and rubber. The state contributes one- tenth of the rice production in India. However adopting an

inclusive approach targeting OPELIP under LSDA, Puttasing covers 1305 household and these households cover two GPs and 20 villages. 8 VDCs were formed and under total coverage we have 92 WSHGs in above targeted villages. Village Sankidi is coming under Abada VDC and Abada Gp. It covers 45 HH and 235 populations. Mukti SHG has taken initiative on collective agriculture with the investment from their saving.

The objective behind the collective farming is that they have taken Rs. 1,00,0,00/- for different activities during the year from LSDA, Puttasing during 2018-19 and the main purpose of the support was to augment the quality of SHG with collective activities through the member and enhancement of individual income level. Hence an initiative was taken by the group for collective farming with the support of OPELIP. Also it teaches the other women groups about the

way forward by PVTG women support on farming. Nevertheless the women empowerment would be disseminate in the community. Every mother would get food and nutrition security, which has been a part of our rationale of OPELIP. A best practice could stretch from one SHG to another SHG and VDC.

SHG Profile

Name of the SHG	Mukti SHG
Village	Sankidi
Gp	Abada
Block	Gunupur, Rayagada
Date of SHG formation	12.12.2017
Total Member	10
President & Secretary	MinatiSabar& Ramati Sabar
Account Number	6608461925, Indian Bank, Gunupur branch
Total Saving till 16.01.2020	92,893.00



A planning was executed among the Mukti SHG members to start collective farming with team endeavor. Three different training were done and resolution made with the facilitation of Shakti-OPELIP staff and responsible were fixed regarding collection & purchase of seeds, Ploughing field,

Lease land was taken from Abada village and the land holder Mr. Mangulu Dalabehera for Rs. 10,000/- acre per year. Similarly 30,000/- has been paid for three years and six acre land was collected from different person to do farming work.

Responsible was fixed for three members to collect local manure for farmland and they collected dung from door to door and collectively put up the manure in the field before rainfall. The farming was done during Kharif that is from June-2019 to October-2019.

Tractor and traditional Ploughing was done with the help of three pairs of bullock. Tractor was used for 5 hour in cultivating the six acre land.

Every member has taken farm duties to prepare land collectively and time was also fixed for on a daily basis.

Decision was taken to utilize four acre land for inter cropping the maize and arhar/redgram similarly ragi was cultivated in separate two acre of land. Investment occurred for fertilizer 6000 and Rs. 8000/- as tractor rent. Seeds were supplied from OPELIP. Total 16kg of maize, arhar and ragi was supplied to SHGs. As per decision red gram and maize was planted with a line showing method as learnt through OPELIP staff during training at LSDA, Puttasing under OPELIP. Separate field was used for Ragi plantation. The

villagers of Sankidihas supported on the pioneering steps by SHG.

- I. Production of Arhar collected 16qtl. , maize-20 qtl. and ragi-3qtl.
- II. Arhar one qtl. has been distributed among all members @ 10 kgs each.
- III. 15qtl. were sold @Rs, 40/kg & Total-60,000.00
- IV. Maize @ Rs. 30/kg was sold for 2000 kg * 30/=60,000/-
- V. Ragi 3 qtl collection was done and sold@ Rs.15/kg. & Total 3000kg *15=45,000/- was obtained.

Drudgery reduction can also be done through collective farming by SHG or CIG. Group activities are reflected in the society and became an example in villages where PVTG marginalized farmers are missing their practice and ethnicity with intercropping mechanism. If correctly and with wholeheartedness it could be performed then production would be double. It encouraged other SHGs also and henceforth they showed their interest in collective activities in coming season.

A Layer Bird Unit through IGA Support



Smt. Kasu Jakesika, a PVTG widow of 49 years old lives in Gandili village of Kurli Gram Panchayat under Bissancuttack Block. She has only one daughter who was already married. She has 1.5 acre of land where she cultivated pineapple, banana, Arhar, Raggi etc. for the consumption which are the only livelihood of her family. She is a physically challenged person so that she finds difficulties to go anywhere for labour work.

In the year 2022-23 during a village Development Association (VDA)

meeting under OPELIP, DKDA, Chatikona all the villagers expressed to support through income generation activity to Kasu Jakesika for small layer bird unit, totally new activity in the area. She got knowledge on layer bird unit on the last year exposure visit from Pragati, Koraput.



According to Kasu, OPELIP -DKDA, Chatikona has supported Rs.27,000.00 for her income generation activity. She purchased 40-layer birds (125 days), One 40bird size cage, one qtl. feed, Medicine and a Bi-cycle as per the OPELIP guideline. In that unit she has been getting 40 eggs daily. She sold 40 eggs @Rs.6.00 per egg to local Hat, anganwadi worker and villagers. She spent Rs.110.00 in poultry feeds and earning Rs.120.00 daily. Previously it was very difficult to manage her daily household expenditure from low earning. Now she plans to motivate others to extend the unit in her village.

Dongaria Kondh Adopted Measures to Avoid Corona

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Corona has weakened socio-economic conditions of all sections of the society. Donagaria Kondh PVTGs are also affected by corona pandemic as they are exposed to outside of the villages for getting market accessibility and in search of job or labour work. At the critical stage of pandemic, OPELIP of DKDA, Chatikona came forward to give training and capacity building programme among Dongarias. Community resource persons are given training on creating awareness on causes, symptoms and measures to avoid corona through social distance, handwash, mask wearing and vaccination.

Dongarias from Kinjamjodi village of Bissamcuttuack block of Rayagada district were educated about various aspects of avoiding corona at community level. They were demonstrated by CRPs and staffs of DKDA, Chatikona to maintain social distancing, practice handwash and wear masks while they are exposed to public places like collection of PDS, market places or in work places.

Along with staffs of DKDA, CRPs gave awareness on increasing immunity level through consumption of Kadha (A health drinks prepared from locally available ginger, turmeric, lemon, Tulsi, jaggery etc.) during the corona infection to reduce mortality. They encouraged Dongarias to go for corona test and confirm at the early stage so that there are less complications or mortality due to corona. By looking the efforts taken by the Dongarias, the Collector and District Magistrate praised the interventions by the CRPs and staffs of the Chatikona and suggested to adopt similar strategy so that PVTGs villages will not be affected by corona.





Pejapani village is situated 12kms. far from Chandragiri. There are 12 women from marginalised PVTG families who united and formed a self-help group named Janani Swayam Sahayak Dala. They started saving Rs. 50/- per month and opened their saving account in Canara Bank, Chandragiri. The members decided to start poultry farming but due to financial problem they couldn't start their farm. After the intervention of OPELIP during VDC meeting SHG members were asking for financial support from OPELIP, SDA, Chandragiri for Egg Laying poultry unit. Looking after their request, OPELIP staff planned for 500-layer bird unit at Pejapani village with support of 4lakh from CCD fund. With the guidance of OPELIP staff,

SHG members constructed a poultry farm by own saving and inputs like 500 numbers of 18-week pullet, feeder, drinker, antibiotic powder, liquid vitamin etc. supplements were provided. Income is mainly from the sales of eggs at the rate of Rs. 5 per piece. Within a month they are got 400-450 eggs in a daily basis and sold these eggs in their village and nearest market. Nearest anganwadi centres as well as primary schools also ordered for purchasing eggs. Their net profit in a day is around Rs.600-700/-. Likewise, their monthly income is Rs.18000/- to Rs.20000/-. Two members are working every day on rotation basis. The SHG members are feeling proud as they have created a role model of Egg Laying bird unit in Gajapati district. They are very happy with their job. They have planned to expand their farm gradually and want to keep 1000 birds in future.



Self-Employment Through IGA Support

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Keonjhar district is fully surrounded by Natural Resources and with Tribal People. In this district Gonasika of Bansapal Block has been known as main place for Tourism. Juang community is known as the PVTG of the Keonjhar district. There are 6 Panchayats in which Juang community people are residing in Gonasika. In 1978 JDA established for the development of the Juang community. The Agency mainly focuses on health, Education, Agricultural development of PVTG (mainly Juanga Tribes), as well as JDA has been trying for main streaming the Juanga Tribes through all round development since 40 years.

In this area there is a village named Talachampe. There are 152 families living in this village. 123 Juanga households are residing in the Kundhei village. This village is situated 24km away from block and 15km away from the district head quarters. This village is 11 km far from Gonasika tourist Place.

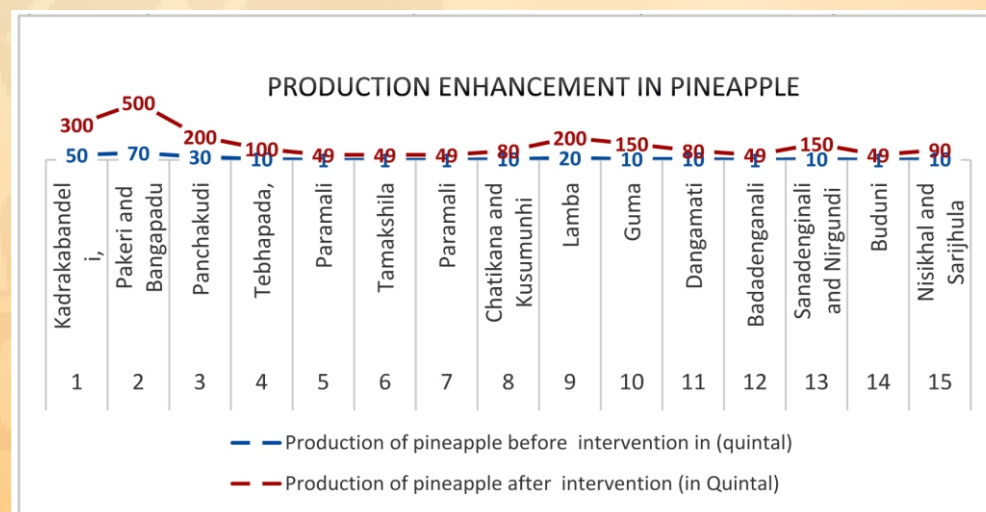
Suru Juanga is a very poor woman in Talachampe village. She is living in her village with her 2 Children. Her husband Upendra Juanga Passed away before 15 years. She could not manage her family with this small income and she faced financial crisis. She hoped for an opportunity of a sustainable livelihood.

In the mean time OPELIP (Odisha PVTG empowerment & Livelihood Improvement program) has reached the village. The programme started with the objective of livelihood enhancement and poverty eradication of the PVTG's implemented areas. Adding to the objective the effort has been given to improve their living condition through different developmental activity. Opportunity came knocking on her door in the form of Talachampe- OPELIP- Unnayan Sangha, under OPELIP project. In VDA meeting, Suru Juanga was identified for IGA support under OPELIP Project. She availed Rs.22,500/- for Grocery Shop. Now she started her Grocery Shop. Her daily income is coming around Rs. 300-400 after Seed capital. Her family members are happy. Seeing her success other women headed households encourage this type of work. She got self employment and recognized as a successful women Shopkeeper.



Dongria Kandh Development Agency, (DKDA), Parsali along with FARR FNGO was engaged for building the capacity of PVTGs to enhance production, ensure income generation, secure food & nutrition as well as marketing opportunity for alternate sustainable livelihoods. Villagers particularly Kadrakabandeli, Panchadudi, Tebhapada, Paramali, Tamakshila, ParamaliPakeri, Sandenganali, Nirgundi, Nisikhal, Sarijhula, Bangapadu, Badadenganali Sanadenginali, Chatikana, Lamba, Dangamati, Tota, Guma etc. are engaged in pineapple production as an alternative livelihood. In the initial period, the villagers didn't show interest to undertake pineapple cultivation in larger areas. Moreover, marketing of the pineapples is one of the major problems among the Dongrias which they face distressed sales resulting low income in comparison to their efforts. Lack of market information, inefficient transportation, price volatility, and product perish ability are the major challenges faced by Dongaria community. In order to increase productivity and ensure food security, market accessibility is crucial. Access to markets serves as a source of motivation to small-scale farmers, who produce most of the staple foods in this area. After intervention of OPELIP and repeated interaction, they showed interest and demanded for superior quality pineapple suckers and proper guidance for systematic pineapple cultivation. At the same time, training and awareness was given to them for timely inter-culture operation, convergence with MGNREGS and other Govt. schemes, plantation of pineapple with proper method. They adopted improved package of practices in pineapple cultivation to enhance surplus production. With regular inputs and guidance by the OPELIP staffs at field, there is increment of both area and production of pineapple. The detail of the production enhancement is given below.

Sl No	Name of villages	Production of pineapple before intervention in (quintal)	Production of pineapple before (in ha.)	Production of pineapple after intervention (in Quintal)	Production of pineapple after (in ha.)
1	Kadrakabandeli,	50	5	300	10
2	Pakeri and Bangapadu	70	7	500	12
3	Panchakudi	30	1	200	7
4	Tebhapada,	10	1	100	8
5	Paramali	1	1	49	6
6	Tamakshila	1	1	49	4
7	Paramali	1	1	49	4
8	Chatikana and Kusumunhi	10	2	80	5
9	Lamba	20	3	200	6
10	Guma	10	2	150	5
11	Dangamati	10	3	80	5
12	Badadenganali	1	1	49	3
13	Sanadenginali and Nirgundi	10	3	150	6
14	Buduni	1	1	49	3
15	Nisikhal and Sarijhula	10	4	90	4
	Total	235	36	2095	88



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Fruits are mainly harvested during June-August. However, a small crop is harvested during December to March also. By regulating the crop, harvesting is possible almost 8 month a year. SHGs of OPELIP operational areas were facilitated marketing of pineapple through traders from other states like Chattiggarh and Andra Pradesh. There is always a very good demand of Indian pineapples in the internal markets. It is in high demand from the processing industry as well. These pineapples are mainly marketed to Raipur, Vishakhapatam, Vijaywada, Hyderabad, Berhampur, Bhubaneswar, Bhawanipatna etc. The villagers sold pineapple @ rate of Rs.14/kg.

Pineapples are nutritionally packed fruits of the bromeliaceae family. This delightful tropical fruit is high in the enzyme Bromelain and the antioxidant vitamin C, both of which play a major role in the body's healing process. Bromelain is a natural anti-inflammatory that has many health benefits and encourages healing. Pineapple fruit is very low in Saturated Fat, Cholesterol and Sodium. It is a good source of Dietary Fiber. Before the intervention of this project, due to lack of taking sufficient intake of food in time, Dongaria community suffer from anaemia and other diseases. The children become malnourished and improper growth at early years. This pineapple cultivation saves the Dongarias especially children and women from anaemia and malnourishment. The marketing detail of the village wise sales is given in the table.

Sl No	Name of villages	Total quantity	Total investment amount	Total Sold Amount	Profit/Loss
1	Kadrakabandeli,	300	300000	420000	120000
2	Pakeri and Bangapadu	500	500000	700000	200000
3	Panchakudi	200	200000	280000	80000
4	Tebhapada,	100	100000	140000	40000
5	Paramali	49	49000	68600	19600
6	Tamakshila	49	49000	68600	19600
7	Paramali	49	49000	68600	19600
8	Chatikana and Kusumunhi	80	80000	112000	22000
9	Lamba	200	200000	280000	80000
10	Guma	150	150000	210000	60000
11	Dangamati	80	80000	112000	22000
12	Badadenganali	49	49000	68600	19600
13	Sanadenginali and Nirgundi	150	150000	210000	60000
14	Buduni	49	49000	68600	19600
15	Nisikhali and Sarijhula	90	90000	126000	36000
	Total	2095	2095000	2933000	818000





A forty-five years old Jamuna Sabar, PVTG woman lives in Kasikhola, a forest fringe tribal village under Buratal Gram Panchayat of Patrapur Block in Ganjam District of Odisha. She lives with her husband Jogi Sabar along with three daughters and one son. They have 40 cent of crop land and 30 cent of encroached Govt. land. All family members are involved more time in field, still yield is not enough for more than three months yearly. Their livelihood was in risk and full of challenges. Children were studying in Govt. school and the elder daughter was also studying in +2 at college. To meet their daily expenses including education of children, they always ask loan from relative and friends and many times failed to repay due to severe poverty.

Fortunately, OPELIP initiated development interventions in this PVTG village under Tumba Development Agency, Tumba, Ganjam. As followed by OPELIP objectives in Kasikhola, a VDC was formed namely Jugirai OPELIP VDC, and its members selected Jamuna Sabar as first president of the VDC, Kasikhola. Jamuna, as a president of VDC was very active and performed her assignment very well. She was also selected as a beneficiary for kharif agriculture. She got all

required agriculture inputs under OPELIP support. In that year yield was very good, and Jamuna got benefitted. Unfortunately Jogi Sabar, Jamuna's husband fell in love with another tribal lady and ran away with the woman leaving the entire family. After her husband left, entire family burden was on her. It was difficult to maintain the expenses of daughters namely Laxmi, Tapaswani, Rasmita and only son named Rahul as she has very less land and there was no outside income. One day she decided to leave the presidentship of VDC and shift to another area in search of livelihoods. But she couldn't resign due to the request of other members to stay back in the VDC. In a VDA meeting while selecting for IGA beneficiary, the members considered her application and selected as IGA beneficiary for goat rearing. She was supported with Rs 27,000.00 including RS 2000 for insurance. With Rs. 25000.00 she purchased four goats and one buck.

OPELIP supported to strengthen Jamuna to lead an active and meaningful life through livelihood opportunity. As Jamuna's economic condition was improving, her daughter named Tapaswani died due to an unknown disease at the age of 20, she was shocked mentally and couldn't concentrate on income for the family. However, with regular counseling and moral support by ISARA and OPELIP team, she started a new life. In the meantime, two numbers of goat missed in forest and suspected as eaten by wild animals. For her daughter's funeral ceremony, she sold five goats. Now she has ten goats with her. Starting with five goats within three-year time period, the numbers of goats reached up to seventeen. She sold milk and ghee to earn money. During these periods of her life, she faced many challenges. Now she can manage the difficult situation. Her elder daughter Laxmi is studying in college, Rasmita and Rahul are studying at Gouduni Ashram school. She is managing all household expenditure from her income through goat rearing. Many people are witness for her pain, struggle and achievements through the livelihood opportunity supported by OPELIP.



A Polyhouse of Maa Santoshi SHG

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The agro climatic Zone of Paudi Bhuyan Development agency Jamardhichi Pallaharanga, angul comes under temperate humid zone with a rainfall of 1200 mm to 1500 mm a year and temp 35*c to 42*c. This climate is very much suitable for horticulture and fruit crops like Cabbage, Cauliflower, Capsicum, Broccoli, Tomato, Brinjal, Chilli, Garlic, Onion, Watermelon, Lemon, orange etc. So, to improve the earnings of the PVTG/ST population who were mostly dependnt on agricultural activities for livelihood OPELIP, PBDA, Jamardihi, Pallahara, Angul has developed a Poly House in the FY-2018-19 for Community Nursery for seedlings supply @ Rs.10.0 Lakhs in an area of 1 Ac. of land at village Dalo in Saida GP, Pallahara, Angul under the aegis of Maa Santoshi SHG, Dalo comprising of 10 women (5-ST and 5-OBC) members formed on 26/09/2007.

Maa Santoshi SHG mainly supply different seedlings to OPELIP beneficiaries and also to some extent to OLM, Pallahara and outsiders as per the order. Before supplying seedlings to OPELIP, PBDA, Jamardihi they did the cultivation of Banana farming and Poultry farming but could not get much more success. In the year Rabi- 2019-20, Maa Santoshi WSHG has made a profit of around Rs. 35,000/- from the seedlings selling such as Capsicum, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Tomato, Chilli and Brinjal to OPELIP, PBDA, Jamardihi.



Again they had gained a profit of around Rs. 1,44,000/- only within 3 months of labour during-Kharif &Rabi-2020-21 from the seedlings supply of Rs.3,17,000/- besides their expenditure in purchase of Seeds, Fertilizer, Pesticides, Polythene and labour cost from the supplied seedlings to OPELIP, PBDA, Jamardihi such as Capsicum, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Tomato, ChilliKnol-Kohl, Papaya, Drumstick and Brinjal.In FY-Kharif & Rabi-2021-22 again they gained a profit of around Rs.1, 60,000 /- by supplying seedlings to OPELIP, PBDA, Jamardihi. The SHG members are hoping to earn more in the coming days.





Gajendra Mandal belongs to a PVTG family, and partially handicapped by right leg lives at PurunaSahi village of Antaraba Panchayat Chandragiri with his parents and 2 brothers. After schooling he discontinued his study due to poor financial condition. After dropout he wanted to support his family as his father was the only person who earned and fed the enter family which was not sufficient. Due to his disability, he could not able to support his family.

During field visit, OPELIP staff came to know about Gajendra Mandal, and VDC members also suggested his name for financial support through IGA. After a proper verification he was selected as PVTG beneficiary and supported Rs.22500/- for xerox shop from OPELIP in the

year of 2021-22. His family supported for the construction of shed. All the technical support was also given by the OPELIP. He is selling office stationery, note book, pen etc along with xerox.

Now he is able to earn Rs.150-200 per day, and he earns around Rs.6000 to Rs.7000 in a month and able to support his family as well as for himself. He lives happily with his parents and brothers. He pays his gratitude towards OPELIP staff for not because of only financial support but also for technical and emotional support. According to him, OPELIP has shown him the path of permanent source of income.

Farmer's Share Matters for Growth

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Mr. Ganesh Pujari is a happy farmer today. He lives in Rasabeda village of Khairput Block under Malkangiri District. He worked as a labour. He has 2 hectares of land along with the rest of his family members. He has less agricultural land spanning two hectares. Due to the high dependency on rainfall, he was able to grow only about 20-30 sacks of paddy each year. This was just sufficient to cater to the food security of his family. He would be often puzzled about how he could possibly irrigate his agricultural land as it was surrounded by farmlands belonging to other residents of his village.



The request of people of Rasabeda in VDA meeting, after approval of Special Officer, BDA, Mudulipada to execute the Farmer's Share Fund for the improvements of livelihood, Ganesh Pujari was asked support for diesel pumps. With support of OPELIP, he got a diesel pump sanctioned for his land. With the installation of this diesel pump, Ganesh Pujari grows various seasonal vegetables such as Onions, Potatoes, Tomatoes, Brinjal, Red Cabbage, Coriander, Chilli, Garlic, Radishes etc. Not only do these suffice

for the consumption of their family, but the surplus is also sold at Khairput & Mundiguda Markets in the district at a good price. Ganesh Pujari also grows wheat and chickpeas along with paddy and vegetables on his land. Standing next to his diesel pump fueled well and amidst his well-irrigated land, he talks about how his family is able to earn a surplus income of Rs. 1,00,000 to Rs. 1,50,000 per annum after taking care of all the necessities of his family.



Self-Employment Through Agriculture Support



Keonjhar district is fully surrounded by Natural Resources and with Tribal People. In this district the Gonasika of Bansapal Block has been known as main place for Tourism. Juang community is known as the PVTG of the Keonjhar district. There are 6 Panchayat of Juang community people residing in Gonasika. In 1978 JDA was established for the development of the Juanga community. The Agency mainly focuses on health, Education, Agricultural development of PVTG (mainly Juanga Tribes), as well as JDA has been trying to mainstreaming the Juanga Tribes through all round development in the last 40 years.

In this area there is a village namely Kundhei, OPELIP Unnayan Sangha (Kundhei) of Gonasika Panchayat is there. There are 238 families living in this village. Out of these 122 Juanga household are residing in the Kundhei village. This village is situated 36 km distance from block and 16 km distance from the

district head quarter. This village is 16 km from Gonasika tourist Place.

Murali Juanga, aged 42 years is a small farmer in this village. He owned 2 acres of land, out of which 0.5 acre is low land, 1 acre of medium land and 0.5 acre high land without forest land. He could manage his family for 4-6 months only through cultivation of paddy in his low and medium land. Along with his wife, he manages to meet through agricultural labour and wage labour. He could not manage his family with low income and he faced financial crisis. He was hoping for an opportunity of sustainable livelihood to manage other 0.5 acres of land, but Agriculture input was main problem for this. In the meantime, JDA Keonjhar along with WOSCA reached to the village. Murali Juanga got an opportunity through Kundhei- OPELIP- Unnayan Sangha under OPELIP support. Village development workers of WOSCA and JDA Gonasika organised meeting with VDA and identified the farmers for vegetable. His 0.5 acres of land and other farmers got benefited



through OPELIP Support. Junior Agriculture Officer, AO, and VAW visited field of Murali Juanga and made plan for agriculture support for cultivation of tomato in the rabi season. OPELIP supported in supplying seedling, biofertilizer, bio pesticide for cultivation in their agricultural land. After that Murali Juanga started his agricultural activity. He started cultivation of tomato in large scale. But he had lack of Knowledge to cultivate tomato. Then, JAO of MPA, AO of FNGO and VAW organised a training and arranged an exposure visit to Hari Chandanpur cabbage field. In the first cycle, his production from 0.5 ha was 11250 kg and he sold the vegetable in nearest market Rs.10/kg and he got Rs.1, 12, 500/- from field and managed his family by selling vegetable. Even, after withdraw of OPELIP support he is cultivating vegetable in kharif season and getting benefits.

Solar Based Electric Grid is a hope for Paudi Bhuyan

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Upaushkela is a hamlet. It is situated under revenue village, Ushkela in Phoolajhar Gram Panchayat of Lahunipada block. About 35 Paudi Bhuyan PVTG Household and 22 other tribal communities used to live here. This hamlet is situated at a distance of about 5 to 6 km from the revenue village Ushkela. This hamlet is deprived of basic facilities of society even today. Their livelihood depends mainly on forest and forest produce.

In the year 2017-18 hamlet Upaushkela has been covered under Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihoods Improvement Programme (OPELIP). Since then, several attempts are being made for overall development of the hamlet.

Accessibility to electricity is one of the major issues faced by the poor PVTGs. The majority of these people live in interior tribal areas; may be in too remote location to be reached by the electric grid. For their lighting needs they rely on firewood & kerosene lantern. The traditional lighting methods are toxic and lead to chronic lung problems, especially when children are exposed. Many times, people used to burn fire wood in their homes to get rid of this darkness. There have been many examples of loss of life and property as well due to this. The people of this hamlet were deprived of benefit of electricity till the establishment of solar grid.

Due to this problem, in the year 2021-22, PBDA-Khuntagaon established a solar grid to extend electricity facility to these most privileged households where all the 25 households connected with the solar based electric facility. Each household getting 2 bulbs and 1 fan.

Kantha Dehuria beneficiary of this village says that "earlier, on the fall of evening we used to feel frightened and coming out of home was completely dangerous. Because along with wild animals there has been always a threat of reptiles. But thanks to the OPELIP for which today we are lighted.





Anjali, a young and dynamic lady becomes a household name of fame and woman empowerment now-a-days, in LSDA-OPELIP, Puttasing operational areas. She has made some remarkable achievements these days for the PVTGs people in Kulusing village of Abada VDC. Kulusing is a small hamlet of Abada revenue village with 47 households. During the year 2020-21 Kharif season, with the leadership of Anajali, Farmers' Field School(FFS) of maize was organized for maize growing farmers; during Rabi 2020-21, again with her initiative, farmers united together & grew sunflower in cluster of about 50 acres area & now 10 farmers have been selected to implement Nutri-garden in her village with her effort. Coming to her background, Anajali Dalabehera got married in Kulusing Since 2018. From beginning day at Kulusing village, she started working for her family as well as for

the PVTGs. She formed a SHG group named Anuska SHG taking 10 village women with the help of LSDA-OPELIP, Puttasing, and became the president of Anuska SHG. It provides her a platform to work with the people & for the people.

During the Corona pandemic after March-2020, Anjali took part in different awareness programme for PVTGs people. She became a representative from LSDA-OPELIP, Puttasing to take part in Adivasi Mela2020-21, held at Bhubaneswar during January 26th to popularise the traditional Arts, Culture, Handicrafts of Lanjia Soura PVTG of Puttasing area as well as sold the forest produces and agriculture produces, which were grown in organic mode. Anjali Dala Behera became a role model to step forward as an woman farmer, by growing maize crop in her own homestead land and afterwards, growing Sunflower in 50 acres in cluster with 45 farmers in this Rabi 2020-21. It is a big achievement by her, now she is taking initiative to setup an oil extraction unit at Kulusing village for value addition and marketing of sunflower oil with support of OPELIP. Anjali is a high ambitious girl from beginning. She is the eldest daughter of her parent & one amongst the three sisters. During her intermediate study, despite of un-willingness, she got married at the early age of 17 years due to the custom of a PVTG family and there was the compulsion for marriage because another two younger sisters were there to get married. The dream of higher study, doing a job and earning money became incomplete. Her husband Abhiel is an un-employed youth, dropped out of +2 Arts. They have one son of 3 years and old parents with them.

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They have only 1.25 Acres of patta land and 0.4 acre of FRA land, where they do paddy crop once in a year during Kharif season and do maize, arhar and vegetable crops in 0.4 Acre FRA land. Other source of income is 160 cashew plants on 2 acres of land. Anjali started sewing work at her village and gets about Rs100-200/- per day. To make it an enterprise, she started to impart training to the unemployed young girls and women so that other PVTGs can also get benefit out of it as an extra income. She says, “when farming arranges them hand to mouth living and cashew adds a little to their income, but for the financial growth of the family to overcome the poverty, women should join their hands in different activities for income generation with seemliness and respect.” She applies the statement in the life, therefore, restlessly working for the women to support them in all aspect including woman education, maternal health, establish livelihood opportunities in the village and nearby.



Productivity Enhancement of Paddy Through SRI



Mr. Dombu Pusika belongs to Balapai, a small PVTG village near Bissamcuttack block of Rayagada District. He was in BPL category. He was very depressed to see the poor of paddy & started paddy line transplanting by the motivation of NRM cum Agriculture officer Bommali Mohana Rao of FNGO AKSSUS by adopting a new technology and best crop package & practices like SRI line transplanting of Paddy and weeding with the help of cono weeder in paddy cultivation. Finally the farmer Adi Pusika found increase in product compared to the past cultivation. AKSSUS NGO backed up his passion to be an innovator & provided 20kg paddy RGL-2537HYV seed variety and required Fertilizers through OPELIP as a pioneer step in July, 2021. "The Help and meticulous advices obtained from Facilitative NGO AKSSUS OPELIP, DKDA, Chatikona added fuel to my burning desire" Says Dombu Pusika.

The NGO provided technical advice to him and helped him to manage the field following scientific recommendations. Time to time field inspections and usage of proper pest and disease management and farmers training given on paddy crop helped him to fetch 14.5 q / ac compared to past (7.0 to 7.5 q/ac) of yield (Paddy kg Rs.19/kg got nearly Rs.27550/-) "I was from a farmer's family with one acre of area which was inherited from my father and we used to practice subsistence farming which satisfied our food needs but we were not able to fetch higher net yields. I have this challenging mind set to make innovations from childhood but resource less. AKSSUS NGO supplied resources required for this cultivation & advised me at every stage scientifically which backed my instinct and with their mutual co-operation I got ready to cultivate this new crop in my field. This crop reaped a very good yield which made me a role model to my fellow villages.

* The FNGO NRM cum Agriculture Officer Bommali Mohana Rao and Mr Debajoti jena provided technical advice and helped to manage the field following scientific recommendations, Time to time field inspections and usage of proper monitoring

* Seed rate, time of sowing which effects on tillers formation and row to row and plant to plant spacing and SRI and Line transplanting benefits are properly explained during the FFS trainings.



Page Continue...

* Pest and disease management and irrigation management and mechanical weeding by Cono weeder & its benefits. “ Climatic and soil conditions are suitable to grow this paddy crop in Balapai village and We as an innovation promoters started to promote this crop by proving seeds and providing technical advice to the beneficiaries . We are very happy to see the success from Dombu Pusika and we will continue brighten this charisma obtained by maintaining healthy relations with farming community and take part in nation's development” says a B Mohana Rao from AKSSUS NGO I am very happy for this and I am ready to accept such challenges to practice new technologies in future if similar support and assistance is provided from NGO” says Dombu Pusika.



Mr. Jatia Pidikaka belongs to Kinjamjodi a small village near Bissamcuttack. He was BPL (PVTG) card holder and very poor economically. The farmers in his region were predominantly engaged in cultivation of Paddy for consumption purpose. Economic needs are met through cultivation of some of Rabi crops give vegetables and other crops. The farmers of this village have felt that cultivation of Rabi crops are gradually becoming non viable as the cost benefit ratio was sometimes not in their favour. Therefore they wanted an alternate crop which will provide more income than Rabi crops. From AKSSUS NGO NRM-cum Agriculture officer MrB.Mohana Rao approached and discussed with Kinjamjodi village farmers about suitable crop which will bring them a good return.

After several discussion between AKSSUS NGO NRM-cum Agriculture officer MrB. Mohana Rao, village farmers and VDC it was decided to grow Sweet corn crop on experimental basis, alternate to traditional Rabi crop like Potato etc. Best package of practices & methods for Sweet corn cultivation. Was adapted Finally 0.1 ha^{-1} of land was made available for cultivation of Sweet corn by the help of Kinjamjodi CRP with 3 nos. of farmers under the guidance of AKSSUS-NGO. The NGO provided technical advice to him and helped them to manage the field following scientific recommendations. Time to time field inspections and usage of proper pest and disease management and encouraged the farmers to adopt proper package of practice for the crop which helped him to fetch 6,120cobsof yield (Sweet corn cob/Rs.7/- he got nearly Rs. 42840/- which opened a way to get returns during non productive season in his place.



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At present the crop has been harvested and production of 6,120 cobs/0.1 ha⁻¹ is recorded which is better than other traditional Rabi crop. Farmers are also aware that, there is a ready market for their product without interference of middleman and getting Rs.42840 in the market and the cost benefit ratio is in their favour.

It is expected that, other farmers who did not wish to cultivate Sweet corn in Kinjamjodi village will go for Sweet corn crop next season. Already farmers are interacting with our AKSSUSNGO for next season. “ I was from a farmer's family in my field 0.1ha¹ of area which was cultivated of Sweet corn and we used to practice subsistence farming which satisfied our food needs but we were not able to fetch higher net yields. AKSSUS NGO supplied resources required for this cultivation advising me at every stage scientifically which backed my instinct and with their mutual co-operation I got ready to cultivate this new crop in my field. This crop reaped a very good yield which made me a role model to my fellow village's. I am very happy for this and I am ready to accept such challenges to practice new technologies in future if similar support and assistance is provided from NGO” says Jatia Pidikaka. The success in Sweet corn cultivation was eye catching to other farmers in his region. With challenging mind to accept an innovation reaped happiness in his life and transformed him as a role model in Kinjamjodi village.

Sweet corn is one of the most important cereal crops in the world agriculture. In India 85% of sweet corn produced in the country is consumed as human food and it contains 10% protein, 70% carbohydrates, 4% oil and less fibre and significant quantity of vitamin “A” and “K” and its green fodder for cattle-thus raising its demand in the commercial markets as a cash crop. “ Climatic and soil conditions are suitable to grow this crop in Kinjamjodi village during winter and We as an innovation promoters started to promote this crop by seeds and providing technical advice to the beneficiaries. We are very happy to see the success from Jatia Pidikaka and we will continue to brighten this charisma obtained by maintaining healthy relations with farming community and take part in nation's development” says a B Mohana Rao from AKSSUS NGO.



Soil Test Results

Nitrogen :168.86	Organic Carbon:0.46
Phosphorous :14.89	Soil PH :6.9
Potassium :78.47	Soil EC : 0.331

Drudgery Reduction of Rural Women Through a Flour Mill



Rita Sabar aged 47 is staying in Dhimirijholy village of Dhadiamba panchayat, Chandragiri. She led a very simple life before doing flour milling in her village. Her husband worked as a daily wage labour and earned a very small amount which is not sufficient for his family need. In 2017 her husband passed away. Then she started work as an unskilled labour in the village. She hardly got work in the village and earned 2000-3000 in a month which is not enough to maintain her day-to-day life even she is not able to send her son to school.

In 2021, during VDC meeting she was selected for IGA support as poorest of the poor widow women in the village by the VDC members. She has requested the OPELIP VDC of Dhimirijholy for providing a flour mill to enhance the income as per her application, OPELIP team has provided hand holding support to her and VDC has sanctioned her 22500/- financial support under IFAD with help of OPELIP staff she purchased a flour mill and started her small business. During the season she earned 5000-6000 in a month. The flour unit not only supported her for better livelihoods but also reduced the drudgery of local rural women. A small flour milling unit became a permanent income source for Rita Sabar. She happily leads live with her family.

OPELIP

QA-2 Plus Variety Rice for Livelihood Enhancement of PVTGs

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Rice is a staple food for millions of Indians. It can also be a vital source of nutrition and health-benefiting substance if some of the nutritious varieties of rice traditionally grown can be popularized and polishing is kept to a minimum. Rice variety QA-2 plus is an excellent alternative to white and brown rice. Due to its all the desired qualities, including nutritional values. It was rated among the best in terms of fiber and protein content, antioxidants with benefits of vitamin E, and minerals such as iron, boron and sulphur. It had the lowest carbohydrate content making it most suitable for persons with diabetes or those advised low-sugar diet and functional food because beyond supply of nutrients it involves in the prevention and control of diseases. Several researches suggested that QA-2 plus variety rice may have the capacity to reduce the likelihood of developing a number of diseases and illnesses, suggesting that black rice consumption may promote heart and liver health, weight loss, control on blood glucose level and lipid profile, prevention and control of inflammation and cancer.

The Bondas are a primitive tribal group. They have been included in the particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) as their population often sees a decline. Millets not only ensure the Bonda PVTGs food and nutritional security but also preserve biodiversity; Millets require 60% less water than paddy and can be harvested within 70 days-100 days as against 120 days-150 days for paddy or wheat. They are also resilient to drought, salinity, extreme heat as well as pests and diseases, adding that they can be cultivated on this region's undulating terrain. The rich multi-nutrient composition of millets, when not included in the diet, can result in nutrition deficiency among the PVTG community.



Now OPELIP has been encouraging PVTG communities to cultivate traditional paddy using improved farming techniques by using QA-2 plus variety Paddy for their better nutrition. This year means 2022-23 creates unique type cultivation through cluster approach. Through cluster approach Rice variety- QA-2 plus with pack of 10kg distribution to 200nos beneficiary from 6nos village of BDA Mudulipada namely- Bandiguda, Kirsanipada, Sieliguda, Mudulipada, Tulaguram & Gohiguda for better transplantation and cultivation as advised by concerned JAO & AO for better yield and for their nutritional improvement. Further it has been advised to the farmers that after harvest of paddy and meets their own consumption balance is to be sold out to TDCC through OPELIP with a good remuneration with keeping in view they can earn more for their livelihood enhancement with good nutritional value.



Milling Unit of Mother Teresa SHG

Mother Teresha Mahila SHG was formed at Bahadapada village in 2015 with help of Anganwadi worker. There are 15 members including President, Secretary and treasurer in SHG of the village. SHG meeting is held twice in a month where each member is saving is of Rs. 50 in a month. This is only thing they have done since the formation of the group. They have never done any kind of income generating activities which can support their family. Their husbands were engaged in manual labour at various construction site. But the manual labour work hardly provided any social security to her family.



In 2018, OPELIP provided a milling unit as per the need of the village. The total cost of the milling unit is 3,00,000/- and they started earning from milling unit from the day of installation. As per their records they were able to earn Rs. 10000/- to Rs. 12000/- during season and off season they can also earn Rs. 2000/- to Rs. 3000/- accordingly. The income generating activity profit goes in their group account, which means the group activity was meant to benefit individuals through their group. They clearly understood that all these savings were meant for them.

Apart from financial needs and economic support, SHG also provides more rigid social bonding among the members by sharing their problems and helping each other at the time of needs. The SHG becomes an asset for the village in supporting the existing institutions like the Church, village authority. Member of the SHG added that their status was more independent as their husbands wouldn't give any complaint in meetings and activity which they are engaged in instead they give us support when members are too busy with their household work. Now they were happy about their earning and they can support their family. They are leading a happy family life.

OPELIP

Tailoring Unit Support To Sustain The Livelihood

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Kereba is one of the loop-line villages under Gunupur Block of Rayagada District, Odisha. Kereba village is situated in a hazardous condition. This village is situated 95 km away from the district head quarter. Parsun Sabar is one of the vulnerable PVTG under Lanjia Soura women who fights for the livelihood. She was well trained for stitching of different type of dress materials, blouse&shirts etc. She was not be able to purchase a tailoring machine due to lack of money. Daily labour was one of her livelihoods to feed her family. Due to poverty, she was struggling in a pathetic life with her family. During Pandemic situation of COVID-19, she was in a miserable condition to survive her family.

During the period of 2021-2022, VDC identified Parsun Sabar to assist with a tailoring unit through OPELIP as she has requested to Kereba OPELIP Gramya Unnayan Sangha, Kereba VDC committee and the VDC members selected her and the OPELIP Team mobilized her on Income generating activity to sustain her life to change in a good condition, she was selected for IGA tailoring Unit. OPELIP supported to her an amount of Rs. 22,500/- and Rs. 2,500/- is her own contribution by which it was challenging to uplift her life. The OPELIP Team extensively facilitated on marketing that to improve her stitching unit, its impact became fruitful to her. After Parsun Sabar started her stitching, per day she got various dress materials to stitch like dress materials like shirts, pants, blouses etc. She earned around Rs.300 / daily by which monthly she engaged for 25 days and her monthly income became Rs. 7,500/- and now she lives happily with her family. Now she has created a good example of how to stand by herself and Parsun Sabar activity inspired to every nearby PVTG villages.



A Drying Yard for Support of Lanjia Soura



There are LanjiaSoura PVTGs at Luhara village of Ajayagada gram panchayat of Gumma block of Gajapati District. There are about 119 households with a total population of 463 in the village. The families are completely depend ant on agriculture and livestock rearing. Through OPELIP, Janakalyan Pratisthan Interventions VDA (Village Development Association) & VDC (Village Development Committee) were formed to prepare an annual planning for the betterment of village infrastructure and livelihood improvement of the village.

Before the OPELIP interventions there was a struggle for the solar drying as there was no Sufficient Space and farmers were looking for their backyard



place and other harvested fields which always leads for loss of crop produce in the drying process. In the FY-22-23 Luhara village VDA organized a meeting and discussed about construction of a drying yard to prevent the loss while following the post-harvest methods of solar drying for their harvested products and a better place so that there will be minimal loss of their produced crop. In this meeting they identified a suitable place for it& allotted the persons who will be taking charge to

complete the work &made a resolution. Mr.Basant KumarTapno, the Junior engineer of LSDA, Serango provided technical guidance to the VDC members and give a layout of 50"x50" as per the site selection of drying yard. The estimated cost was Rs. 2,50,000 /- in which Rs.30,000 /- was the labour contribution of the villagers.



As the work has been done in a community, the people of Luhara showed their gratitude towards LSDA,OPELIP & Janakalyan Pratisthan as they are now equipped with a dry yard for their harvested crops like Paddy, Ragi, Bajra, Sorghum, Kodo millet,etc. The people of Luhara are using the drying yard in a very efficient way as the loss has been reduced to minimal.

Livelihood Support through Backyard Duckery to PVTG Farmers

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Duck raising is a lucrative livestock industry in the rural because of its egg, meat and feather. Like chicken, ducks are reared for eggs and meat. Duck eggs are relatively larger, weighing about 4.5% of duck's body weight, compared to chicken, whose egg weight is only about 3.3% of the body weight. Moreover, ducks are more prolific than chicken and more adaptable to free-range system of rearing. They also grow faster than chicken. That is why they are more popular in rural areas. They need simple housing as compared to chicken. Development and extension agencies have been effectively working on promoting duckery as a promising enterprise for rural areas.

about 280 to 300 eggs per year (more in the first 2 years) and, with proper management, it continues to lay well for 4 - 5 years. Campbell's lay their first eggs between 5 – 7 months of age. Khaki Campbell's are excellent foragers and withstand cold, hot, humid, or arid climates very well.

Khaki Campbell is known to be the best layers of all the domestic ducks. Khaki Campbell ducks lay



Since intervention of OPELIP, it started promoting backyard poultry through the IFAD, CCD & FARD funding. With the available financial resources, OPELIP provided 21 days old chicks at free of cost to the PVTG farmers for their Livelihood. In 2021-22FY under OPELIP-BDA-Mudulipada undertook duckery project with 35 units for individual members of WSHG. A total of 1400 was distributed among the beneficiaries @ 25 of duck to each family. Rearing was done in free range system with night shelter. The birds were supplemented with commercial compounded feed twice a day following a brooding period of 45 days. Ad libitum drinking water was provided. The male female ratio was maintained at 1:9. Additional drakes were disposed/ sold at 20 weeks. Now farmers are happy at their selling & consuming meats & eggs. It has enhanced income among the PVTGs families who are involved in duck rearing.

Best Practices for Raising Organic Vegetables Nursery



There is a SHG named Lily at Abasing village of Bhubani gram panchayat of Gumma block of Gajapati district. In Abasing village, the total number of households is 52 with total population among which there are 113 are male & 116 are

female. There are four functional SHG groups among which Lilly SHG has 16 members of PVTGs families. The families are completely dependant on agriculture & livestock farming. Through LSDA, OPELIP & Janakalyan Pratisthan, village development committee (VDC) was formed and an AWP & B was prepared for the improvement of livelihoods through infrastructure, agriculture activities.

In the FY 20-21 a pre-rabi monthly SHG meeting was organized by the VAW Mr. Abhina Raita and discussed to start income generation activity through vegetable nursery with the support of OPELIP, LSDA Serango. The estimated amount for this nursery was Rs. 45,000 /-. As soon as the amount was credited to SHG's account, the nursery layout was prepared by the SHG members with the help of Bamboo fencing and shade net on top cover. After completion of the layout, seed was purchased as onion @0.5kg/Rs.1600, Cabbage @ 0.5kg/Rs.1000, Tomato @0.5kg/Rs.800 and Chilli @0.5kg/Rs.200. The raised seed beds were prepared with the technical assistance of NRM cum AO Ms. Aparna Panda. After sowing they were ready for sale after 18-22 days of nursery.

After promotion of the nursery in nearby villages by SHG

members, CRP and some of the villagers of Abasing, all seedlings were sold in a reliable price which brought self-employability & encouragement among the SHG members. None of the villagers have ever witnessed such type of initiatives by some of their tribal woman's group which was very fascinating for them and the villagers as well. Before the farmers had to buy the seedlings from various sellers who had monopoly in their price but after the successful practice of the Lilly SHG members on raising the nursery within a reliable price, all the farmers nearby the Abasing village preferred to buy from them. The Lily SHG is now continuing since the pre-rabi season of 2021 to till now and hope to continue till forever as they are very happy by the self-employment. They are thankful & satisfied by the support provided by OPELIP LSDA Serango.



A Glimpse of Hope Makes the Life Fair

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Considering the cyclone “Titili -2018” effect, most of the PVTG households of Tumba, Buratal and Ankuli GP were affected severely as they lost their homes, lives, livelihoods and became miserable. They all lived in poverty after the unexpected cyclonal devastation. Taramunda, a remote village of Ankuli GP of Ganjam District is a village surrounded by hills and forests is approximately 100 km far from the district headquarters, and this village road is muddy and only accessible in summer and winter. Taramunda village was affected severely by the cyclone Titili in year 2018 and which had broken the back bone of the villagers.

Rama Gamanga who is a son of Shyama Gamanga aged about 45 years was a shopkeeper running his grocery shop at Taramunda village and was managing his family. Somehow, he had been able to produce small millets and vegetables in his small patch of land which was the secondary source of income of his 5 membered family. In comparison to other households of the village living condition of his

family was slightly better before devastation of cyclone. He had been counted as a moderate household in the initial period of OPELIP due to his reasonable income. Nearby villages named Tasaranga, Gurusing, Luhasing, Tarasing, Kumardali were depending on his grocery shop because it was only one grocery shop existed in the locality. But unfortunately, his home, grocery shop and agricultural land got ruined by the Titili and he was struggling during the worst part of life. Sand casted agricultural land and ruined grocery shop compelled him to be a migrant labour to earn bread for his family.

In COVID-19 pandemic Rama Gamanga again faced difficult when he lost his work as a migrant labour and returned village despairingly. He drew attention of the VDC and requested them to provide some financial assistance to start his grocery shop again in the village to stop his migrating life. Considering the situation of Rama Gamanga, Maa Duarsuni OPELIP VDA, Taramunda provided financial assistances of Rs 18000/- to start a grocery shop in the village under IGA through OPELIP project of TDA, Tumba in 2021.

With OPELIP support he started grocery shop in his own house in year 2021 with a new hope. Previous experience on managing grocery shop helped him to purchase people demanded items for better selling. During Lock down and shutdown period, regular earning from grocery shop built his confidence and helped him to manage his family. Now he earns Rs.3000/- to Rs. 4000/- in every month from his grocery shop and he is trying to increase his shop as earlier for better income. Although this income is not catering to his family needs is earlier fully but he is able to stand once again to fulfil his family needs in the local area. His family members especially his wife supporting him a lot in sustaining the grocery shop and regular income. Along with Rama Gamanga, VDC of Taramunda village express their gratitude to OPELIP for the immense support and for enhancing their livelihoods and living condition sustainably in the PVTG areas.

Duckery Farming: “An Initiative Towards Change of Livelihood



The Mankirdia tribal community is an about to extinct community and coming under the PVTG category. The basic livelihood of Mankirdia community is making Siali leaf stitching, Siali rope making, daily labour, rearing of animal husbandry, like backyard Poultry and Goatery. Now a days due to restrictions of Siali leaf by the forest they are about to louse their basic professions and adhere to more animal husbandry for their livelihood.

At the time of livelihood analysis, it was found that the Mankirdia are lousing heavily in backyard poultry as the poultry always succumb to various diseases. The deployed FNGO and MPA Team or OPELIP with the consultation BVO, Karanjia and Kendumundi on an experimental basis introduced Duckery, instead of Poultry in a group approach through Women SHG.

Under the Livelihood component of the AWPB-2018-19 from IGA Rs. 30,000/- support has been extended to Women SHG for Duckery. They brought 150 no's of Ducklings, Medicine and allied vaccines, feeder, drinker and feeds with worth of Rs. 29,736/-. In the month of October 2018, the SHG Members were trained on the aspect of medicine, vaccination, feeding in time, required quantity of feeds and other related issues of good practices for Duckery. The ducklings were grown up healthy and after 3½ months their average weight raised to 1.75 Kg. After observing demand in the market, they sold 120no's of ducks worth Rs.24,000/- and sells Eggs for Rs.2,005/- and 20 Ducks they have utilized for their own purpose and purchase 50 no's of 5 days Ducklings and feedings and having a saving of ` 18,000/- in their Bank account. Now the Group Members are very happy. Watching the progress of Women SHG the other SHGs of Kendumundi Village are coming forward with request to OPELIP to support them for Duck Farming



Empowering Dongaria Women Through Rice Mill Unit

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Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihood Improvement Program (OPELIP) was implemented with the Collaboration of Dongaria Kandh Development Agency (DKDA) and FNGO-Shakti. VDCs were selected to take one activity through SHG in the village. Hence, one active SHG named Tapaharuwas selected for the purpose of promotion of Rice Milling Unit under OPELIP-AWP&B-2018-19.

Tapaharu SHG is situated in OPELIP project operational PVTG villages named Sakata and it belongs to Munikhola grampanchayat of Muniguda block of Rayagada district. There are only PVTG category households are living in this village. The main occupation of this village is cultivation, NTFP collection & daily wages.

Action taken by Tapaharu SHG members for promotion of sustainable Livelihoods activities was through Rice Milling Unit under OPELIP-AWB&P-2018-19. As a result, the VDC provided one Rice Milla long with all necessary equipment for smooth running of unit and started one old building of DKDA Chatikona. Now 12-15 Hill Top PVTG village are getting benefit through this Rice Milling Unit because all PVTG village are around 10-20km from Rice Mill Unit and it is the nearest Mill of the all PVTG villages.

After the intervention of OPELIP project, MPA Team along with FNGO Shakti visit regularly and took strong initiatives for inclusion of Tapaharu SHG for promotion of sustainable livelihood through Rice Mill Unit. As a result, group members are very happy and their weekly income is coming around Rs.1000 to Rs.1500 and trying to educate them to run the unit themselves. Now Tapaharu SHG members have created a new identity in the project operational areas through the initiative.



Drinking Water Facility at Soura PVTG Village

The Village Jubasahi, in Ganjam district of Patrapur block of Ankuli Gram Panchayat is situated at foothills of the Ankuli hills. As PVTG, they always depend upon resources of forest. But the situation of the village has been changed with the interventions of the OPELIP in the village. There are 135 people, living in twenty-six houses in this Jubasahi village. Even after 73 years of independence, there is no good road to the village. But when the OPELIP programme started working in villages, people found a ray of hope. Living without quality drinking water is very difficult. Hence, people were using whatever water was available to them either stream water drainage water. For the last twenty years, perhaps this trend has caused so much trouble. Due to this, most of the village women as well as elderly people face a lot of trouble. Five years ago, there was no electricity in village, due to which it was difficult to collect water in dark night. And because of this disillusionment, many people have died. But right now, people have access for water in the backside of each house. Two years ago, OPELIP brought a ray of hope among the villagers. With the help of the OPELIP-TDA and ISARA team facilitated to bring water to the village. Last August, all met together for a village meeting and according to the opinion of everyone; they decided to eradicate the pain of water forever. Looking at the need for accessibility of quality water, OPELIP supported to get water from 2000meter, and constructed stand posts behind every household of village. Now all people of the village have better accessibility to quality water and it has been easy to rear livestock. Now, villagers are also raising kitchen garden for accessing healthy and nutritious diets.

This thing may remain in the heart of people that OPELIP has supported them to access quality water along with quality living style among the villagers. Such type of work is really appreciated by the neighboring villagers in the locality.



Tale Of Babi Dalei: Enhanced Livelihood With OPELIP

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Thirty-sevenyears old Babi Dalei,a PVTG woman is living with her husband RenkaDalei along with their children in Mahalimba village, a hilly forest fringe tribal village under Buratal Gram Panchayat of Patrapur Block in Ganjam District of Odisha. They have less crop land. Both husband and wife even they paid more time in field, the yield only met 6 months of household maintenance in a year. The livelihood was in risk and challenging always. In the mean while, OPELIP started intervention in PVTG villages which are under Tumba Development Agency, Tumba, Ganjam. Unfortunately, Renka Dalei, Bobby's husband fell down from the tree and died while collecting wild honey. After death of her husband, entire family burden was lying on her. Managing day-to-day expenses and study expenses of two daughters and one son was too difficult as they have very less land and there was no outside income.

In a VDA meeting while selecting for IGA beneficiary, VDA considered her application and selected as IGA beneficiary for vegetable vending. She was supported with Rs18,000.00. With that Rs.18000 she procured vegetable tray, weigh machine, bamboo bin, vegetable seeds and some vegetable plants. She started vegetable cultivation in her small piece of land as well as vegetable vending. OPELIP support strengthened her inner hope and encouraged her to be more active in her work.

As she has the knowledge of vegetable cultivation, she worked hard to get more production in her small piece of land. She cultivated seasonal crops and also procured seasonal vegetables for selling in the local market. She sells vegetable in her village, nearby hilly villages and weekly market of Buratal, Bhaliasahi. Besides agriculture she earns Rs. 4000/- to Rs.5000/- monthly from the vegetable vending and manage her family expenses. We and many people in that area are witness to see her pain, struggle for achieving the livelihood.



Tailoring Unit : A Means of Empowerment

Junapani village is situated in wildlife sanctuary of Sunabeda which is situated at 3500 ft. above mean sea level. There are 87 Bhunjia households (HHs) in Sarbashakti VDC i.e., one village is Junapani of 72 HHs and another hamlet village named Thalipani of 15 households. Most of the people depend on Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) collection and agricultural labour for their livelihood.

Mr. Jogeswar Chhatria has three children i.e., two daughters and one son. His daughter Basanti Chhatria is a youth who had knowledge in tailoring. As the village is situated in interior and around seven km away from the revenue village, there was a scope for setting a tailoring unit to fulfill need of stitching clothes in the village.

In VDC meeting, it was discussed about above issues and finally identified solution for tailor work in the village. In the financial year, VDA members selected Basanti's name for IGA under tailoring unit. Her name was recommended to give an approval of PD OPELIP for starting tailoring unit. He started the work in this Financial Year 2022-23, as per OPELIP AWPB, VDA gave financial support to Rs.27000/- (Rupees Twenty-Seven Thousand) only to Basanti Chhatria for her tailoring unit. She bought one stitching machine and another zigzag machine so that she can do different type of repair and new cloth work. OPELIP supported a bicycle which was purchased by her but it is very much helpful to her family. Her father moves to Sunabeda market in Friday and purchases clothes and cotton.

Now a days, she earns Rs.3000-3500/- per month and manages her family smoothly. OPELIP not only helps them financially but also makes her work easier and improved her livelihood. She is living happily with her family through the support of OPELIP under CBDA Sunabeda.



Carpentry : A Ray of Happiness

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Junapani village is situated in wildlife sanctuary of Sunabeda which is situated at 3500 ft. above mean sea level. There are 87 Bhunjia households (HHs) in Sarbashakti VDC Most of the people depend on their livelihood on Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) collection and agricultural labour.

Mr Sailendra Chhatra is very poor man of this village, he is 55 years of old. He is a daily wages labour and Carpenter. He earned daily Rs.100 to Rs.150 rupees, which is not sufficient to manage his 5 member's family. However, he approached the OPELIP members for financial support for his work through VDC of the village.

In financial year 2022-23, VDA members selected his name for IGA and sent his name for approval through OPELIP process. After approval, he started work after getting financial support of Rs.27000/- (Rupees Twenty-Seven Thousand) only as per OPELIP AWPB VDA for his carpentry work. He purchased various carpentry tools and materials as well as electronic machines. After that he has made and sold a lot of wooden items in a very short period of time.

Now a days, he earned Rs.10000-12000/- per month and manage his family smoothly. OPELIP not only helped them financially but also made his work easier and improved his livelihood. He is living happily with his family through support of OPELIP under CBDA Sunabeda.



Paper Plate Unit : Enhancing Livelihood of PVTG



Khajuri village of DKDA Chatikona is located in the hills and mountains covered environment of Bisama Cuttack block in Rayagada district. The village is inhabited by Dangaria Kandha primitive tribal people. Earlier economic condition of the Dangaria Kandha women of this village was miserable. They were depending entirely on forestry, agriculture and forest products for their livelihood such as mainly of cultivation of turmeric, ginger, pineapple, batiri and other forest products, such as Siali leaves, Honey, Resin, etc..

In view of all these problems, the Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihoods Improvement Programme (OPELIP), extended a helping hand on

behalf of DKDA Chatikona. They united the women of this village and formed a self-help group named Maa Mangala SHG for empowerment of women. This Maa Mangala SHG was trained to make a paper plate unit. For this purpose, a financial support of Rs.2.5 lakh was provided. They bought machines with its accessories to establish a paper plate making unit. With the remaining amount, the group bought raw materials

and other necessary items required for the unit. Slowly they started the unit with making small quantity of paper plates and contacted some regular buyers and vendors to sell their paper plates.

Apart from this, the group started selling their paper plates in the nearest market. At present, they are able to earn Rs.22,000/- to Rs.25,000/- per month. From the profit amount, the SHG has already repaid whole amount of bank loan brought before initiation of the paper plate unit.

Now their financial condition has changed a lot and they have become self-sufficient. For this, they have expressed their gratitude to OPELIP and its officials.



Adoption of SRI Technology Boosts Productivity

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Mr. Narisingulu Kasi belongs to Bhataguda a small village near (4 K.m.) and inspite of congenial conditions for crop growth people are not applying modern technology in Bissamcuttack. His family belongs to BPL and is economically very poor. He was very depressed to find out that so he wants to bring change in crop production by adopting a new technology and best practices (SRI Paddy line transplanting and weeding by the help of conoweeder) in paddy cultivation. Finally, Narisingulu Kasi paddy crop production is increased 12.5 to 16 quintals / Ac. He earned from 1 Ac land $1600 \times 18 = 28,800/-$ as compared to the last year cultivation.



As like other farmers, Sri Kasi has got RGL -5204 variety of paddy seeds and required fertilizers support under OPELIP from DKDA office Chatikona in the month of June 2019. The technical support and meticulous advices obtained from field office DKDA, Chatikona added boost to his burning desire” said Narisingulu Kasi. He was provided technical advice and helped to manage the field following scientific recommendations. Time to time field inspections and regular support by the experts of the OPELIP field teams was



maintained.

Cultivation in SRI Method

For other farmers, seed price, time of sowing which effects on tillers formation and row to row and plant to plant spacing and SRI and Line transplanting benefits are properly explained. During the Farmer Field School (FFS) training, along with the other farmers, Shri Kasi got thorough knowledge on seed treatments, benefits of adoption of SRI methods and line sowing/transplanting, pests & disease control, inputs and irrigation management, farm mechanization, post harvest management, etc. He has just applied the knowledge what he has learnt during the FFS training and farm demonstration with the supervision of OPELIP field teams. After harvest he very well observed that the difference between traditional cultivation and SRI cultivation. In the conventional method, he was used to yield 12 Qtl per acre. In the adoption of SRI method Sri Kasi got 16 quintal production, i.e., 25% increased in production than the conventional method just by adopting SRI method and time and input management. In the mean time he has been also able to



reduce 35% of its production cost (labour cost) by adopting some mechanization, i.e., using of power tiller, tools used for weed management, using harvesting tools, threshers, etc.

Conventional method of sowing by farmer Narisingulu Kasi fielded Number of tillers as calculated by Farmer Narisingulu Kasi & practically observed the difference between traditional and SRI (line transplanting) crop growth and no of effective tillers and other benefits



During seed distribution to beneficiaries



During Crop production measurement 3m*3msq/m

By seeing his achievement other farmers are now showing interest to adopt SRI method and to get benefit from it. Now, he is a leading farmer adopted SRI methods in his locality. The success in Line Transplanting of Paddy cultivation was eye catching to other farmers in nearby villages. His interest to accept new technology brings happiness in his life and transformed him as a role model in Bhataguda village.

Fishing Boat for Livelihood Enhancement

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Khalaguda Village is situated in inner part of Khairput & comes under Andrahal GP of Khairput Block of Malkangiri district. Total 76 PVTG households are residing in the village. Mrs. Budri Sisa, Mrs. Bhanumati Sisa, Mrs. Rukmani Pujari, Mrs. Sukri Pujari and the members of their families lead the day to day life in a vulnerable

condition. Their major source of income is fishing and cultivation in a small un-irrigated land to maintain their livelihood. They are traditional fisherman doing ferrying in Machakund river. They had an old small boat on which they ferry the people; caught fish from the river and sold in local hatta. They were able to generate a decent earning by selling fish and ferrying the people at that time. fisherman group-5, net & boat-group/60,000/- CBM 2021, Total 3 lakh,

In the meantime, their boats were getting old and not repairable. As a result, their income level went down and was insufficient to manage their house. For this reason, these families were in difficult condition. Day by day their well being rank was going down and the families become poor to poorer.

After intervention OPELIP project, with the support of Village Development Committee (VDC). The above members requested the VDC, to get a new boat for ferry as well as fishing for livelihood support. The VDC members realized that the boat was becoming old and not suitable for ferry as well as fishing as far as safety is concern. After discussion in the VDC meeting, the committee finalized the proposals and agreed to

provide financial support of Rs.120000/-for purchase of new boat.

In the year-2019-20, the VDC provided support of Rs.120000/- to the beneficiary under OPELIP, IGA-Component and Sub-component-livelihood improvement to support small entrepreneurs. With this amount, the beneficiary purchased two nos. of new bigger boats.

Delighted to hear about the financial support through fishing boat, Rs.120,000/- was supported from the OPELIP sanctioned two nos. of new bigger boat under IGA Category. The amount enabled to purchase a new and a bigger boat thereby reaping better earnings. The families relieved with full of smile and happiness at the arrival of new boat.

They are also maintaining record to know and ascertain the earning from Boat. Now they are more self-dependent and able to manage their small family in a dignified manner and educate their children as it is complementing the objective of projects that was implemented in remote area which created an example for other Villages for Implementation.





Gajapati district is fully surrounded by natural resources and known as the habitat of particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs) especially at Chandragiri of Mohana Block which is known as a tourist place in the district. Soura Community is the PVTG of Gajapati District. There are 9 Gram Panchayats where Soura community is residing in

Chandragiri area. In 1969, (SDA) Soura Development Agency (SDA) was established for the development of the community. The agency mainly focuses on health, Education, Agricultural development of PVTGs area. In the last 52 years, SDA has been trying to mainstream the Soura Tribes for the holistic development. In this area, there is a village namely Jamadhia of Badasindhiba Panchayat. There are 60 families who belong to PVTGs in the village. This village is situated around 19 k.m. away from the block and around 118 k.m. far from the district headquarter. All the villagers belong to socially and economically backward class. Suresh Dalabehera living with his wife is a physically challenged and a dumb person and lives below poverty line category. Daily wage was the major source of income to manage his livelihood. It was



very difficult for the family to survive on this single source of income. Suresh Dalabehera had a deep desire to earn, but couldn't get any work because of his dumbness.

During VDC meeting the villagers discussed about Suresh Dalabehera to improve his livelihood. Through the well-being ranking analysis, his family falls under poorest of the poor category, and the beneficiary is literate to handle a business activity.

In the Year 2020-21, the VDC gave IGA support to Suresh for livelihood improvement by establishment of a fast-food shop. The fast-food shop is situated at Jamadhia village of the inner part of Mohana Block. OPELIP supported Rs.18000/- and he was provided support of amount Rs.6000/- under IGA category. With the amount, he bought gas, utensils, fast food items and started his business in his own shop. His daily income becomes Rs.300-500 after the investment of the seed capital. Now his savings in bank is Rs 5000/- per month. His family members are happy. Seeing his success, other people of the villages are encouraged to undertake this type of work. He got self-employment and was recognized as a successful person in his village. In this way OPELIP supported through IGA to Suresh Dalabehera to earn livelihood and gave opportunity for a physically challenged person as a budding entrepreneur. Suresh & his wife thanks to OPELIP for the timely support and guidance for the enhancing income of the family.



Flour Mill Unit Through IGA Support

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Gajapati district is fully surrounded by natural resources and known as the habitat of particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs) especially at Chandragiri of Mohana Block which is known as a tourist place in the district. Soura Community is the PVTG of Gajapati District. There are 9 Gram Panchayat where Soura community is residing in Chandragiri area. In 1969, (SDA) Soura Development Agency (SDA) was established for the development of the community. The agency mainly focuses on health, Education, Agricultural development of PVTGs area. In the last 52 years, SDA has been trying to mainstream the Soura Tribes for the holistic development.

In this area there is a village namely Padhigon of Baghamari gram panchayat. There are 44 families who belong to PVTG in

the village. This village is situated 23 km distance from the block and 90 km away from the District Head Quarter. All the villagers belong to BPL category, socially and economically backward. Debaki Sabar and her son live in Padhigon village. She is an widow person. Debaki is a daily labour which was the major source of income to manage her livelihood. It was very difficult for the family to survive on the

single source of income.

During the VDC meeting, villagers discussed about Debaki Sabar and her livelihood. Through the well-being ranking analysis her family falls under the poor category. Moreover, the beneficiary is literate to handle a business. In the Year 2020-21, the VDC gave IGA

support to Debaki for livelihood improvement by establishment of Flour Mill in the village. OPELIP supported Rs. 18000/- and she was provided support of amount of Rs.3000/- under IGA to set up flour machine. With that amount, she bought Flour Mill machine and started her business in her own house. She got Rs.100-250 as a daily income after investment of the seed capital. Now she has a saving of Rs. 9000/- in bank.

Seeing her success, other households are encouraged for this type of work. She got self-employment and became recognized as a successful woman in the village. This way OPELIP helped Debaki Sabar to earn livelihood and become a budding entrepreneur.





Sri Biram Soren belongs to Fulbadia village of Gadigaon Gram Panchyat of Moroda block. He belongs to the Lodha community of Mayurbhanj district. He is a farmer and cultivates only paddy in Kharif.

After implementation OPELIP project he was willing for vegetable cultivation and showed interest to go for training to School of Horticulture at Khorda, selected by village meeting for the financial year 2018-19. After successfully completed the 30 days training at School of Horticulture, Khorda he was able for 10 ha. Cashew plantation under MGNREGA2020-21 onwards and go for inter cropping different vegetable in his land. In the inter cropping. He cultivate Ginger, Bitter gourd, Cucumber, Cowpea, Ridge gourd, Yam, Okra supported by OPELIP projects through Agril. Inputs in the financial year 2021-22.

Besides they use to depend completely on monsoon for the cultivation of food grains earlier, but he is able to cultivate more from the irrigation facility of dams, canals, tube-wells, pump sets, solar base irrigation bore-well. Also they have a better choice of fertilizers, pesticides and seeds which helped to grow more food grain in comparison to what they produced in past.

Cowpea:-Harvested 1.5Qtl (From of 200Grms seeds) in 0.50Acer

Cucumber:-Harvested 1.5Qtl (from 200Grms seed) in 0.50Acer

Okra:-Harvested 2Qtl (from 500Grms seeds) in 0.70Acer

Training and technical Support was provided by JAO of MPA and AO of FNGO, OPELIP project for the success. CRP & VAW were in continuous touch with farmer for successful implementation of the projects. During lockdown he harvested above item during late Covid-19 period and got good remuneration and motivated other farmers of the locality. Now the vegetable cultivation is giving additional income to his income. He gets regular income from the vegetable cultivation ranging from Rs. 5000/-Rs. 8000/- per month. Other farmers from the village are coming to him and helping each other through sharing knowledge and skills.



Banana Cluster Promotion at Hatipadar

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There are 30 farmers in Hatipadar village under Sibapadar Grampanchy at of Muniguda block of Rayagada district. The village is situated 12 km away from Muniguda block and 75 km away from District Head Quarters, Rayagada. There are 45 Households with ST, SC & OBC categories in this village. The main occupation of this village is cultivation & daily labour work. Maximum of the villagers are BPL & job card holders. Out of them 30 farmers are progressive having small and marginalized farmer category. During the FY 2020-21 OPELIP implemented different activities in project operational area like- promotion of sustainable Livelihoods activities through promotion of banana cluster. Accordingly, 30 farmers were selected for promotion of Tissue Culture of G-9 variety through banana cluster approach with the support of DKDA Chatikana under OPELI project in collaboration with DKDA Chatikona & Shakti, FNGO. After finalization at VDC, banana Tissue Culture of G-9 variety was supplied as per the need of the locality.

Mr. Venketaswara Kanta, CRP and team members of FNGO along with OPELIP Hatipadar VDC has taken special interest for 30 farmers for promotion of sustainable livelihood program through Tissue Culture G-9 variety banana from OPELIP. VDC members put farmers name in AWBP for Tissue Culture G-9 variety and provided planting material (250 plants for each farmer) and Bio-fertilizers through Hatipadar OPELIP Gramya Unyana Sangha. However, OPELIP provided technical support to all farmers through Agriculture Officer and VAW like planting method, Plant Measurement & Technical method of plantation and so on for production enhancement and their sustainable livelihood improvement. After the intervention of OPELIP project and Shakti, Agriculture professionals visited and assured to link farmers on agriculture related livelihood program as well as supervision and monitoring for promotion of agriculture activities through banana cluster among 30 farmers in 3.0 ha of land in the year 2020-21 financial year. As a result, local CRP and VAW have taken strong initiative for inclusion of 10 farmers in promotion of sustainable livelihood through Tissue Culture G-9 variety with cluster mode. All farmers have harvested income of Rs. 50000-60000 from 0.25ac of land. After intervention of OPELIP project, there is improvement on knowledge and skills on land preparation process, value addition process for marketing linkages, convergence and net-working with line departments etc. Moreover, farmers have created a new identity and model agriculture intervention in the project operational areas with their sincerity and decent work. There is a remarkable change in the attitude of the PVTGs community for undertaking improved package of practices for enhancing production.



Rugudakudar is a PVTG village comprising of 128 households with 642 total population. As per social category; out of 128 households, 127 are PVTG households which comprises 636 PVTG population. Another adjacent village to Rugudakudar is Depatala in east, Saida village in west, Sarankote village in north & Damita in west. All the adjacent villages are 4 to 6 KM distance from Rugudakudar village. Rugudakudar has perennial source of irrigation facility i.e. a stream water is flowing throughout the year & more than 50 acre of land is irrigated through this perennial source.

Previously the members of above SHGs have cultivated sunflower individually. Most of the members have cultivated sunflower in less than 1 acre area. So, the production was very less. And they have done this for personal use only. They have extracted oil from those sunflower & used for domestic purpose.

After intervention of OPELIP & formation of VDCs & other committees, gradually those people were coming to different meetings of VDC & agricultural training. In those trainings, experts from MPA & FNGO made them understand about the group approach of cultivation & profit of those activities. Then, in thematic trainings, trainers & experts trained them on Sunflower cultivation in the group approach in a big patch. The profit of group approach in sunflower cultivation is that, they will have a large area for cultivation & the production will be more. After production they will extract oil & sell it in market. They got benefits of Rs. 60, 000 in the last financial year. Ultimately group approach is meant for business purpose, which will enhance their livelihood as a whole as well as individually.



After several meetings & training, they have decided to start sunflower cultivation in groups. 8 numbers of SHGs took an initiative in 20 Acre (8 Ha.) area for cultivation of Sunflower. Perennial irrigation source is blessings in disguise for them for Sunflower cultivation.

Now-a-days they have achieved a grand success in sunflower cultivation, which brings a great smile in their face. Another initiative they have taken to install an oil extraction unit in Rugudakudar, which is also managed by SHGs. This reflects group effort brings a great success in sunflower cultivation.

Leading life with Dignity through Income Generation Activity

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Leading a life with dignity & managing family for a widow is very much difficult. But a tribal woman has proved that, it is possible due to strong will power, interest for work, dedication towards work & family support. Pratima Mahanta, wife of Late Tareswar Mahanta is a live example of a woman who is living her life with dignity by earning her bread & butter from Tailoring Shop, Tailoring Training Center & Garment shop. Her husband Shri Tareswar Mahanta died due to his kidney failure. After his death, Smt. Pratima Mahanta was completely helpless and searching for an opportunity to lead her life. She has a boy who studies in a English Medium school in fourth standard. Moreover, she has to take care of mother-in-law & father-in-law. Her husband was only earning member in her family. After few days, she joined a Tailoring Training Center. She took a training of 6 months on tailoring. During FY 2018-19, OPELIP has extended support of Rs.30,000.00 to open a Tailoring Unit. VDC of Harekrushnapur bought two Tailoring Machines- one was for stitching & another was for inter-lock. VDC also supported for Cotton, Treads, Needles, Measurement items & other required items which were necessary for running a tailoring unit.

After OPELIP support she started a full-fledged tailoring unit. At the beginning she worked alone. After 2 months she started a Tailoring Training Center. In the Tailoring Training Center, she trained four trainees. She trained them for next 6 months. After completion of training, she engaged them as employees. After one year she started a Garment shop just side of her tailoring unit. Whatever she stitched, those items are sold in that garment shop. Apart from that, she bought readymade garments from Rourkela, Sambalpur & Bhubaneswar & sold those in her Garment shop. During lock down she has started preparing different variety of Mask in her tailoring unit & sold them in the Garment shops at Barkote, Banei, Deogarh & Sundargarh market. She has also prepared masks as per order of different vendors. During 2nd phase lockdown she has prepared 4000 of mask & sold in different places. Per month she earned Rs.15,000.00 to Rs.20,000.00 & from this earning she is managing her livelihood. She always thanks OPELIP for the support and guidance for enhancing livelihoods. Now-a-days she leads her life with dignity and creates employment opportunity for others in the village.



Wilt resistance variety of brinjal (Blue Star) benefitted Harsha Pangi

Harsha Pangi, a ST beneficiary having 30 years old of Pakhnaguda OPELIP Unnayan Sangha of K.gumma gram Panchayat, lives with her husband and two children (one son and one daughter). Their main source of income solely depend on agriculture. She lives at Pakhnaguda village of K.gumma gram panchayat of Khairaput block of Malkangiri District. He owns a total of four acres of land in which he cultivates Paddy, Ragi, Tomato, Chilly, brinjal etc. based on the preferred season. During Kharif 2022, she got support from OPELIP, DDA, K.gumma. She was given 50gm of BLUESTAR (WILT RESISTANCE VARIETY) of brinjal along with 1.2 kg of seaweed extract fertilizer, 1kg of neem powder and 2kg of azotobacter. She was given timely advice and guidance. However, she harvested an average yield of 2 quintal 80kg of brinjal (berry) from 0.1 ha of land. This yield was



achieved from 8-9 times of harvestings. A weekly picking of the berries is done on Wednesday evening to sell at local weekly market on Thursday. There is weekly interval to the succeeding pickings. On the first picking she got an yield of 32.5 kg of brinjal followed by 31kg, 30.5kg, 33kg, 30 kg, 29.5 kg, 33kg, 29kg, 28.5 kg respectively from the succeeding weekly harvests. She sold 20/- per kg of brinjal in local weekly market. Till now from the 8-9 harvestings, she has earned an amount of Rs. 5600/-. Still 4-5 more pickings/harvest are expected from her field. She is happy with her income generated through brinjal cultivation. As per her opinion, she was able to get more yield only because of wilt resistant variety of brinjal. She bought a goat for an amount of Rs. 4700/- and a 100lit capacity water storage drum for irrigating the field. She thanks OPELIP for providing her timely inputs, guidance and support for enhancing income from vegetable cultivation.

A Check Dam at Talasumatha

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Keonjhar district is fully surrounded by Natural Resources and with Tribal People. In Banspal block, Gonasika has been known as main place for Tourism in the district. Juang community is known as the PVTG of the Keonjhar district. There are 6 Panchayats of Juang community residing in Gonasika. Juanga Development Agency was established in the year 1978 for the development of the Juang community. The Agency mainly focus as on health, Education, Agricultural development of PVTG (mainly Juanga Tribes) and has been trying to main streaming the Juanga Tribes for last 43 years.

In this area there is a village namely Talasumatha of Baragarh Panchayat having 44 PVTG families. This village is situated 36 km away from block and 25km distance from the district head quarters. This village is 10 km from Gonasika tourist Place. They depend on Agriculture and daily wages. But they have more unproductive upland

without any Irrigation facility. So they could not cultivate these land throughout the year. They have faced financial problem and water crisis. Due to degraded upland and irrigation problem they do not even cultivate their Land in rainy season. In the mean time JDA Keonjhar, in collaboration with WOSCA through OPELIP (Odisha PVTG empowerment & Livelihood Improvement program) worked for development of the village. The programme has started with the objective of livelihood enhancement and poverty eradication of the PVTG's in the area. Adding to the objective the effort has been given to improve their living condition through different livelihood activities under various Schemes like CCD, SCA to TSP, Article 275(1), and RKVY. During village meeting, VDA members planned for develop their upland and construction of a Check Dam for irrigation.. Because through this project 15 hac. of upland can developed under Land Development Activity of OPELIP project and also irrigated by Check dam. With the suggestion of VDA, JE of the project has planned for total 15 hectors land development of 34nos of farmers in the village and construction of a Check Dam for Irrigation purpose. There was a Perennial source above the head of the land. In this area 25 hectors of upland has developed for cultivation which been benefitted to 44 nos farmers. Its estimated cost is 4.32 lakh and a Diversion Drain constructed under SCA to TSS Scheme. The estimated cost of this project is Rs. 5.00 lakh. At the time of project work the farmers contributed their labour for digging the foundation of the Check Dam. The VDC members monitored and successfully completed the work. For the protection and the smooth management of the Project a User's Group was formed. Now project has been completed. VDA has prepared a plan for Kharif, Rabi and Summer Crops like Paddy, Wheat, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Brinjal, Radish, Tomato, Potato. They hope to get Rs.50,000/- profit by each farmer from this cultivation after their own consumption.





Batelima Village is Situated in the inner part of Lanjigarh Block under Kalahandi District. There are 105 nos. of households living together in this village including PVTG, SC, & OBC communities. All the PVTG villagers belong to BPL category, socially and economically backward. Purandhar Majhi, a poor is living in the same village with his mother. Daily Labour was the major source of income to maintain his livelihood. After his father's death he was dropped his education at 12th. It was very difficult for the family to survive with low income. Due to this painful situation, Purandhar Majhi migrated to outside of district for searching his livelihood.

During covid-19, he came back to home due to loss of job. Purandhar had a deep desire to earn, but couldn't get any work. During the VDA meeting, the villagers discussed about Purandhar Majhi for his livelihood. In the year 2021-22, he got support for Welding workshop by Batelima VDC. He was provided support of amount 25,000/- under Income Generation Activity (IGA) category. With that amount, he bought few types of machinery and other tools for welding and started business in his own shop. It is indeed happy days for Purandhar Majhi, as he never thought of a own work shop, He covers 5 villages and gets Rs.1000/- 1200/- per day income. This way OPELIP (IGA) helped Purandhar Majhi to earn livelihood and becomes an entrepreneur.



Lemon Grass Oil Extraction Unit : An Intervention for Livelihood Promotion for SHG

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Many times, it has been experienced that a good act with collective inputs leads to get another mileage of self-respect. Positive thought with qualitative input paves the way forward to lead the way of sustenance with varied experiences and options to follow.



Maa Tulashi SHG of Tangankana village under Lanjigarh block of Kalahandi has its uniqueness by way of doing lemongrass cultivation as well as involvement in Lemongrass oil extraction. Consisting of 10 PVTG women members, who were not outspoken, were suppressed by illiteracy & poor economic condition & moved forward with a holistic collective approach leaving behind the drudgery like situation emancipating the quality of life with a dignified way.

Enhancing knowledge through capacity building trainings on financial

literacy/ inclusion, preparing Business Development Plan (BDP) for entrepreneurship models, participation in meetings through articulation and decision-making, ensuring ways & means towards drudgery reduction at household and community level have been the key indicators/implications to their success

A Lemongrass oil extraction unit, supported through OPELIP to the SHG in August, 2019, is managed by SHG members throughout the year. In a season they could earn Rs.40, 000 by processing of 40 trip tractor load of raw lemongrass. Generally the machine works for 20 days in one season and in 3 to 4 months. Averagely, the SHG gets around Rs.1.5 lakh per annum which is being kept into their bank accounts & return is being divided among the members who are engaged in the process. Market linkage has been established with TDCC, ITDA, ORMAS along with most of local buyers to sell the extracted oil. Farmers are getting a good remunerative price by cultivating Lemon grass which has been widely spread in the area. The SHG is providing services to more than 30 nearby villagers.

Being engaged in the activity, women found an assured livelihood throughout the year at the door step, and minimized drudgery in being involved as wage labour, stone carving, earthen works and even agri-allied activities.

Last year, SHG had attended Adivasi

Mela held in Bhubaneswar to sell Lemongrass oil as well as the black coloured aromatic rice which created lots of enthusiasm among farmers as well as other SHG members in the village.



To take up more possible opportunities and enrich their skills with technicalities, spot guidance, on-field demonstration are being given by experts. Adding on, field staffs from OLM, Mission Shakti, OPELIP and FNGO are providing hand holding supports for SHG book-keeping, financial management and market linkage.

As part of paradigm shift, life status of SHG members is not as insecure as it was earlier. Rather, it has earmarked the way towards self-sustainability with exemplary ethos and life changing indicators/implications. No doubt, with such temperament, women folk will have their dignity and stardom in the society at par with men and women empowerment will be established in real sense.

In Sarbashakti VDC, Junapani, under Thalipani is a hamlet village, which is situated in wildlife sanctuary Sunabeda. Thalipani hamlet is 7 KMs away from the Junapani village and one KM away from Chatishgarh boarder. This hamlet village has 13 Chuktia Bhunjia families who depend on Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) collection and agricultural work for their livelihood.

After independence there was no electricity in this village, and all households depended on kerosene lamp for lighting which was more expensive. Hence, OPELIP has taken initiatives to electrify the village through solar grid. In VDA meeting, they discussed with all the VDA members and approached OPELIP for the support. In the village meeting, a user group was formed and solar grid was installed in the village to electrify all households. All households get electricity for with two bulbs and one ceiling fan through solar grid. All households are making a payment of Rs. 20 per month as user fee for the maintenance of the solar grid in future.



Diversion Based Irrigation creates a livelihood opportunity for Juang community

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In JDA, Gonasika there is a village namely Hatisila of Baragarh Gram Panchayat. There are 83 families living in this village. Out of them, 49 Juanga households are residing in the Hatisila village. This village is situated around 40 km distance from the block and 35 km distance from the district head quarters. This village is 4 km from Gonasika tourist Place. The farmers of the village depend on agriculture and daily wages. But they have more unproductive upland without any Irrigation facility. So, they could not cultivate the land throughout the year. They faced financial problem and water crisis. Due to degraded upland and irrigation problem, they do not cultivate their land in Kharif also. They raise their voice in every forum. In 2020-21 financial year, VDA meeting has been conducted and VDA members raised this issue. Villagers cooperated the OPELIP officials in identify the source of irrigation. There was a perennial source. The villagers made a plan with the support of OPELIP JE for Diversion Base Irrigation (DBI) system under CCD fund. The JE prepared project report for this project. The estimated cost of this project was Rs. 5 lakhs. At



the time of project work, farmers contributed their labour for earth work and laying of the pipe. The VDC members monitored and successfully completed the work. For the protection and the smooth management of the project, a User Group has been formed. The project was completed in 2021-21. In kharif season, 40 farmers cultivated paddy in 25ha area. In Rabi season 10 acres of land was used for vegetable cultivation. Now, the VDA has prepared a plan for summer Crops like Okra, Brinjal and Bitter Gourd etc. They hope they will get more than Rs. 50,000/- profit by this type of cultivation after their own consumption. The farmers got self-employment in their land throughout the year. Seeing the benefits of this DBI channel, villagers have gained wage employment and expressed their happiness towards the support of OPELIP for the community.



Implementation of OPELIP was initiated in the year 2017-18 in Lanjigarh Block in the context of several issues which adversely impacted and influenced the life and livelihoods of tribal population. Enhancement of livelihood opportunities for PVTGs within the village through various targeted interventions is the central objective of the OPELIP in the tribal region of Odisha. JANASAHAJYA plays an important role of a facilitating NGO for Lanjigarh Block to prepare ground work in mobilizing and empowering the community as primary stakeholders and enabling the VDC emerged in a process as a representative CBO to implement the program within the village. The interventions were implemented by VDC and facilitated by FNGO during the last four years under different components. No doubt, OPELIP have generated impact on community life in general and livelihoods in particular. Keeping in view of the scope and support of OPELIP, Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) was formed in the OPELIP

program Villages i.e. Tangankana to support the marginal farmers who have not able to cultivate their land because of not available of bullock or agri. implements though it was plan to set up a CHC at the village. The VDC members form a General Body (GB) of CHC by taking the President, Secretary, SHG member then formed an Executive Committee (E.C).

With the focused objective to mobilize and pool resources and initiate action for agricultural production and increase productivity of the land within OPELIP area, OPELIP team have not let any opportunity to slip away during the implementation process. Responding to the need, it was planned for the convergence with programs of resource organization as well as line departments at all level.

As promotion of agriculture, EC member provide the service to the needy farmers and collect users charges from them and deposit at bank account and it is used at time of maintenance of the implement when required. The over view of the impact and changes that contributed to improved livelihood scenario in the community.

The number of people engaged and the area covered under cultivation has been increased due to use of the implements in the village area. Moreover, area of cultivation is increase compared to earlier and the marginal small farmer using this implement with less price as compare to local tractor. Now the villagers are being happy to get the opportunity at their door Step.



Mustard Cultivation By PVTG SHG

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This is a success story of 4 SHG members of Jalisuan village on Mustard cultivation. Before enlightening to their success, just have look on their previous process of Mustard cultivation, which they have narrated.

Jalisuan is a PVTG village comprising of 336 total Household with 1008 total population. As per social category; out of 336 household 47 are PVTG Household which comprises of 185 PVTG population. Other adjacent village to Jalisuan is Budhabhuin in east, Kaliapal village in west, Jinikala village in north & Pacheripani in west. All the adjacent villages are 4 to 10 KM distance from Jalisuan village. Previously the members of above SHGs have cultivated Mustard individually. Most of the members have cultivated mustard in less than 1 Acr area. So, the production was very less. And they have done this for personal use only. They have extracted oil from those Mustard & used for domestic purpose.

After intervention of OPELIP under Agriculture production cluster (APC), this village was selected as mustard cluster. Irrigation source was created In RKVY scheme. A solar based irrigation structure was installed where 5000 liter water tank and 20 nos of stands posts are built in this cluster and more than 25 Acre of land are irrigated through this source. After that both MPA & FNGO staffs have called VDA meeting and formed user group for future operation & maintenance of the Project, Gradually those people were coming to different meetings of VDC & agricultural training. In those trainings' experts from MPA & FNGO made them understand about the group approach of cultivation & profit of those activities. Then, in thematic trainings, trainers & experts trained them on Mustard cultivation in group approach in a big patch. The profit of group approach in Mustard cultivation is that, they will have a large area for cultivation & the production will be more. After production they will extract oil & sell it in market. Ultimately group approach is meant for business purpose, which will enhance their livelihood as a whole as well as individually.

After several meetings & training, they have decided to start Mustard cultivation in groups. 4 numbers of SHGs took an initiative in 25 Acr (10 Ha.) area for cultivation of Mustard. Solar based irrigation source is blessings in disguise for them for Mustard cultivation.

Now-a-days they will achieve a grand success in mustard cultivation, which will brings a great smile in their face. Another initiative is that they have planned to install an oil extraction unit in their Village . This reflects, Group effort brings a great success in Mustard cultivation.

Keonjhar district is fully surrounded by Natural Resources and with Tribal People. In this district, Gonasika of Bansapal Block is known as main place for Tourism. Juang community is known as the PVTG of the Keonjhar district. There are 6 Panchayat of Juang community people residing in Gonasika. In 1978, JDA was established for the development of the Juanga community. The Agency mainly focuses on health, Education, Agricultural development of PVTG (mainly Juanga Tribes), Aslo JDA has been trying to main streaming the Juanga Tribes through all round development since 40 years.

In this area there is a village namely Talabaruda of Baragarh Panchayat having 89 families living in this village. Out of these 41 Juanga household are residing in the Talabaruda village. This village is situated 32km distance from block and 25km distance from the district head quarters. This village is 5 km from Gonasika tourist Place.

Debananda Juanga of this village aged 25 is a farmer in this village. He owned 1.5 acres of land out of this 0.5 acre is low land. 0.75 acre of Medium land and 0.25 acre is high land which has called Gharabari. He could manage his family for 4-6 months only through cultivation of paddy in his low and medium land and daily wage. But he could not give his family

nutritional food because he is unable to buy vegetables with his small income. In the mean time JDA keonjhar, in collaboration with leading volunteer organisation of the district namely

WOSCA through OPELIP (Odisha PVTG empowerment & Livelihood Improvement program) has reached to the village. The programme has been started in the objective of

livelihood enhancement and poverty eradication, enhancing the Nutritional food security of the PVTG's. Adding to the objective, the effort has been given to improve their living condition through different developmental activity. During the VDC meeting people came to know that the OPELIP is providing both technical and financial support to the poor households for Nutritional Garden (7days 7Home Programme) to reduce Malnutrition and Anaemia of children and mothers. 8 nos of households agreed for doing Household crop. Debananda Juanga is one of them. He started his Garden on his 0.25 acre of land near his home. VAW of OPELIP Project provided him technical support for preparation of Bed, hoeing, interculture, Organic fertiliser application.

After that Debananda Juanga started his Nutrition Garden activity (7 days 7 Home) and he Planted 40 nos of standing crops like Papaya, Banana, Coconut, Lemon, Guava, Drumsticks etc. . He started production of the leafy vegetable, Cabbage, Tomato, Okra, Beans, Cucumber etc in three seasons. For that programme he was getting nutritional food and managing his family nutritional requirement. After that he has planned for continuance that such garden and he also continues it.



Keonjhar district is full of forest and natural resources. Gonasika of Banspal block has special position, so far as Tourism map of district is concerned. Gonasika is also known as habitants of Juangas. They are the primitives (PVTG) of the area. For the development of this community, JDA (Juanga development agency) whose head quarter is at Gonasika has been working since 1978. After analysing different corners it has been observed that Gonasika is a attractive place.

Talabaruda is a village of these areas of Baragarh GP. Total 89 families are habitat in the village. Amongst them 41 families are of PVTG and 28 families are SC and 10 are OBC category. The PVTG village is situated 32 km from Block head quarter and 25km from district head quarters. The village is situated on the way to Gonasika from Keonjhar via Boxi Barigaon. Most of the households in this village are small and marginal farmer. Main crop of this village are Paddy, Mustard, Maize and Niger. Guru Juanga is one of small farmers in this village. He always follow the traditional method of agriculture. For that reason, his income was very low. He could not manage his family with this income and he faced financial crisis. He and his wife were working as daily wager to manage the family. Due to lack of technical knowledge about agriculture, his production is very poor. He is hoping for sustainable livelihood through agricultural activity.



In the mean time JDA supported in collaboration with leading volunteer organisation of the district namely WOSCA as FNGO through OPELIP (Odisha PVTG empowerment & Livelihood improvement program) program. The program has been started with the intension of livelihood enhancement of PVTG and poverty eradication through proper management of health awareness, education and Natural Resources Management. Adding to the objective the effort has been given to improve their living condition through different developmental activity. Opportunity came knocking on his door in the form of Talabaruda – OPELIP – UnnayanSangha under OPELIP project. Developmental worker of FNGO WOSCA, VAW (CSP) organised VDA meeting with the farmers. After discussion on different agricultural activity and technical support for that

farmers agreed to cultivate the Ragi in technical method. Guru Juanga adopted line sowing method and cultivated 0.25 acres of Ragi cultivation. After maturity of crops he harvested the Ragi. Comparatively his production is better than broad casting. In this year he is getting 0.5 quintal Ragi from his 0.25 acres of land which was 3 times more than Broad casting method. He could realize the profit of line sowing. Now he is happy due to increase his profit.

Improvement of living Condition Of Shiva Parbati SHG Through Goat Rearing

Siba Parbati SHG of Talachampe Village under Banspal Block of Keonjhar district, a PVTG SHG consisting of 10 PVTG members are very poor category and illiterate person. They are residing in Talachampe village with their family members. They managed their family by working in others agriculture field and MGNREGA work and Daily wage labour. This SHG is willing to do some activity to Improve their livelihood & earn money for themselves as well as for their family members also.

In the meantime JDA Gonasika, in collaboration with NGO-WOSCA through OPELIP (Odisha PVTG empowerment & Livelihood Improvement programme) worked in the village. The programme has started with the objective of livelihood enhancement and poverty eradication of the PVTG's implemented area. Adding to the objective, the effort has been given to improve their living condition through different developmental activity. Opportunity came knocking on his door in the form of Talachampe OPELIP- Unnayan Sangha, under OPELIP project. For Smooth Implementation of OPELIP Programme and livelihood Improvement of SHGs there was a Agreement held between OPELIP & OLM Director. In this context funds were transfer to concerned GPLF from the respective MPAs. By getting support of Rs 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand) only from Talachampe GPLF initially they brought 10 no's Goat by utilising this amount. After six months 07 no's of new kid were born from these Goats. They were covered under vaccination for all the goats with the help of Livestock Inspector (LIs) engaged through OPELIP Programme during this tenures. After 1 Year they sold 07 no's of goat and earned to the tune of 25,000/- and they save to this money at their SHGs Saving Account.

Four no's of Goats got Pregnancy during this time. The SHGs were willing to earn some money to secure their own as

well as their family's livelihood. Now they refunded to the tune of Rs 50,000/- to the Concerned GPLF by saving some money as well as earning money through outside works by the SHGs Members. Now they are willing to make a large goatery unit for themselves. To rear the Goatery they wanted to take second time PEF loan in the tune of Rs 100,000/- (Rupees One Lakhs) only and increase the no of Goats along with Indigenous variety of Hybrid Buck for the purpose of improved kid for future sale Purposes. By getting some money now they continue their children's study at nearby schools. During Covid Pandemic Period this PVTG Empowerment Fund (PEF) helped a lot to the SHGs to secure their livelihood in a sustainable manner with dignity. They have planned to grow as an Entrepreneur In their future aspects by Goat Rearing Unit. By getting such type of supports they convey their heartily gratitude to Talachampe GPLF. Now they are Happy with their family.



New Initiative of Dongaria Women Through Rice Mill Unit

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Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihood Improvement Program (OPELIP) was implemented with the Collaboration of DongariaKandh Development Agency (DKDA) and FNGO-Shakti. The overall strategy focuses on empowering of the community. The FNGO@Shakti Livelihood & Rural Finance Officer and local CRP Mr. Indramajhi Jakaka had given special emphasis on financial inclusions and promotion of sustainable livelihood program for poorest of the poor individual, active SHG for different income generation activities. With the above objective, VDCs were selected to take one activity through SHG in the village. Hence, one active SHG named Tapaharu was selected for the purpose of promotion of Rice Milling Unit under OPELIP-AWP&B-2018-19.

Tapaharu SHG is situated in OPELIP Project operational PVTG villages namely Sakata closely located in nearby Bhaliapadar villages under MunikholGrampanchyat of Muniguda block of Rayagada district. Village Sakata is 5Km away from the FNGO Project Office Muniguda block head quarter and 30km away from MPADKDA Chatikana office and 68km away from District Head Quarter Rayagada. There is only PVTG category households living in this village. The main occupation of this village is cultivation, NTFP collection& daily wages.

Action was taken by Tapaharu SHG members for promotion of sustainable Livelihoods activities through Rice Milling Unit under OPELIP-AWB&P-2018-19. As a result, the VDC provided one Rice Milla long with all necessary equipment for smooth running of unit and started one old building of DKDA Chatikona. Now 12-15 Hill Top PVTG village are getting benefit through this Rice Milling Unit because all PVTG villages are around 10-20km from Rice Mill Unit and it is the nearest Mill of the all PVTG villages.

After the intervention of OPELIP project, MPA Team along with FNGO Shakti visit regularly and took strong initiatives for inclusion of Tapaharu SHG for promotion of sustainable livelihood through Rice Mill Unit. As a result, group members are very happy and their weekly income is coming around Rs.1000 to Rs.1500 and trying to educate them to run the unit themselves. Now Tapaharu SHG members have created a new identity in the project operational areas through the initiative.



Farming is a Profession of Hope among PVTG



Sri Biram Soren & his family members generally practice Khariff farming & produce only paddy, then after in small areas on Vegetable was cultivated before the implementation OPELIP project. After implementation OPELIP project he was willing for vegetable cultivation and showed interest to go for training to School of Horticulture at Khorda, selected after being in village meeting for the financial year 2018-19. After successfully completed the 30days training at School of Horticulture, Khorda, he was able to take up 10 ha. Cashew plantation under MGNREGA 2020-21 on-wards and went for inter cropping with different vegetable in his land. In the inter cropping Ginger, Bitter gourd, Cucumber, Cowpea, Ridge gourd, Yam, Okra supported by OPELIP projects through Agril. Inputs in the financial year 2021-22 was praided.

Biram Soren Says “Besides these earlier we use to depend completely on monsoon for the cultivation of food grains, but now we have constructed the dams, canals, tube-wells, pump sets, solar base irrigation bore-well. Also we have a better chance of fertilizers, pesticides and seeds which is help us to grow more food grain in comparison to what we produced in past.”

Cowpea:- Harvested 1.5 Qtl (From of 200 Grm seeds) in 0.50 Acer

Cucumber:- Harvested 1.5 Qtl (from 200 Grm seed) in 0.50 Acer

Okra:-Harvested 2 Qtl (from 500 Grm seeds) in 0.70 Acer

Training and technical Support was provided by JAO of MPA and AO of FNGO, OPELIP project for the success. CRP & VAW continuously touched farmer for successful implement action of the projects. During lockdown he harvested above item during late Covid-19 period and got good remuneration and motivated other farmers of the locality. Now the vegetable cultivation is giving additional income to his income. Other farmers from the village are coming to him and helping each other through sharing knowledge and skills.



A Successful Farmer Of Water Melon Cultivation

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Mr. Goura Kultia is one of the frontline progressive farmers of Kebedatula Village of Kebedatula VDC under Sibapadar G.P. in Muniguda Block of Rayagada District. People of Kebedatula village are mainly farmers and depend on agriculture products throughout the year. This village comes under a good agro climatic zone with perineal water source. Before intervention of OPELIP, all farmers were not practicing new agricultural crops in that village/area other than paddy. Hence, there was less production from the agriculture land.

Mr. Goura Kultia showed interest to do in the new process of cultivation which could fetch better returns as compared to his old cropping system and set an example to others. During the 2019-20 financial year, both FNGO-Shakti and MPA team experts as well as Village Agriculture Workers (VAW) decided to introduce water melon cultivation as a new intervention in the village. This was passed in AWP&B and

approved through resolution in the VDA meeting. So DKDA Chatikona provided 200g of watermelon seeds with additional bio-fertilizers and others essentials services. The expert advice and technical inputs helped him to adopt the new agriculture practices with advanced techniques, regular supportive supervision and monitoring, field inspection and orientation on proper and timely usage of fertilizers and pesticides. As a results Mr. Goura Kultia was able to produce 2-3 tons of watermelon. As a result, he earned Rs 35,000to Rs 45,000 appx. by selling @ Rs.10-12 per kg during the lockdown period. The success of Mr. Goura Kultia in watermelon cultivation is an eye opener to other local farmers. Due to his challenging and hard working nature to alter his age old cropping system brought him happiness and made him a successful farmer in the locality.



For promotion of sustainable agriculture activities through cultivation Mr. Goura Kultia is main profession was promotion of agriculture activities throughout the years for the purpose of self-promotion and supply to others for the purpose of sustainable livelihood development.

After intervention of OPELIP project his skill and techniques improved on land preparation process, value addition process marketing linkages process, and convergence and networking process through the different capacity building program and village level meeting program. As a result, Mr. Goura Kultia has created a new identity in the project operational areas for the credibility and noble work. But it created negative impact during lockdown period as he sold in distressed price @ Rs.10-15 per kg. however, it was Rs.20-30 per kg in normal time.

Banana Cultivation Brings Sustainable Development Among Paudi Bhuyan PVTG

Sardi Dehury is a 56-year-old PVTG woman who resides at Ranja village under Haldikudar GP in Lahunipara block of Sundargarh district. The village is situated about 32 kilometres far from the Block headquarters. There are 36 PVTG families residing in the village. Her family consists of two sons & son-in-law and her husband. The most of the villagers depend on cultivation and agriculture labourer. Her husband does the paddy and black gram cultivation in traditional way. All the family members have been engaged in the agriculture work. But they did not get much production as per their investment as well as their contribution. Initially she took responsibility of her family. She slowly started agriculture with more focus to become progressive farmer cum entrepreneur. Before entering into agriculture field as well as agri-entrepreneurship, she approached OPELIP officials. The department officials motivated her to take up the banana cultivation in her field. The Village Development Committee has selected her name to take of banana cultivation.

Then she agreed for banana cultivation. In FY 2020-21, she got the support of 6000 plant lets of G-9 variety for 2 ha. from the SCA to TSS fund. She got the support of manure and other expenditure related planting banana from the PaudiBhuyan Development Agency, Khuntagaon. As a result, she sold the banana worth of Rs.7 to 8 lakh in local market. She goes to local market three times in a week. Now she has purchased a scooty and Bolero vehicle from the income. This success is only possible from her hard work, enthusiasm and dedicated as well as the timely service and guidance of the field functionaries.



A Ghat Cutting : Bridging the Gaps

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Gaondhar is a hamlet of Tilkuda village. It is an interior village surrounded by the mangrove forest of Bhutuda GP under Lahunipara block. It is around 22 kilometers away from the GP and 55 kilometers from the Block head quarter. The village is situated near the mines area. About 12 families reside in the Gaondhar hamlet. All the families depend on mines for their livelihood. There was no road connectivity. It was very horrible in case of any medical emergency. The ambulance or any other vehicle was unable to enter into the village due to the high hill areas. There was no such road facility for the PVTG of the hamlet. The issue was raised by the villagers in Village Development Association meeting. Finally, it was decided by the VDA members to construct a road through ghat cutting to the hamlet.

In the FY 2022-23, the ghat cutting road was constructed by the Village Development Committee, Tilkuda. It constructed about 5 kilometers ghat cutting road from village entry point to village at a cost of Rs.3.00 lakh rupees which was approved by AWP&B 2022-23. Now, the ambulance and other vehicle are coming the village easily. Moreover, villagers are able to go to market and coolie labour work to the outside of the village easily. According to Dutia Dehury, a PVTG villager, "The ghat cutting road is a platform for my village development. We are no more cut-off from the outside of the hamlet. We are able to go outside easily and do economic activities. We sell farm produce and purchase groceries from the market in less time."



Dukhi Naik is a leader of Maa Samaleswari SHG and has proved as successful entrepreneur at Ranja village of Haldikudar GP under Lahunipara Block. She lives with two sons & son-in-law. She is an widow. She belongs to PaudiBhuyan PVTG community. They depend on agriculture work for their livelihood. But it was not sufficient to fulfil their basic needs. Hence, her son goes for the daily wage labour. For that, she was unhappy. Her son worked in a tent house as a labour.

PaudiBhuyan Development Agency formed the Self Help Group namely Maa Samaleswari SHG. Mrs. Dukhi was one of the members in this group. Regular meeting was conducted at village level by OPELIP officials. So, the members were aware about their rights. She took loan from PVTG Empowerment fund (PEF) from GP level federation (GPLF) through the group. This PEF is the revolving fund supported by OPELIP for empowering and enhancing livelihoods in the PVTGs areas. It is placed at GPLF level and operated by the OPELIP and OLM officials. Members take loan from GPLF through their SHG at the rate of 2% interest. Her group got loan of Rs.80,000. However, she took Rs.10,000 from the SHG as PEF loan. She invested it in the tent house business. She purchased the music box and other required materials along with the money supported from her son. In this season, she got the profit of Rs. 25,000/- from the different programme. However, she expects similar returns from the tent house business every season where her son assists her to manage it.

According to Dukhi, her confidence level has been increased after joining in the group. She feels that major benefit would accrue through with SHG is the strength for a woman in a group. She says that women need not be afraid of being in a group as it gives enough strength and courage to face any kind of hurdles in the life.



New Voters Enrolment In PVTG Areas

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The Office PAUDI BHUYAN Development Agency (PBDA) is situated at Khuntagaon village of Lahunipada block which is 170 km away from district head quarters Sundargarh. This office was established in 1979-80. Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihoods Improvement Programme (OPELIP) started intervention in the year of 2016-17 with 52 villages in 5 G.P. of Lahunipada Block.

As per order no. 828/PBDA (K) date 19/11/2022 to enrol in elector's registration process in the interior areas, OPELIP team planned to create awareness programme and enrol PVTGs. The Chairman-cum-Collector, Sundargarh instructed and guided with time lines to fill application for registration and encouraged to use online platform.

officer, PBDA Kuhntagaon made plan to achieve 100% enrolment with PBDA staffs and streamline in five cut-off gram panchayats like Fuljhar, Haldikudar, Kuliposh, Bhutuda & Talbahali of Lahunipada Block.

AERO-Cum-Block Development Officer, Lahunipada-Cum Special



It was so much challenging as the PVTG community do not stay in their houses in day time due to their livelihood. They stay in dense forest and return in evening time. Hence, it was planned to start an awareness campaign through audio jingle in PVTG language, leaflet distribution in night and make 15 booths for voter enrolment. As a result, out of 4654 nos. PVTG identified, enrolled 4243 and left out 411 nos. included in enrolment.





Lodapani village is situated at the foot of famous Khandadhar waterfall. The village is near about 4 kilometers far from GP headquarter and 42 kilometres away from Lahunipada Block of Sundargarh District. There are 45 families in the village, out of which 12 families are PVTG households and other families belong to Munda community. All the households depend on agriculture work for their livelihood. Now some youths are working at Khandadhar waterfall as manual labour.

The OPELIP official has regular interventions in this village from FY 2017-18. The communities had no ideas about their rights and opportunity available from different line departments. After regular intervention, they have got the regular supports such as agriculture inputs, individual income generation (IGA) activities, PVTG Empowerment Fund, land development, MGNREGA work, Community hall and drinking water to communities etc.

In FY 2020-21, the PVTG SHG namely Subhashree was revived by Social Mobiliser and CRP of OPELIP. It was defunct due to death of 2 members of this group. After revival, the SHG runs in a successful way. The SHG meeting was conducted

regularly. After several meetings and training programme, they understood about the benefits of togetherness through SHGs and involved in livelihood generation related activities. They wanted to start catering services in the group. They put this decision in front of the OPELIP officials. Then they got support of Rs. 1,00,000/- for IGA activity from the SCA to TSS fund of PBDA, Khuntagaon in FY 2020-21. The group have decided to take the catering activity under this IGA scheme. Khandadhar waterfall is a tourist place & many visitors come here every year. They purchased 3 sets of utensils and gas connections for this purpose. As a result, visitors are taking the set of utensils on rental basis. They are getting very good profit for this activity. Gradually, the income is increasing every year. They have already got Rs.35000/- as income last year and repaid loan in the last year. It has created an identity of the group in the nearby villages. They have promised to give a better education and life style to their children.



Goat Rearing the Better way for Livelihoods

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Goat is a very Important Livestock for small, marginal and landless PVTG families & is a source of their subsidiary income. Due to their ability to survive and produce under extreme climatic and forest condition, goat assures income to PVTG families with almost zero input cost. Women in the village were rearing animals in traditional methods just to get meat, milk for the family and were getting little extra source of income whenever possible.



Maa Tarini Self Help Group is a purely PVTG Self Help Group (SHG) of women of Jalisun village of Kaliapal G.P under PBDA Rugudakudar Micro Project Agency of Deogarh District. Under the leadership of Smt. Indu Behera, President and Smt. Subasini Pradhan, Secretary OPELIP supported financial assistance of Rs.3,00,000.00, out of which Rs. 70,000.00 for construction of goat shade and Rs. 2,30,000.00 for purchase of Goats, Insurance, Medicines, Vaccine etc. After receiving the fund, the SHG purchased 52 Black Bengal goats (50 Mother goats & 2 bucks). Those SHG members acquired knowledge about managerial aspects of goat farming from the training conducted by OPELIP and were supported by De-worming, vaccination and treatment for time to time. Goats are reared totally on grass, shrubs and various tree leaves available in Hills and jungles without in any supplement feeds. The Performance of black Bengal goats in SHG was recorded. The average age at first kidding for Black Bengal and local was found to be 12.8 months and 17.6 months respectively. There was three Kidding in two years with average 2 kids per Kidding. Gestation period was found to be 147 days

in comparison with 150 days in local goats. At Present the SHG is running the farm with 98 nos of Goats with a tentative Value of Rs. 2,30,000.00 and already earned Rs. 39,000.00 by selling in the last one year.

Other PVTG SHG members were motivated by the success of the members of Maa Tareni SHG. During the financial year OPELIP was able to form a Goatary cluster. There are 4 other SHGs involved in goat rearing including Maa Tarini group and each SHG has 30 – 40 goats now. Maa Tarini SHG is giving training to others for goat rearing.

Loss Profit Analysis of Goat rearing by Maa Tarini SHG								
Sl.No	Particulars	Goat Population on March 2019	Goat Population on March 2020	Total nos of Goat Population in between (March 2019 to march 2020)	Total nos of Goat sold in between (March 2019 to march 2020)	Total amount Earn (In Rs)	Balance goat Population as on March 2020	Tentative price (Rs.) of Balance goat
1	Goats	50	27	77	9	39,000	68	1,40,000.00
2	Bucks	2	18	30	0	0	30	90,000.00
	Total	52	55	107	9	39,000	98	2,30,000.00



The water and sanitation scenario in Odisha is very grim and bleak, with 94% of tribal villages in Odisha do not have access to safe and protected water sources and sanitation coverage is less than 1%. This has resulted in 80% of diseases affecting rural people of Odisha due to very dirty and heavily polluted water, Kadalidihi village was no exception and suffered from these same issues.

The village Kadalidihi comes under Saruali, Gram Panchayat of Barkote Block under Deogarh district in the state of Odisha. There are 47 households in the village who live in the top of the hill, with a total population of 245; 126 males and 119 females. All the households are PVTG in Paudi Bhuyan community. The primary source of income is to collect NTFP in the nearest jungle and sold them in the nearest market, and daily wage labor.

There were no drinking water facilities like Pond, well, Tube well etc. available in this village but there was a Chua (stream) in nearby of the village of Kadalidihi and all the 47 household depend on that Chua for drinking water, bathing and washing of

animals. This all resulted in several health problems for the villagers. Waterborne diseases, such as Diarrhea, scabies and vomiting were prevalent. Particularly women suffered due to a lack of privacy and therefore unable to wash properly, often resulting in gynecological problems. Another serious issue affecting women, and in particular new brides had to wait for dark before they were able to relieve themselves. Women also had the daily burden of water collection to contend with, often getting up at 3am to collect the water for the family, before going to the field for a full day's work. Then on returning from the field, they must return to collect water again.

When it was found that the villagers were getting difficulties in accessing safe drinking water, it was planned involving OPELIP & IRDMS workers to avail safe drinking water, proper sanitation and well health which was the major issues of the concerned villagers.

Meetings were organized with VDA members of Kadalidihi village where every household of the village attended the meeting. In that VDA meeting it was informed that the PWD was trying to supply drinking water but due to inaccessible area it was impossible for them as the vehicle did not enter on the top of the Hill. After series of discussion and active co-ordination of VDA members during last financial year there were 2 Solar fitting household drinking water projects were undertaken. As a result of it, all villagers are now able to get pure and safe drinking water.

Now there is a real sense of dignity amongst the villagers, The villagers are getting safe drinking water, women bathing freely as well as a big increase in sanitation and hygiene awareness among the villagers. Waterborne diseases have reduced dramatically. People take genuine pride with household backyards and kitchen garden as well as keep village roads and environment clean and hygiene. Villagers, especially women have privacy and take bath properly. They have also had the daily drudgery of water collection which is reduced and enable them to have more time to take part in extra income-generating activities.

Where there is a will there is a way. This has been proven at kadalidihi village, with the whole community coming together and succeeding in their mission. This was only achieved through their sheer commitment, strong will power and determination.



Self - Employment Through Poultry Mother Unit

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Keonjhar district is fully surrounded by natural resources and with tribal people. In this district, Gonasika of Bansapal Block has been well known as main place for tourism. Juang community is known as the PVTG of the Keonjhar district. There are 6 Panchayat of Juang community residing in Gonasika. Juang Development Agency, Gonasika was established for the development of the Juang community in 1978 with the objectives to work on health, education, agricultural development of the PVTG. In 2017 JDA Gonasika, in collaboration with FNGO WOSCA OPELIP reached to the villages for the socio-economic development of the Juang PVTGs.

According to guideline of the project, MPA planned for the selection of CSP livestock and CSP horticulture and agriculture in each GP. FNGO staff organised VDA meeting at Talachampe village and discussion on the role and responsibility of the CSP. According to this discussion Keshab Juanga who is son of Budhia Juanga agreed for working as a

CSP Livestock (Poultry). VDA approved Keshab Juanga as CSP Livestock (Poultry). After completing the 10th class, he is working as a daily labour and keeping less number of Poultry at his house. He had no technical knowledge about the improved Poultry farming. In the meantime, PMU organised 45 days training for CSP Poultry at OMTDC, Jagannathpur. He went to training programme at OMTDC, Jagannathpur. After 45 days training programme he came back to the village. Project supported him Rs. 2.00 lakh for demonstration of Kadaknath Poultry. He started his unit. He spent this amount for construction of shed, accessories, Kadaknath chicks of 150 birds, feeds, vaccine and medicine etc. He and his family members contributed their labour in the poultry farming. Due to well vaccinated of poultry mortality rate was subsequently reduced. With continuous follow up and technical guidance from OPELIP, he became a successful poultry farmer.

Till now he has sold 60 Kadaknath birds worth of Rs.48000/- and eggs Rs. 3000/- and now 70 bird are available in his shed whose approximate cost will be Rs.70000/-. As a CSP poultry he has helping the project CSPs at the time of vaccination, inspire the people for vaccination of poultry, and other live stocks related interventions. His family members are getting nutritious food and selling eggs and poultry at competitive price in the local market. Seeing his success and income level, many youth want to adopt this type of activity through self-funding and engage in this poultry farming activities.



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OPELIP Assistance to a Landless PVTG

Mr. Sukutu Juanga, a 30 years old male resides at Guptaganga village of Banspal block of Keonjhar district. He was facing difficulties to maintain his five-member family by working as a daily labour as he was landless. He doesn't have any other income sources. Again, he was not satisfied with the wage rate and the number of days getting wage. He has to move here and there to get his daily wage. After implementation of OPELIP, he was provided an individual assistance of Rs.18000.00 from the project in the year 2019-20 under IGA support as per the demand generated by village development committee. This assistance was provided for landless assistance. He invested that amount in a shop business (Puja Shop). The shop is adjacent to the gate of the religious place Guptaganga, which is widely known as Gonasika. This area is also known as a picnic spot.

Presently, he is happy as he has been engaged for the whole year and able to earn daily. He opined that he could not earn more in the initial year. According to him, presently he is earning about Rs. 8000.00 to Rs.10000.00 per month as profit from that shop. Interestingly he said that some times during holidays and winter season specifically picnic times, he earns upto three thousand in a day. He is very happy to be self-employed through the project. He expressed his joy by showing the shop which is possible only due to OPELIP support. In the year 2020-21 his earning was near about one lakh within the restrictions of covid-19. He is expecting more income from this shop in future. The support from OPELIP in the form of IGA has brought him a remarkable achievement and created sustainable livelihood for a landless PVTG person.



Household Drinking Water Supply at Uparpanasnasa

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Panasnasa is a village of these areas of Kuanra GP. Total 142 families are habitat in the village. There are 4 nos of hamlets in this village. Uparpanasnasa is one of these. Approximately 52 families reside in this hamlet. The households of this hamlet are PVTGs. This hamlet is 4km far from main village and also 5 km from Kanjipani. This hamlet is unreachable for officers and other people. So after 75 years of Independence no one thought about the people of this hamlet. People faced lot of difficulties like communication, drinking water, house etc. Most of the Households of this village are daily wagers and NTFP collectors. The people are facing drinking water scarcity throughout the year. They used drinking water from chua, which is not pure and hygienic. For this reason people suffered from Malaria , and other diseases. Due to non- availability of pure drinking water they use this open flow/chua water. In the meantime OPELIP(Odisha PVTG empowerment & Livelihood improvement program) program started

with the intention of livelihood enhancement of PVTG and poverty eradication through proper management of health awareness, education and Natural resource management.

In village meeting, it was identified that provision of drinking water facility as priority need based activity. There is an open well which was dug by the villagers. So villagers planned for lifting the water through solar pump for household supply. OPELIP project prepared the proposal for drinking water supply with estimated cost 2.5 lakhs. With due procedure they installed solar pump in the well, Water Tank and 15 nos of Stand post for supply of water.

One users group was formed with monthly contribution of Rs.20/- from each member for maintenance. Now 52 families getting drinking water from this unit. With the cooperation and proper monitoring drinking water facility was provided successfully to each household. The committee has awarded all the users to keep neat and clean and usable condition in every time. The users group manage and maintain the project regularly. Everyone is happy with their work and thankful to the project because all are getting safedrinking water.





Odisha PVTG Empowerment and Livelihoods Improvement Programme

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