



Creating Alternative Livelihood Opportunities for Youth & Women from the Most Vulnerable Families of Kendrapara District, Odisha.

Project Start Date: 03 October 2023

Project End Date: 30 September 2024

Key Achievements at a glance (October 2023 - December 2023)

- Under the project **Vulnerable Mapping and Assessments have been completed in 10 villages from Pattamundi Block and initial discussion with 100 most vulnerable families have been completed.** This has helped us in identifying women and youth beneficiaries under the project as well as initiating discussions regarding livelihood opportunities.
- Other **key successes** during the reporting period include:



10

Villages vulnerability mapping completed



100

Vulnerable families identified and initial discussion completed



65

Youth and Women oriented on Skill-based Livelihood options



19

Meeting with PRI members and Government Departments



2

Meetings with School and ITI colleges

Project Background & Summary

With the generous support received from Mukul Madhav Foundation and Finolex, the project in Odisha aims to **creating alternative livelihood opportunities for Youth and Women from the Most Vulnerable Families of Kendrapara District, Odisha.** The support will enhance capacities and strengthen livelihoods among OBC families of rural areas of Kendrapara district through skilling, individual and group livelihood activities, and collectivization. Additionally, the project will ensure that the vulnerable families have increased access to social security schemes and other government entitlements.

Progress against objectives

We are pleased to report below some key progress undertaken in the last three months based on the agreed objectives:

Objective 1. To create alternate livelihood opportunities and enhance income of women and youth from most vulnerable families through input support for individual and collective livelihood activities.

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| Mapping and Assessment of Villages and Families | 15 October 2023 | <p>The initial area visit was conducted in two blocks of Kendrapara district: Aul and Pattamundai.</p> <p>10 villages were identified for the project from Pattamundai Block. 100 most vulnerable families have been identified and selected for the project.</p> <p>55 Home visits were conducted after the selection of beneficiaries to get a detail analysis of income, education / drop out of children, and other details</p> |
| Orientation with Youth and Women beneficiaries | | <p>The team organized an orientation program for both youth and women regarding livelihood-based income generation skills.</p> <p>This orientation program was held in 9 villages on different dates. In the entire program 65 number of participants took active participation.</p> |
| Skill Based Training of Youth from Most Vulnerable Families | | <p>A preliminary assessment of different skill-based livelihood options has been done in consultation with the front-line workers and communities. The skills based livelihood will be identified which will feed into training sessions.</p> |

***Please note: other activities under this objectives are planned in the coming quarter.**

Objective 2. To form and strengthens collectives of women from most vulnerable in villages and enable them to access entitlements which are fundamental to ensuring a basic living.

- **Meeting with District Administration and other stakeholders** - The team commenced operation with meeting the District Administration of Kendrapara including District Social Welfare Unit, Odisha Livelihood Mission, Mission Shakti, Odisha Skill Mission to intimate about the project initiated by ActionAid Association with the support of MMF and Finolex. Additionally, a preliminary discussion was facilitated with the front-line workers, CDPOs, Supervisors, and PRI members of the five-gram panchayats and 2 municipality areas of Pattamundai block of Kendrapara district. Anganwadi wise database of the adolescents and youth has been collected from the frontline workers of the DSW Unit.
- **Mapping of Schemes and Entitlements** - A process of mapping of the existing schemes, programmes and entitlements of the government has been done. This will be utilised further in training at cluster level as part of the process of linkages.
- **Participation in District level Job fair** - On 7th December 2023, a job fair was conducted by the State skill development department and district administration of Kendrapada to create employment opportunities for youth in the district. The team conveyed the information among the project villages and identified 15 youth who attended the fair. Out of the fifteen youths, six youths registered their name for training cum job. The beneficiaries will receive their training under Gram Tarang and CIPET Paradeep, free of cost



(Livelihood and employment based orientation program for youth & women held at Sasan)



(Meeting Senior Scientist Head at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kendrapara)



(Meeting with District Employment Officer,
Kendrapara, Odisha)



(Community level meeting with beneficiaries
held at Pachhapada)



(Discussion at job fair, Pattamundai Block Office)



(Home visit of Sucharu hasin Khuntia)



(Meeting with PRI members held at Nursingpur
Panchayat office)



(Meeting at BEO office, Pattamundai)



Challenges

The team relies on the Anganwadi workers for various information from time to time. However, due to their busy schedules and sometimes unavailability we face challenges in obtaining the necessary support. To address this issue, we have devised a plan to conduct meetings with their supervisors from the ICDS department and request a few dedicated dates in a month for the project. This proactive approach is intended to enhance collaboration and improve communication channels with the ICDS department, ensuring a more effective exchange of information and support for our initiatives.

Next Steps

Over the next few months, we will continue working towards the project objectives, including the following activities:

- Meeting to facilitate collectives of women and Youth Women beneficiaries
- 4 training and capacity building for Youth and Women will be facilitated in February and March 2024- on tailoring, electrician, plumber, beautician, mobile repairing, entrepreneurship
- Mushroom Cultivation training is scheduled to commence in the first quarter of 2024 along with Krushi Vigyan Kendra (KVK).
- Input support to 15 single women and 10 youth beneficiaries
- Training in Government schemes and entitlements cum linkages in March 2024
- in training will partake in exposure visits to organizations, factories, and agro farms, enhancing their work quality and fostering positive work attitudes.
- Continued efforts will be made to secure placements for youth who underwent training.

We look forward to updating you on these activities in the next report.

Thank you so much for your generous support to this project. We are very grateful.