

IN FOCUS

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Creating Opportunities, Empowering the Poor...



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MSF'S AGRI INITIATIVES AND INTERVENTIONS

Mahashakti, facilitated the successful conduct of the 1st Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Jamankira Agro Women Producer Co. Ltd in the Jamankira block of Sambalpur district. This FPO is entirely led by women and has been established under the Sampurna project, which receives invaluable support from HDFC Bank Parivartan. The FPO is already making significant strides, operating on a fast-track mode to acquire essential input licenses. This crucial step enables them to provide necessary input supplies to their member farmers, empowering them with the resources they need to thrive.³



The 1st AGM of Jamankira Agro Women Producer Co. Ltd. successfully conducted in Jamankira block, Sambalpur.

We invited Zilla Parishad Member, ORMAS Official, Officials from other line departments for the Meeting. The FPO is promoted under the HDFC Bank Parivartan supported Sampurna (FRDP) Project.

Project Sampurna:

A women-led FPO thriving in business

Utkalika Women Agro Producer Company Limited, promoted with the support from HDFC Bank Parivartan, was able to:

Mobilise **INR 11.00 lakhs** of share capital within 10 months of its incorporation.

Register a turnover of **INR 26.00 Lakhs** by supplying agri inputs to chilli and millet farmers during June 2023.



A residential staff training program was organized in Bargarh as part of the Sampurna Project. Community Resource Persons (CRPs) and Block Coordinators are actively participating in group activities aimed at devising strategies to accomplish five key project goals. These participants are sharing insightful practical experiences from the field, contributing to the development of effective approaches throughout the project cycle.





Chilli leaf curl virus is transmitted by whiteflies (*Bemisia tabaci*) and is a serious threat to chili fields. Symptoms include the upward curling of leaves, plant stunting, and yield reductions. There are no treatments for viruses. Infected pepper plants cannot be cured; therefore, the focus should be on prevention.

Our Agri Experts and coordinators visited the fields of chili farmers to identify different issues and provide door step hand holding support services.



Organic manure reduces soil erosion, leaching and improves physical properties of soil and aerates the soil. Team members of Millet Mission Sohela facilitated the Organic Manure Enterprises with the farmers at Bargarh district.



Distribution of Millet Seeds to farmers under Odisha Millets Mission. Officials from Agriculture Department- DDH Sambalpur, PD Watershed, Dist. Programme Coordinator, ADO Sambalpur, ADO Rairakhole etc. team members visited Ragi Nursery at Tantagard village of Kadaligada GP and distributed seed at Keutibahal village of Charmal GP under Rairakhole Block, Sambalpur.



MAHASHAKTI AND TATA POWER

In a significant stride towards uplifting the livelihoods of Palm leaf and Pata Chitra handicraft artisans, Project Samriddhi has been inaugurated through the collaborative efforts of TPCODL's Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives. The inaugural event, held at the Kakarudrapur Panchayat Conference Hall, saw the launch of the initiative by the CGM – Commercial, TPCODL. In attendance were distinguished personalities from ORMAS; TRIFED; Dept of Handicrafts, Govt. of India and Govt of Odisha; Head CSR of TPCODL; Managing Director and Director – Operations of Mahashakti Foundation. These luminaries motivated the artisans to actively engage with the project and capitalize on its offerings.



To celebrate International Literacy Day, Team Mahashakti Foundation and Senior Team Members from TPCODL and TCS visited the Women Literacy Centre (WLC) near Kalpana Square, Bhubaneswar, a vital platform empowering adult illiterate women in urban slums to acquire basic literacy skills. This special day, coinciding with the WLC's mission, supported by TPCODL, was an inspiring occasion where our guests encouraged all trainees to make the most of this opportunity for learning.



KALA SAMRIDHI & PROJECT WADI



Reviving Art & Craft
KALA SAMRIDHI
Where Tradition Meets Artistry

Kalapunaruthan Producer Company Ltd.
CIN: U01820OR2017PTC027227
GST: 21AAGCK0052M1ZB

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Handicrafts are a significant means of preserving the rich traditional art, heritage, and culture, as well as the traditional knowledge and abilities connected to people's way of life and history. We are reviving the ancient arts and crafts of Odisha and also promoting the same with the new generation for their livelihood security.



Wadi project aims to improve the livelihood of under privileged tribal farmers, enhance their farming capabilities as well as technology and innovation adoption. Dr. Sudhansu K.K Mishra, CGM, NABARD dedicated the WADI Project for 500 tribal households of Gudvella Block, Bolangir today. Dr Prafulla Kumar Bhanja, Deputy Director of Horticulture Bolangir, Sri Kamalakanta Pattanayak, DGM NABARD, DDM NABARD Bolangir and Boudh, ADH Gudvella and MD Mahashakti Foundation attended as guest members. Around 200 wadi beneficiaries participated in the said program.





MAHASHAKTI FOUNDATION

GOVERNING BODY



Dr. DEBASISH MOHAPATRA
(President)

Dr. Debasish Mohapatra holds a PhD in Rural Management from KIIT. He also has a PGDRM from XIMB and a B.Sc. in Agriculture from OUAT. With over 30 years of work experience, he has collaborated with international agencies like the World Bank, UNDP, TechnoServe, Traidcraft, IPE Global, Oxfam GB, CARE, MART, as well as government projects and institutions like OLM, JSLPS, UPSRLM, and BAGRI. Currently, Dr. Mohapatra serves as an Associate Professor of Practice at KIIT School of Rural Management. His teaching interests encompass sustainable development, natural resource management, agribusiness management, and entrepreneurship.



Ms. ITISHREE KANUNGO
(Vice President)

Ms. Kanungo, has done her MBA-RM from XIMB; possesses over 20 years of experience in policy advocacy, action research, livelihood planning, microcredit management, and capacity building. She began her career as a Research Consultant for Taru Leading Edge Private Limited and has since been associated with organizations like UNDP, NISER, Voluntary Health Association of India, Climate Parliament, and Grant Thornton. Currently, she is professionally engaged with Grant Thornton, where she actively contributes as a member of Climate Parliament, working closely with State Assembly and Parliament members to strengthen renewable energy policy and financing.



Ms. ROJALEEN BHUYAN
(Secretary)

Ms. Bhuyan is a highly experienced Development Practitioner with over two decades of expertise in livelihood promotion and gender relations. She has demonstrated her proficiency in strengthening grassroots institutions such as Producer Groups, SHG Federations, and FPOs, and is an active member of the National Alliance of Women in Odisha (NAWO). With her extensive contributions to gender equality, inclusion, and mainstreaming in various projects, Ms. Bhuyan has collaborated with renowned NGOs, leveraging her skills to empower marginalized communities.





Mr. JYOTI RANJAN MOHAPATRA,
(Joint Secretary)

Mr. Mohapatra, an industry veteran and development sector enthusiast, has been at the forefront of shaping the re-organisation and institutional strengthening of Mahashakti as well as the entities that came into picture to address the industry demands and regulatory developments. Mr. Mohapatra has very closely witnessed the crests and troughs of microfinance & development sector, hence beside handling the portfolio analysis and finance mobilisation parts, he constantly motivates the team to stay rejuvenated and give the best in order to take the organisation to greater heights. Mr. Mohapatra holds an M.Com degree and pursued ICWAI.



Mr. BIMAL KANTA PANDA
(Treasurer)

Mr. Panda holds a Master's degree in Social Work from Jyoti Vihar, Sambalpur University. Throughout his more than 2 decades long work history he has designed numerous theme-based training modules for different non-profit organisations. Most part of his working tenure has been spent in the backward regions of the state and he devoted his time and energy towards the capacity building of NGO functionaries and project managers.



Dr. PRADIP KUMAR MOHAPATRA
(Member)

Dr. Pradip Kumar Mohapatra have 33 years' experience in Rural Development sector managing projects and programs across India in various capacities. Currently he is working in CARE India Solutions for Sustainable Development in the capacity of Deputy Director, Programmes providing strategic support to livelihoods and Economic Development Programmes. Dr. Mohapatra is a Graduate in Economics and Post-graduate in Rural Studies from Xavier Institute of Social Services, Ranchi. Pradip also done his Doctoral Research in "Informal Finance and the Role of Self-Help Groups of Women" from Rani Durgavati Viswavidyalaya, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.



Mr. PRAKASH CH. SAHU
(Member)

Mr. Sahu, one of the Co-founders, has tremendously contributed towards building a core team for the organisation in the last 2 decade or so. He has more than 3 decades of strong working history in the field of community mobilisation, livelihood promotion and microcredit operations. His long association with the development sector began way back in 1990 where he worked in the National Literacy Program in Kalahandi district. Currently he is devoting his time in consulting in the leadership development of community based institutions.



PHOTO GALLERY



Team members from PRADAN including PRI members and other cadres from Bakaro district of Jharkhand visited our Ultra Poor Market Access Project being supported by Trickle Up to understand about the business model adopted by ultra poor households.



Exposure visit of different agencies to Agrahichasi FPO of Golamunda Block promoted under Central Sector Scheme. Development of vegetable clusters with all value chain support services.



As the world is struggling to combat climate change, one idea – planting trees – seems to be taking hold as a panacea for curing the ills of pollution, soaring carbon emissions, and degrading soil health. Trickle Up has partnered with Mahashakti Foundation, to implement the UPMA project to complement the outreach work in reaching the poorest of the poor. This year project participants are motivated to plant trees at their villages with the support from the forest department. Team members of Trickle Up and Mahashakti facilitated the program at Bongomunda block of Balangir district, Odisha.





Celebration of 77th Independence Day at different locations of Mahashakti Foundation.





Promotion of Millets on the eve of international year of millets. Chief Dist Agriculture Officer - Bargarh along with his officials joined in the awareness campaigns organized in Bargarh District. He also facilitated the CBOs working on millets and flagged Off the Mandia Ratha.



When women earn an income and control their earnings, their children are attending schools, their families are healthier now, their self-worth improved; and their household incomes grow—along with the global economy. Shaktimayee Foundation, a women led SHG federation being promoted by Vedanta Sakhi Project proved this theme in reality in the last 7 years. Around 4000 women actively participated in their different economic activities targeting the monthly income of Rs.15,000. Now 50% of them reached up to Rs.10,000 p.m.





Developing mushroom clusters with 300 SHG members to enhance their incomes. Capacity building of women farmers on mushroom cultivation by the Scientists of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhawanipatna, Kalahandi.



Exposure visit of tribal dhokra artisans of Kankeri Village, Kalahandi to Dhenkanal Dhokra Cluster. Enable artisans to interact with and learn from each other, allowing them to view practical examples of successful integration of sustainable practices in handicrafts.



Mahashakti Foundation with the support of Trickle Up is implementing UPMA project with 500 ultra poor households at Bongomunda block of Bolangir district and enabling them getting additional income through different micro group enterprises and market access interventions. Our CEO Mr Jugal Kishore Pattanayak shared the project learnings with different stakeholders yesterday in the Learning Workshop organized by Trickle Up.



