



Long-term impact of irrigation with crop promotion .

Introduction

Jatiadihi, a tribe dominated village houses 26 families, comes under Jhirlapali panchayat of Kolabira block, Jharsuguda district. Out of the total geographical area of 390 acre, 150 acre is comes under forest area. 25% of the total land of the village comes under upland, 15 % and 20% are medium and low land respectively. The inhabitants used to grow only kharif paddy in the low lands and rest of the periods the land laid barren. NTFP collection was a secondary occupation, apart from seasonal migration, which met their cash needs. Given the scenario, food security was a predominate issue in the village a couple of years before.

The process/inputs

APC project launched with the aim to double the income of small and marginal farmers in 12 highland districts through engaging them in the cultivation of high value crops and improved livestock rearing activities. APC partner SEWA organised women tribal farmers from 14 SHGs into Triranga Producer Groups, involving 30 members from Kumuradihi ,20 from Jatiadihi village and 90 from Aitapada.

They members undergone sensitisation programmes, and capacity building training on village development planning, various govt schemes, programmes, crop planning, income analysis and



economic empowerment. They were promoted the practise of thrift and credit, which enabled them to invest in agriculture in times of need. Besides, were capacitated on nursery development, crop management, irrigation, pest management, organic culture, improved livestock management, PoPs of various crops in order to enable them grow professionally. SEWA facilitated the women farmers to mobilise resources from depts. like agriculture, horticulture in the form of irrigation infrastructure creation, shed nets, polythene mulching

materials and other inputs like seeds. And finally installed a new LI point through OLIC, Dept.Jharsuguda.

Outputs

The 20 members collectively raised Mustard and Greengram cultivation as per the plan and cultivated in 25 acres of land. While the members collectively put in their best efforts to nurture the plants, SEWA provided critical technical support through on field visits. The organisation facilitated establish market linkage through market surveys and coordinated with buyers from different markets.



Outcomes

The capacity building interventions and exposure programmes helped them grow and nurture their skills in advanced farming methods. Now the village has 2 SHGs, 21 families having access

to irrigation, 9 families having average number of 7 goats.



Impacts

Now a village that used to rely on occasional wages and migrant labour opportunities turned into a more income source. Collectivisation promoted by APC resulted in more bargaining power among the farmers. Traders reach out to the farmers to buy produce. Students aspire for higher studies and most importantly, farmers lead a dignified life, becoming their own boss.

Learning

Collective effort resulted in multiple benefits for the small and marginal farmers.

Quotation

Mrs Tikeswari Nag confess, however glorious the journey might have been, but it was not smooth. “In the initial days, we fought against lack of livelihood opportunity, migration and lack of resources. Now we have adequate skill and confidence on SEWA to help us out from any kind of precarious situation. We definitely owe gratitude to APC project, because the sense of collective farming and marketing, resource mobilisation from various depts could save nearly 26 families from migration and restore faith on farming.”

Particular	Progress
Total House Hold	26
Total Tribal House Hold	15
Total SHG	2
SHG House hold coverage	21
Irrigation Facilities	26
Household involved in 2 times commercial vegetable cultivation	20
House Hold involved in 3 times vegetable cultivation	20
Improved paddy	26
Goat Household	9 (Herd size 6- 8 number)

