

Annual Report 2020-21



Regional Centre for Development Cooperation
www.rcdcindia.org



Message from the Executive Director

The year of the Pandemic has been extremely challenging for all agencies working in the development sector. This sector is known for its field based activities and it is these very activities that were severely affected due to the lockdowns and the restrictions imposed in a bid to control the Covid 19 outbreak. RCDC too faced the same difficulties. We were at a loss when the restrictions began in the early part of the year. Not only were our movements restricted, the community was in a state of fear trying to gauge what was going on and trying to figure out how to survive. The migrants returned to the villages and faced difficulties due to lack of livelihoods. Thus the challenges were many.

At RCDC we responded at all levels. Our staff approached the district administration and offered their services to buttress all the government measures ranging from maintenance of quarantine camps, cooking food, and supply of relief material for those facing starvation due to the lockdowns. This earned praise from the district officials who allowed the staff to move around despite the lockdowns. We then reached out to the community and helped them report cases, consult doctors, and hospitalize the very ill. We assisted the farmers to continue the agricultural activities in their fields. We attended to the migrants and helped them find alternative livelihoods.

At the office level we adopted by working from home. Gradually we became accustomed and Zoom meetings and online webinars helped us keep up the tempo. For urgent work the staff managed to reach office and complete their work so that statutory needs could be met. These activities not only helped with work schedules but also provided learning opportunities and improved visibility of the organization.

We wish to thank all stakeholders and staff who helped tide over the crisis.

This year we performed well in the field and both donors and community have responded. Our programs have received their extensions and new assignments are being considered favourably. After a long time we are once again focusing on the PVTG's. We are consolidating our presence by concentrating on forestry, FRA, land rights, sustainable agriculture, alternative livelihoods, rural livelihoods, and are trying to help the Satabhaya displaced settle in their rehabilitation colony at Bagapatia in the Gupti Panchayat of Rajnagar Block in Kendrapara district. We sincerely hope our efforts will bear fruit and donors will respond well to our appeals.

With best regards,

Executive Director



About RCDC

RCDC embarked on its journey with a firm belief that appropriate management of natural resources is necessary to address the current development problems in a sustainable manner, and that the local communities with their traditional knowledge and high stakes are or can be the best managers of the resources. This belief has guided RCDC programmes to focus on empowering rural communities for the sustainable management and development of natural resources for securing their own livelihoods as well as for conservation of the eco-system.

Since its formation RCDC has emphasized on community forest management, drought proofing, land and water management, sustainable agriculture, food & livelihood security, building climate resilient communities, strengthening local self-governance through development & implementation of people's plans and capacity building of PRIs. Its major thrust areas over the years have been studies & research on sustainable natural resource management; developing best practices and demonstrative models; promoting collective action through education, and networking and advocacy for appropriate policy and practice changes.

RCDC's field experience and research showed that the decline of traditional land and water management practices was largely responsible for the recurring droughts that in turn resulted in poor people taking to forest felling as a survival measure or resorting to migration. This led to RCDC designing interventions to revive traditional mechanisms such as upland bunding, cultivation of minor crops (such as millet), use of traditional, drought-resistant varieties of seeds, resort to mixed farming and move to less water-intensive crops. Over the years, RCDC has perfected a strategy for promotion of agro-forestry based ecological farming to enhance local agricultural productivity and income security of the farming and farm dependent communities.

RCDC has demonstrated interesting models on the issues of drinking water security and safety and has worked on sanitation and hygiene issues. Its ground level work and advocacy on addressing fluoride contamination and its innovative school WASH programme have been lauded.

With several progressive national and state policies and programmes in place (FRA, NREGS, Climate Change, Panchayat Raj, NTFP etc.), RCDC has adapted its programmes over the last decade to ensure that these policies are effectively implemented on the ground.

VISION



Vulnerable and marginalized children, youth, women and men are empowered to secure their rights over planetary resources in sustaining their lives, livelihoods and overall prosperity for generations to come.

MISSION



Achieving lasting improvements in the quality of life of children, youth, women and men, and their agencies through sustainable natural resources management

Based on field realities and issue analysis, RCDC develops periodic perspective plans to work within the thematic areas and identified target deprived, vulnerable and exploited communities. Field demonstration programmes along with undertaking issue based advocacy for creating larger impacts, and amplifying the community voices of development in different forums are key focus.



RCDC mainly believes on programme approach emphasizing on people's led approach as mentioned below:

- Focus on the excluded and marginalized
- Rights based and resource centric
- Strengthening local and institutional capacity
- Multi-stakeholder and multi-dimensional engagement
- Research and evidence-based position and advocacy
- Knowledge-based communication

RCDC's operational strategy

- Conducting Baseline Studies
- Building Community Institutions
- People's Led Development Initiatives
- Strengthening PRI & Working with Them
- Creating Pilots & Scaling Up
- Working with the Government and making Convergences
- Maintaining Transparency
- Research & Documentation
- Networking & Advocacy

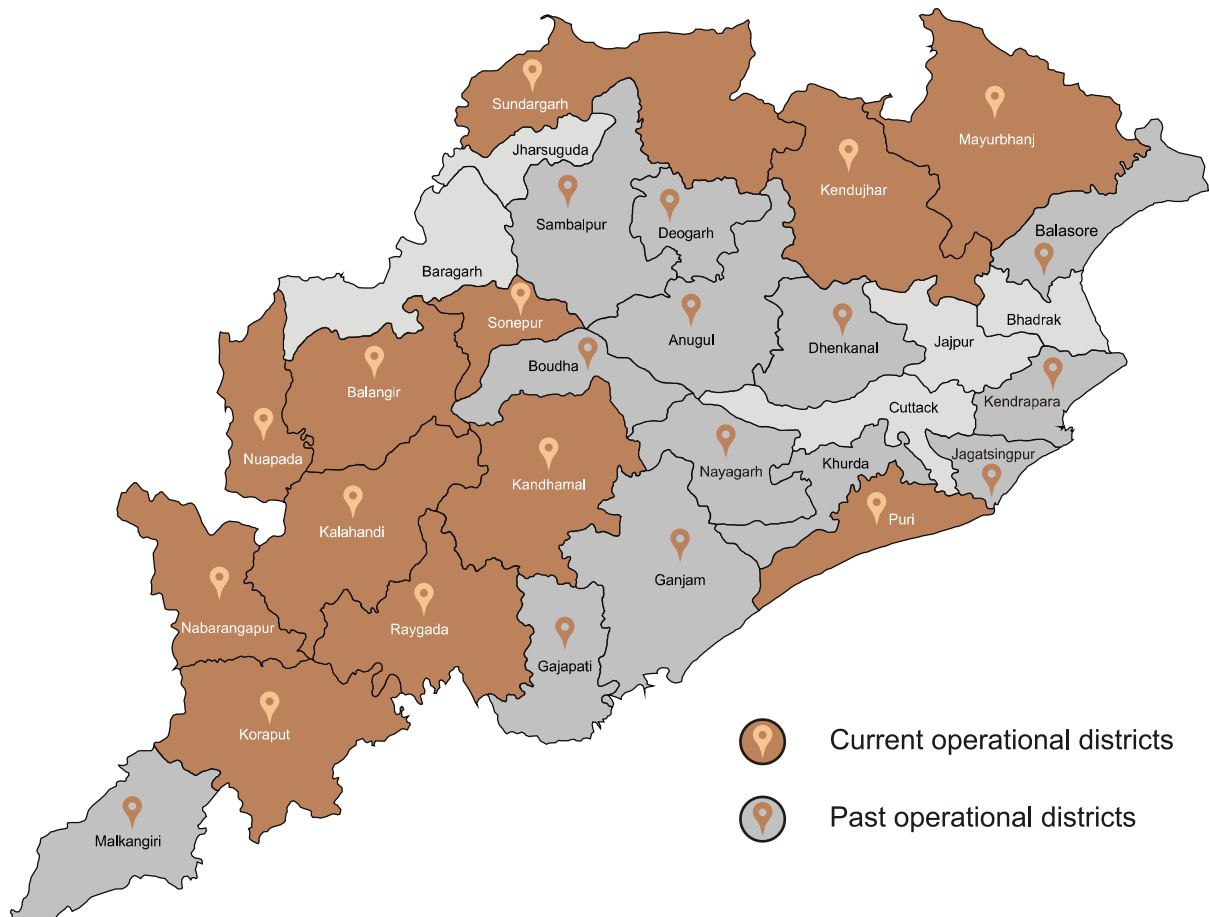
Target population

- Forest protecting communities
- Poor and socially and geographically excluded
- Forest dwellers and forest dependent communities
- Marginal and small farmers
- Women and children especially at risk
- District and sub-district level networks of forest protecting communities
- Coastal communities vulnerable to climate change associated natural hazards along the coast of Bay of Bengal in Odisha
- Networks of CBOs and NGOs
- Local self-government
- Different government agencies associated with natural resource governance.



Geographical coverage

At present RCDC has its physical presence in 778 villages in 29 blocks of 14 districts of Odisha, covering around 257371 populations through its programmes and consultancy assignments. More than 50% of those districts are tribal concentrated and many of those come under economically backward undivided KBK region. The wide programmatic interventions of RCDC target mainly the marginalized sections of the society that are deprived, excluded and vulnerable with acute poverty level.



Partners

RCDC has worked with Oxfam India, Misereor, Bftw, IGSSS, Action Village India, FES, PHF, CARITAS, WaterAid, Karl Kübel Stiftung für Kind und Familie (KKS), Ford Foundation, Concern WorldWide, European Union, UNDP, AusAid, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Dan Church Aid, KZE/Misereor, ICCO, Broederlijk Delen, Simavi, Both Ends, Key Stone Foundation, Letz Dream Foundation, Tata Trust, ChildFund India, State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), ITDA of Govt. of Odisha, OTELP, OMM, NRLM of Govt. of India among others.



Affiliated members and linkages with different forums/Networks

- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- International Union of Forest Research Organisation(IUFRO)
- Non Timber Forest Produces-Exchange Products (NTFP-EP)
- Voluntary Action Network India (VANI)
- Fluoride Knowledge & Action Network
- Odisha Environment Congress (OEC)
- People's Action on Climate Justice (PAC)
- Odisha Water Forum,
- Odisha Coalition for Panchayati Raj (OCPR) etc.
- Odisha Forest Development Corporation
- South Odisha Initiative
- Mahanadi Initiative

It is pertinent to mention that RCDC has been accredited by Credibility Alliance for adhering to the “Desirable Norms” prescribed for good governance of voluntary organizations after a thorough audit of all its aspects.



Community Based Natural Resource Management for Sustainable Livelihoods

The major focus is to recognise the traditional rights of the tribal and OTFDs on Forest and its resources. After the claim being made and the rights being recognised, the tribal and OTFDs manage their CFR sustainably so that they can manage their livelihoods and maintain food security. Besides, the livelihood sustenance is also linked with the ongoing government schemes and programmes.

PROGRAM	Enhanced livelihoods of Tribals and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers through sustainable management of Community Forest Resources (CFR)
	Supported by: Both Ends

Target area profile

District	Block	GP	No .of villages	HH
Keonjhar	Hatadihi	K.Balipal and Dalki	14 villages	1560
Mayurbhanj	Thakurmunda	Bhaliadal	6 villages	713
		3 GPs	20 villages	2273 HH

The program deals with forest protection, regeneration, conservation and management. It ensures rights in the hands of community so that the resource alienation in any form can be controlled and regulated. The Gramsabha can exercise its rights over the resources being empowered by the decentralisation of the resource governance through various legislations and Acts. Through this project, the FRCs and Gramsabha can exercise their use, access and tenurial rights over the local resources.

Conversion of forest villages into revenue villages, habitat rights of PVTGs, deregulation of bamboo and kendu leaf are some of the areas which is directly linked with tribal social and economic life. The delay in recognising the community rights and community forest resource is due to non-cooperation and barriers in exercising the rights of tribal communities as per FRA. Therefore, advocacy and networking activities are needed at the state level as well as at the national level.



Convergence Initiatives

Name of Scheme/ Programme	Theme	District/ Block/ GP	No of villages	HH	Male	Female	Disabled	Total
UNDP-FES SPS	Social Protection	3 blocks TaravaBMP Ullunda/ 12GPs	134	8715	1065 0	10345	21	21016
PMAY	FRA	Thakurmunda/ Bhaliadal	03	315				53 HHs got PMAY
Anganwadi	FRA							3 Forest villages got Anganwadi

Sustainable Forest Management (FRA, CFR, Community Initiatives on Sustainable Forest Management)

Claims Made	Up to 2019	2020-21	Total
IFR	1256	0	1256
CFR/CR	17	250	267

Strategy Prepared for Pending Claims:

- SDLC/DLC interface
- Participation in SDLC/DLC meetings
- Media advocacy
- District and block level consultation
- Personal meeting with authorities

Challenges faced in forest rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and official understanding is low • Non-cooperation from the Forest Department officials. • Delayed response from the government
How overcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular contact with the community and officials • Regular follow up to make Gramsabha active. • SDLC/DLC interface • Participation in SDLC/DLC Meetings
Strategy to overcome emerging challenges in future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gramsabha strengthening • Regular meetings and follow up of the cases • Keeping records and evidences intact.





Impact of management plans:

Developments in IFR Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PMAY, Land development, agricultural and horticultural development, integration of SSS. • Village ponds with MGNREGS
Developments in CFR Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plantation of RET species • CFR management activities • Watershed development initiatives
How CRR has helped	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in NTFP collection • Deregulation of KL has enhanced income • Lessen village conflicts • Village Development and Forest Development activities increased.

NTFP Management

NTFP Name	Project Strategy
Kendu Leaf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deregulation of KL for facilitating private trading • Collection of KL from all types of forest • Protection and conservation of KL collection area
Bamboo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest protection and conservation • Bamboo plantation • Deregulation of Bamboo
Sal Leaf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of Khali making machine foe women SHGs • Trading of Khali dana
Oilseeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand driven oil processing machine
Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of NTFP processing unit in Golamunda



Major Achievements:

Achievement	Unit	Dist/ Block/ GP	No of Villages	HH	Population
Forest village conversion to Revenue village	10	Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj	10	680	4100
KL trading of 40 lakh rupees by Gramsabha Samuha	06	Golamunda, Kalahandi	06	371	1761
One Pidha claim HR	01	Kathua Pidha	01	316	1898

Advocacy and Lobby:

Issue	Theme	Stakeholders Involved	Impact
Forest village Conversion to Revenue village	FRA	Tribals and OTFDs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pending at BoR • Letter to Governor, SLMC, Collector, BoR
Draft Indian Forest Act and its amendments	Proposed Amendments to Indian Forest Act 1927	Forest dwelling communities, forest fringe villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pending
CAMPA Fund Act 2016	CAMPA	NTFPEP Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act implemented with rules • Policy Brief on CAMPA



CONVERGENCE PROGRAMME						
Social protection schemes implemented due to Covid to restore livelihoods						
Supported by UNDP-FES						
Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes/ Programme	What is the provision	Who can get the benefits	Eligibility	Where to apply	Documents required
1	MGNREGA	The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme provides 100 days of guaranteed wages to adult population in rural areas.	Under existing provisions of the MGNREGA, every rural household with family members who have volunteered to do unskilled labour will be provided at least 100 days of paid work by the government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be Citizen of India to seek NREGA benefits Job seeker has completed 18 years of age at the time of application NREGA applicant must be part of a local household (i.e. application must be made to local GP) Applicant must volunteer for unskilled labour 	Local Panchayat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photograph of applicant(s) Name, Age and Gender of all NREGA Job Card Applicants from the household Name of Village Name of Gram Panchayat Name of Block Details of whether the applicant(s) is/are beneficiaries of SC/ST/IAV/LR Specimen Signature/Thumb impression of applicants
2	OLM	Bank loan to SHG members	SHG members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old group, well documentation and we'll organize. 	In OLM office or Block Office.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution copy, Gradation Card, Group Photography and proposal form.
3	Mo Upakari Bagicha (OLM)	The beneficiary will get support of Vegetables garden.	SHG members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pregnant Women, Adolescent girls, (SHG Members) 	In OLM office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adhar Card, Land copy (Patta copy), Resolution copy.
4	RKYV	Formers will get Rs 2500 per hectores for line transplantation.	Selected farmers only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small and marginal farmers. 	In block agriculture office.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Patta, Adhar card, Bank Passbook.
5	Pension (Social security Scheme)	500/700	Old persons, Disable persons, Widow, Un-married girls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 years above, 60% above disable, Widow, and un-married girls. 	Online application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adhar Card, voter card, Disable certificate, husband death certificate, Sarpancha declaration.

Total Beneficiary: 3565 HHs which also covers Individuals.

PROGRAM	Habitat Rights of PVTG
	Supported by: SCCF, France

In the year 2021, RCDC has taken up a programme on “Habitat Rights of PVTGs” under FRA for four out of 13 PVTGs. They are Juanga, Paudi Bhuyan, Kutia Kondha and Dangaria Kondha. The operational area expands to Keonjhar, Sundargarh, Angul, Deogarh, Kalahandi, and Rayagada. The goal of the programme is to ensure HR for vulnerable Adivasi Communities in different parts of India. The tenurial security is ensured for their wellbeing.

Objectives:

- At least 4 PVTG communities in the state Odisha have been able to mobilize the community and strengthen the community institutions for people led lobby/advocacy related to Habitat Rights.
- RCDC along with PVTG Communities in Odisha have been able to enhance capacities of Government officials, FRC Members, Gram Panchayat members, and Adivasi volunteers for proper documentation and mapping to ensure preparation and filing of valid HR claims.
- RCDC has facilitated networking amongst NGOs, researchers, and campaign for collective lobby/advocacy on the issue of Forest Rights at the state and National Level.

PROGRAM	Sustainable Livelihood and Empowerment of Adivasi communities
	Supported by: <i>BftW (Bread for the World)</i>

Target area profile

District	Block	GP	No .of villages	HH
Nabarangpur	Jharigaon	Phupugaon	2	261
		Banuaguda	8	1466
Total				1727

Objectives:

- To strengthen the community governance of the local natural resources for environmental services as well as for livelihood enhancement.
- To enhance livelihoods opportunities of the tribal communities of targeted villages

Strategy adopted;

- Forest dependent communities in 10 villages claim IFR, CR and CFR and take control of Natural Resources within the village limit
- Community based NR Governance plans prepared and implemented 10 villages



- Production and productivity of principal farm products such as paddy, pigeon pea, ragi etc. enhanced by 30 per cent that of the base year (2018) using agro-ecological practices. 60 per cent of the households have increased access to organic and nutrient food from the farms.
- 25% of the target households will enhance their skills, production and income from non-farm enterprises based on NTFP and livestock.
- 60% of the targeted families including 20% women headed households have increased access to their entitlements under different Acts, Rules, and Schemes of the Government.

Convergence Initiatives

Name of Scheme/ Programme	Theme	District/ Block/ GP	No of Villages	Population Benefitted		
				HH	Male	Female
ITDA	Livelihood – Ragi cultivation	Nabarangpur	16	116	116	
ITDA	Vegetable cultivation	Nabarangpur	20	442	442	442
ITDA	Sun Flower & paddy cultivation, Paddy	Nabarangpur	56	56	56	56
Forest Department	Plants	Nabarangpur	4 Community Plantation			
Block	Water irrigation pump set	Jharigoan	10 16 nos pump sets	40	40	40
	Mashroom cultivation	Jharigaon	3	38	38	38

Programme achievements;

Sustainable Forest Management

Claims Made	Upto 2019	2020-21	Total
IFR	169	34	203
CFR	08	05	13
CRR	08	05	13
Total	185	44	229

Claims Received	Upto 2019	2020-21	Total
IFR	139	34	173
CFR	03	00	03
CRR	03	00	03
Total	145	34	179



Claims Pending	Upto 2019	2020-21	Total
IFR	30	00	30
CFR	05	05	10
CRR	05	05	10
Total	40	10	50

Strategy Prepared for Pending Claims:

The organization staff contacted with SDLC and it was noticed that 6 numbers of IFR have been rejected at SDLC level. The concerned departments informed that they will do the verification and issue records of rights

Challenges Faced

Challenges faced in forest rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation • Joint verification because of lack of coordination between departments • Taking more time to collect or get ready all the related documents • Rejection by SDLC and DLC
How overcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutinized from time to time and prepared documents • Coordination with concerned departments • People’s involvement and realization about their ownership • Follow up and frequent monitoring and convergence with different department
Strategy to overcome emerging challenges in future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building on FRA, FRC, CRR and IFR of Forest Rights Committee members • Regular interface meeting with representatives and concern department • Information dissemination
Developments in IFR Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm pond excavated, orchard development
Developments in CFR Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch and ward by people but no management plan done



Promotion of Sustainable livelihoods

Challenges faced

Challenges faced in livelihood issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are cultivating cash crop • Facing difficulties to motivate people towards use of organic fertilizer instead of chemical • The concern multinational company agents are being contacting family to family and motivating to use genetically modified seeds
How overcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular intervention and motivation • Contact family to family –FGD • Demonstration activities SRI, Eco-agriculture • Supported with Vermi compost and preparation on organic products • Educate/train on preparation on organic fertilizer and pesticides
Strategy to overcome challenges in future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration activities and capacity building, Exposure • Comparison of expenditure (Chemical vs Organic) • Comparison nutritional values, diseases, etc • Organic certification and propagation • Sale products at towns

Forest based livelihoods

Major NTFP's

Kendu Leaf	Bahada
Chahar	Amala
Sal Leaf	Mahua
Sal Seed	Tolla –Mahua seed
Harida	Siali leaf
Bamboo	Honey
Herbs-root, leaf, etc	

Major Achievements

Achievement	Unit	Dist/ Block/ GP	No of Villages	HH
Vegetable cultivation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nabarangpur • Jharigoan • GP-Phupugoan & Banuaguda 	10	806
SRI	31		10	31
Eco Agriculture	29		10	29
Vermi Compost	103		10	103
Organic Fertiliser preparation	100		10	100



Vegetable cultivation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nabarangpur Jharigoan GP-Phupugoan & Banuaguda 	10	640
SRI	31		10	31
Water irrigation	3	1	3	30
Production unit	1	1	1	30

Farm based livelihoods;

Major Agricultural Produce

Grains	Pulses	Millets	Fruits	Vegetables
Paddy	Black gram	Ragi (small & Big)	Mango	Pumpkin
Maize	Green gram		Jack fruit	Ladies finger
	Horse gram		Guava	Brinjal
	Kandul		Baries	Radish
	chana			Onion
				Chilli
				Tomato
				Simba, Barabati
				Karala, Jhanhi, Lau, etc

Achievement	Unit	Dist/ Block/ GP	No of Villages	HH
Ragi cultivation	116	2	6	116
SRI	52	2	10	52
Organic farming	10	2	10	806
SMI	56	2	4	56
LT & LS	60	2	6	60
Organic fertilizer preparation	203	2	10	203
Vermin compost	103	2	10	103
Handi khata and other organic tonics	116	2	10	116

Off Farm Livelihoods (Promoted by RCDC);

Activity	HH	Number Involved
Poultry	156 individuals and 3 groups (SHGs)	1560 individuals and 30 group members



Wage & social security based livelihoods;

Achievement/ Name of Scheme, Programme	Dist/ Block/ GP	No of Villages	HH
MGNREGA	Jharioan	10	811
	Jarigoan	10	593
	Jarigoan	10	196
	Jarigoan	10	27
	Jharigoan	10	270
	Jharigoan	10	1540

Kitchen garden initiatives;

No of HH	Support provided	Vegetables grown	Horticultural trees
806	Seeds (9 types of vegetable) and organic fertilizer	Pea	Mango
		Cowpea	Lichi
		Bitter guard	Banana
		Saga	Papaya
		Chilli	Guava
		Bringal	Cashew

Gains from kitchen garden per household;

Average production per HH (in kg)	Average cost of produce (Rs)	Average consumption (kg)	Average sale (kg)	Average income (Rs)
2 to 3 quintal per family	5000 to 10000 rupees	Daily 2 to 3 kg	2 to 3 quintal	5000 to 10000 and some progressive farmers more than that

Research and publication

Research/ Study/Publication	R/S/P	Theme	Conducted by/ Author	For whom intended/ Purpose	Main Findings/ Content
Publication	Printing	PESA Odiya book	RCDC Nabarangpur	Community, line departments	PRI and PESA an comparison and provisions



PROGRAM	Focus Area Development Programme (FADP)
	Supported by: SC & ST Department, Govt. of Odisha

Target area profile

District	Block	GP	No .of villages	HH
Nabarangapur	Papadahandi	6	15	1200
	Kosagumuda	5	16	1100
	Dabugaon	5	15	1200
	Nabarangapur	5	18	1100
	Nandahandi	5	12	600
	Tentulikhunti	6	20	1700
	Jharigaon	5	20	1200
	Raighar	5	10	500
	Chandahandi	3	10	500
	Umerkote	5	10	500

The livelihood of rural “Scheduled Tribe” (ST) community is mostly dependent on forest, agriculture and animal husbandry. Over the years developmental works in Tribal Sub-Plan area of the state were primarily undertaken through the 'Integrated Tribal Development Agencies' (ITDA), under the administrative control of ST & SC Development Department. It was seen that, largely traditional implementation strategies, absence of sustainable local institutions, infrastructure linkages and end-to-end solution in the value chain were the eventual roadblocks making livelihoods of tribal people vulnerable to various unforeseen risks.

Visualizing that a focused approach towards livelihoods suitable to local conditions and capacities of tribal communities as also creation of scalable and replicable livelihood models is the need of the hour, a new approach taking a holistic view of the livelihood ecosystem was launched named as Focused Area Development Programme (FADP) with the following broad objectives:

- Ensuring sustainable livelihoods of ST families through land and non-land based livelihood activities;
- Developing suitable infrastructure so as to improve the standard of living and facilitating incremental results in their livelihoods;
- Developing backward & forward linkages and strengthening local institutions; &
- Improving the governance system in the tribal villages by strengthening the Community Institutions.

The decadal Perspective Plan for FADP aims to cover about 5.12 lakh tribal families with tentative budget of Rs.1569.70 crores. Convergence of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (SCA to TSP) and Article–275(1) funds with national/state flagship schemes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), *Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)*, *Biju Krushak Vikas Yojana (BKVY)* etc. has been proposed in this Plan.



Objectives;

- Locally suitable sectoral interventions that would use available resources and capacities of local tribal communities
- Create scalable & replicable models
- Promote usage of alternative technologies to make sustainable socio-economic impact in the lives of tribal population

Farm based livelihoods;

Major Agricultural Produce

Grains	Fruits	Vegetables
Scented Rice,Lemongrass,Sunflower	Cashew plantation	Onion,Tomato,Poatato,Brinjal,Okra,Pumpkin, Groundnut,Cowpee,Chilly,Pointed Gourd, Cowpea

CASE STUDY ON HERBAL PRACTICES

Background:

The Akshya Banadurga Baidya Sanga has been providing services for the last 25 years in the Jharigaon block. The Sangha consisted of 35 Baidyas (traditional healers) from two Gram Panchayats namely Banuaguda and Phupugaon and functioning from Kuhurakote village. The traditional healers collect different medicinal species from the nearest forest and prepare medicines. Due to degradation of forest the rare and important herbs disappeared gradually. Hence the healers faced difficulties to prepare medicine, which prevented them from rendering their service to the needy and poor people.



The Baidya Sanghathan prepares medicine to cure cough, fever, headache, scabies, body pain, blood sugar control, bone joint issues, stomach ache, ear problems and other diseases with minimum service charges. Baidya Sunadhar Goud takes the lead role to continue the unit and effort to sustain the herbal practice. As reported by Sunadhar they are preparing 46 types of herbal medicines and specialized in treatment of paralysis. They made seven cottages for paralysis patients with minimum facilities. Patients from Chhattisgarh, Kalahandi, Nuapada and western Odisha are taking the opportunity of treatment. According to the register they are treating 60 to 120 paralysis patients yearly and the success rate is 80 percent. The Sangathan provides treatment to 500 to 600 patients in a year.



RCDC Intervention:

In the month of February 2020 a meeting was held with the members of Baidya Sanghathan and discussed the future of herbal medicine. During the discussion it was identified that the unavailability of herbs may hamper/close their services. In this connection the baidya Sanghathan appealed to RCDC for support to develop a herbal garden at Kuhurakote Village. RCDC staff and the traditional healers identified one acre land adjacent to the village and prepared an outline to develop an herbal garden. The following steps were taken;

Medicinal sapling list preparation

- Land preparation
- Fencing
- Digging of dug well for watering
- Water lifting pump



RCDC took the responsibility to supply saplings, pump set and iron wire for fencing and the Baidyas agreed to provide poles for fencing and dig wells.

In August 2020 RCDC purchased 900 herbal saplings (32 varieties) from Semiliguda and gave them to the Sanghathan. The members planted the saplings with keen interest and provided watch & ward services. They dug the well and fenced the one acre land. The garden is in its growing stage and it is expected that next year onwards they will use leaves, and root for preparing medicines.



Future Plan:

The traditional healers proposed to increase the number of plants and disseminate their medicines. Therefore it has been decided that in 2022 an outlet will open at Block headquarter in Jharigaon to display all the medicines. The organization committed to provide medicine preparation utensils and other required medicine preparation support. RCDC has contacted herbal promotion agencies for exposure, sharing of knowledge and provide scope to participate in the exhibitions.

STEP TOWARDS ORGANIC FARMING

Background:

Organic farming is a system that uses environmentally friendly inputs for weed, pest and disease control. Organic farms create an ecosystem free from chemicals where wild flora and fauna can flourish easily. Instead of fighting for space with nature, organic farming creates a mutually beneficial ecosystems, where diverse species help improve the soil quality and the farms provide a sustainable habitat.

The highest percentage of chemical fertilizer use is in Nabarangpur district of Odisha. Promotion of cash crops (maize, cotton) and commercial crops (Eucalyptus, Nilagiri & Jhaun) cultivation forces farmers towards high use of chemical fertilizer. This causes soil damage and ground water levels have gone down mainly in Umorekote, Raigarh and Jharigaon blocks in Nabarangpur district. In BftW operational area the use of chemical fertilizer was very high in the year 2019-20.

Distress Situation:

The excess use of chemical fertilizer and chemicals decreases the soil nutrient values, which causes more and more use of chemical fertilizers to increase the productivity. But these practices gradually increase the expenditure in agriculture and profit is less. Sometimes crop failure causes suicide of farmers, land mortgage, and sale of land. The families face acute poverty and engage in labour work in other's agricultural field. The soil fertility goes down and coupled with water scarcity results in unproductive land.

RCDC Intervention:

During baseline study in 2018 it was identified that the production is low and expenditure is high. For this reason very less income is earned from agricultural activities. The organization has formed 10 farmers club in 10 villages and discussed on organic farming. The RCDC staff demonstrated on preparation of organic fertilizers, promotion of vermi compost and adoption of subsistence agriculture. The farmers agreed to promote ragi cultivation instead of maize cultivation. The organization supported 675 families for organic vegetable cultivation, supported 103 vermi compost pits and 200 families were supported with organic fertilizer preparation items.



Sukhachand Gond is one of the beneficiaries supported with vermi compost tank, organic fertilizer preparation, and seeding and spraying machines. He has been using the vermi compost in vegetable cultivation and spraying the “jia jala sar” in the agricultural fields. He is preparing “handi khata” for fertilizer and biological pest control material by utilizing local materials i.e. leave, soil, cow urine, and cow dung.

At present Sukhachand is utilizing his land for ragi and vegetable cultivation by utilizing organic fertilizer. A comparative study has been done, which is given below;



One acre land cultivated with chemical fertilizer:

- Paddy production 12 Quintal, expenditure = INR 10,000
- Income: 10 quintal@1500=15,000 rupees, Profit= INR 5000

One acre land cultivated with organic fertilizer:

- Paddy 9 quintal@1500= INR 13500; total expenditure = INR 8000 Profit= INR 5500
- In addition to these, the advantages are; production of safe and nutritious food, diversification of crops and increased fertility of land

Outcomes:

- Decreased expenditure, increased profit
- Crop and food diversification
- Income increases up to 30%
- Soil fertility increased
- Increased standard of living
- Access to niche organic market
- Preserve seeds and food grains for future and save money for investment in agriculture, and education

Conclusion/Future plan:

The organic cultivation promotional activities will be encouraged and cover more farmers of the area.

JOURNEY TOWARDS SELF SUFFICIENCY

This is the narration about an SHG that has taken initiative towards its own development through prudent economic activity.

Information about the SHG:

Name of the SHG	:	Maa Kali Mahima
Name of the Village	:	Boraguda
Name of the GP	:	Phupugaon
Total Members	:	10 women members
Name of the President	:	Gajamati Majho
Name of the Secretary	:	Laxmi Gond
Total Saving	:	36,000



Background:

Boraguda village is situated in the western side of Phupugaon Gram Panchayat in Jharigion Block. The village consisted of 94 adivasi families as per 2018 baseline study conducted by RCDC. During the study it was found that there are 5 active SHGs (Self Help Group) in the village Boraguda. The groups are formed to deposit money in the banks to increase their group savings. The poor and innocent women are depositing INR 100 per head per month as savings by minimizing their own expenditure.

It was observed that the Maa Kali Mahima group is active and was involved in RCDC activities. The group takes a lead role to implement the activities such as beneficiary selection, maintenance of health & sanitation, village cleanliness and vegetable cultivation. The particular group took a group vegetable cultivation program last winter and successfully implemented it.

RCDC Intervention:

In the year 2019 RCDC adopted Borahuda village as its operational area. The group was keen to participate in the meetings and undertake community vegetable cultivation in the year 2020. In the month of February 2021 RCDC field staff undertook implementation of a poultry farm in its 10 operational villages. The Animal Husbandry Department of Nabarangpur requested RCDC to implement the poultry farm establishment program as convergence. The government official and RCDC staff sat with the Maa Kali Mahima group and finalized plans to implement poultry farm that materialized by the end of March 2021.



Group initiative:

The group members took the poultry program as a challenge and from the very next day started construction of a poultry farm house from their own savings. All the members contributed labour and materials of their own and purchased cement, bricks, iron rod and other house building material from Jharigaon. The construction work was completed within March 15th and the department released INR 40,000 as grant against construction.



The department then supplied 200 chicks and feed for six months. RCDC staff presented the business plan before the group as mentioned below:

- One chick will give 25 eggs in a month
- Out of 200 chicks the survival is about 150 numbers
- Production 150×25 eggs per month = 3750 eggs @ 5.00 (present market rate is 6.00) = 18750.00
- If 200 chicks survived = $200 \times 30 = 6000$ eggs @ 5.00 = 30000 rupees per month
- Suppose 1000 eggs are used by the group or broken then 5000 eggs sale @ 4.50 = 22,500 rupees income in a month
- Expenditure = 8000 per month feed for chicks
- 3000 electric and other expenditure
- 1500 rupees handing loss or recurring expenditure

Profit is not less than 10,000 per month and in a year approx 1,00,000 to 1,20,000 rupees is an additional income of the group, which can be distributed equally within the group member @ 12,000 per year.

This will help the group members to meet their requirements, children education, health needs, etc.

Outcome of the initiative:

At present the poultry birds are ready to give eggs and the group members as well as villagers will purchase all the eggs for their own consumption. The balance egg will be supplied to the Anganwadi centre and village school as discussed with the BRC/CRC. The group members will earn monthly 1000 rupees as an additional income from the poultry farm activities.

Future Perspective:

The group members visualized starting a production unit (value chain processing unit) and approached RCDC on this. They are ready to donate a house to establish a production unit. The application is taken into consideration and business plan development is under process. The group members are also interested in starting a tamarind processing unit in future and are seeking help from RCDC. This activity has encouraged other groups.



PROGRAM	Ensuring Sustainable Food and Livelihood Security of Tribal and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers through Customary and Ancestral Practices and rights in the Districts of Balangir and Rayagada, Odisha
	Supported by: Misereor, Germany

Target area profile

District	Block	GP	No .of villages	HH
Balangir	Khaprakhhol	Ghunsar	7	2996
		Nandupala	8	
		Rengali	4	
		Telenpali	9	
Rayagada	Chandrapur	Hanumantpur	12	1182
Total	02	05	40	4178

The goal of this program is to ensure sustainable food and livelihood security of tribal and other traditional forest dwellers through customary and ancestral practices and rights in two districts; 28 villages in Bolangir and 12 villages in Rayagada district. It is a follow up program based on the experiences gained and from the lessons learnt from the previous program.

Program Strategy:

The first focus is on strengthening of Gramsabha and Pallasabha through implementation of PESA, FRA, OSATIP, TSP etc for grass-root democracy and to promote decentralised governance to empower the community and their institutions.

The second focus is on food and nutritional security / food sovereignty. Organic way of farming with reference to community tradition and culture, cultural food practices, indigenous seed collection, propagation and cultivation is the priority and the objective is to keep the market away from the target community. Forest based livelihood is also a major component of this project.

The third focus is to facilitate the dialogue among various stakeholders for appropriate policies at different levels for practices of resource management.

Objectives;

- To enhance the access of local communities, their federations and other stakeholders to information and implementation of different aspects of decentralized resource governance.
- To promote livelihoods through sustainable agriculture development, Minor Forest produce and non-farm options for target communities.
- To facilitate increased dialogue among various stakeholders for appropriate policies and practices for resource management



Convergence Initiatives

Name of Scheme/ Programme	Theme	District/ Block/ GP	No of Villages	Population Benefitted				
				HH	Male	Female	Disabled	Total
MGNREGA	Plantation/land dev.	Balangir	19	138	113	109	16	138
		Rayagada	7	53	24	17	3	53
National Social Assistance Programme	NFBS/ Pension	Balangir	16	35	19	13	3	35
		Rayagada	6	15	8	6	1	15
PMFBY	Crop Insurance	Balangir	25	145				145
		Rayagada	10	58				58

Sustainable Forest Management (FRA, CFR, community initiatives on sustainable forest management)

Claims Made	Upto 2019	2020-21	Total
IFR	677	00	677
CFR	38	28	66
CRR	10	28	38

Claims Received	Upto 2019	2020-21	Total
IFR	242	00	242
CFR	12	00	12
CRR	00	00	00

Claims Pending	Upto 2019	2020-21	Total
IFR	435	00	435
CFR	26	28	54
CRR	10	28	38

Impact of management plans;

Developments in IFR Land	PMAY, land development, mango orchard, farm ponds, agricultural support, MGNREGS linkages
Developments in CFR Land	Mango and cashew plantation under convergence of horticulture and soil conservation department in 4 hectares of land



Challenges faced;

Challenges faced in forest rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No awareness about PRI Gram Sabha, & FRA Gram Sabha • Gram Sabha are not strong enough to follow up the recognition process • No conceptual clarity on rules about OTFD (other traditional forest dweller) and tribal forest dweller at village level • Lack of cooperation in administrative level • Non-functioning SDLC & DLC • Slow recognition process
How overcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of FRC and GBC • Regular follow up by both Gram Sabha and staff of RCDC • Interface between SDLC, DLC and Gram Sabha
Strategy to overcome emerging challenges in future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transforming Gram Sabhas and empowering them

Challenges faced in livelihood issues	<p>Lack of access and control over the market, seeds, chemical fertilizer, pesticides</p> <p>Lack of access and control over the decreasing resource base</p>
How overcome	<p>Practicing the traditional and customary culture of agriculture</p> <p>Networking and not allowing the market to enter into the region.</p>
Strategy to overcome challenges in future	<p>Seed and food sovereignty, Indigenous method of cultivation, no dependency on others.</p>

Challenges faced in agriculture issues	<p>Lack of irrigation, Government supply seed, not supplied in time, constraints in getting funds, no proper market to sell the produce</p>
How overcome	<p>Single window system for farmers, proper training and guidance, organised institution of farmers, credit facility</p>
Strategy to overcome challenges in future	<p>Farmer centric agricultural development plan.</p>

Challenges faced with the issue of distress migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People have no options for adequate earnings • Youth masses are reluctant to do traditional livelihood activities in their villages
How overcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better implementation of MGNREGA and other employment and livelihood schemes
Strategy to overcome emerging challenges in future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skill development training for youth • Increase irrigation facilities • Convergence of more government programmes on agriculture and allied activities



Major NTFP's available

Kendu Leaf	Honey, Jhuna, Lakha
Bamboo	Tamarind
Sal Leaf/seed	Tubers
Mahua	Mushroom
Harida, Bahada, Amla	Char Koli

NTFP Name	Project Strategy
Kendu Leaf	Coverage under social security schemes apart from selling it on MSP
Sal Leaf	Training for stitching, starting enterprises and marketing
Mahua	Selling on MSP



Kitchen garden initiatives;

No of HH	Support provided	Vegetables grown	Greens grown	Horticultural trees
100	Seeds	Brinjal	Spinach	Drumstick
		Tomato	Coriander	Papaya
		Ladies finger		Lemon
		Pumpkin		
		Cowpea		
		Cucumber		

People's perception about kitchen garden:

- Kitchen garden is necessary for all families
- Regular intake of vegetables is beneficial for health
- Growing variety of vegetables is an additional source of income
- Organic way of cultivation is sustainable and cost effective



Lobby, advocacy & networking

Issue	Theme	Stakeholders Involved	Impact
Forest Fire	Awareness on forest fire protection	Community Members, VSS members. Forest Rights Committee members, Forest officials, Volunteers, media Persons, PRI Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increased awareness on forest fire protection ➤ Community involvement in forest fire protection ➤ Plan for the next year to control from the beginning

PROGRAM	Special Programme on Millets for Tribal Areas of Odisha
	Supported by: ATMA, Rayagada, Directorate of Agriculture & Food Production, Govt of Odisha

Target area profile

District	Block	GP	No .of villages	HH
Rayagada	Muniguda	Agula	10	140
		Bhairabagada	6	150
		Jagdapur	12	170
		Kumudabali	15	315
		Patraguda	8	155
		Sibapadar	5	75
		Telengapadar	10	160
		Paikrani Pinda	7	118
		Ghamatguda	10	205
		Sanadhapur	12	245
		Ambadala	4	65
		Ichhapur	5	87
		Total		

Millet based crops are highly resilient to climate change and produce nutritious food grains. Millet crop areas and millet consumption is reducing because of low productivity and lack of awareness on nutrition benefits of millets. This program is about increasing urban demand of millet products, improvements in processing machinery, availability of improved cultivation, better agronomic practices the potential of realising higher productivity and profitability in millets.

Strategy;

- Comprehensive revival of millets to secure nutrition and mitigate drought
- Revival of millets in Household consumption,
- Improving productivity of millets crop system,
- Improving nutrition security of tribal households
- Promoting local processing enterprises and development of markets



Objectives;

Increasing household consumption of millets by enhancing household nutrition security and to create demand for millets with focus on women and children and inclusion of millets in State Nutrition Programme and Public Distribution System

- Improving Productivity of millets crop systems and make them profitable
- Promoting millet processing enterprises at GP and block level with focus on women entrepreneurs

Achievement;

- 2272 farmers cultivated 1101 hectares land in millets (ragi) using appropriate method.
- 18.82 hectares in SMI method,
- 618.65 hectares in LI method
- 268.17 hectares in LS methods
- In 195.67 hectares different millets like ragi, little millet, foxtail millet, and bajra were cultivated.

Major Agricultural Produce

Pulses	Millets
Arhar	Ragi (mandia), Little millet (khosala), Foxtail millet (kangu), Bazra

MILLET MISSION PAVES THE WAY FOR A BETTER INCOME

Panimunda is a tribal village of Patraguda GP of Muniguda Block in Rayagada district. It is 12 km away from block head quarter and situated in the foothill of the Niyamgiri. It has 36 tribal families. It is also surrounded by hills. Agriculture is the main occupation of the villagers followed by collection of minor forest produce. They grow mainly pulses, millets and oilseeds in the upland.

Miti Jakesika is one of the woman farmers in Panimunda village. She lives with her husband Hari Jakesika and 4 other family members. They have 6 acres of land. Now she is a well known in that village for her millet cultivation.



During intervention through OMM programme by RCDC, she attended training and meetings for millet cultivation in Kharif season, 2020. After training she decided to grow ragi in two acres through line transplanting method. She grew nursery with 4 kg seed in the month of June and transplanted it after twenty days. She followed all the procedures including timely removal of weeds and use of liquid fertilisers. In September, the crops had more than fifty percent of flowering. At that time, there was no rainfall for long time. So she made arrangement for irrigation through diesel pump. In the month of November, she harvested 8 quintals

and 20 kg. She sold 6 quintals in the Mandi and got around INR 20,000. Now she has decided to grow in 3 acres through SMI methods.

According to Miti, "We have earned a good amount through this millet cultivation. Earlier we were growing other crops and not able to get back the value of seeds, so it is an opportunity for getting good income as well as food security. I will try to mobilise my neighbours to follow me I thanks the staff of RCDC for showing us a path for development."

BAJU SARAKA FRONT LINE SEED FARMER OF MUNIGUDA BLOCK

Baju Saraka aged about 54 is an inhabitant of Kamalabada village which comes under the Kumudaballi GP of Muniguda Block. There are total six members in his family. He has 1 acre 70 decimal land of his own. He cultivates cotton, ragi, and arhar. He cultivated millet on 50 decimal land for own consumption. He had joined the training program organized by RCDC and showed his interest to cultivate Ragi for seed purpose. With an advance he prepared land of 1 acre 25 decimal with using 4 qntl. of cow dung compost.



He took 3kg Chilika variety Ragi seed from FA RCDC and after germination test prepared the nursery bed. After 16 days he cultivated the field and prepared small sized 5" X 10" size bed and planted row to row 8cm and plant to plant 8cm gaps with a line. After 20 days he used cycle weeder and removed the grass. He applied 100 litres of jibamrita and handikhata for nutrient management. After 15 days again he used cycle weeder and used Handikhata of 50 liters also used Nimastra for managing insects and prevent diseases.






Every millet plant grew with 10 to 12 tillering. At the time of panicles with the help of FA RCDC staff he cut down the other varieties panicles. Before harvesting this process is repeated for three times. After harvesting the crop, it cleaned and dried in a clean place. During harvest period there was an agreement with MFPC (FPO Muniguda) under which the MFPC will buy 4 quintals of ragi seeds at the price of Rs 38/- per kg.

Baju Saraka had got 7.40 quintals of ragi seed from his 1.25 acres of land and from that he keeps 40 kgs for his own consumption and sell 3 quintals in the mandi and rest 4 quintals he preserved to sell MFPC Muniguda. Now he is very much happy because of minimum expenditure he earned 25,000 rupees only from ragi which he couldn't from both cotton and ragi.



Financial Status

REGIONAL CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (RCDC)			
At-HIG-26, K-6, HOUSING SCHEME, PHASE-II, KALINGA VIHAR BHUBANESWAR, Dist-KHORDA ODISHA-751019			
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31st March, 2021			
PARTICULARS	SCH.	2020-21 (₹)	2019-20 (₹)
<u>SOURCES OF FUNDS :</u>			
Capital Fund	1	774,940	4,822,405
Restricted Fund (Un-Spend Grant)	2	1,704,678	5,885,696
Staff Welfare Fund	4	1,929,644	1,678,267
Corpus Fund	5	6,634	191,770
Temporary Loan		-	178,674
TOTAL		4,415,895	12,756,812
<u>APPLICATION OF FUNDS :</u>			
Fixed Assets:	3		
Gross Block		2,686,297	3,013,453
Less: Depreciation		487,995	571,616
Net Block		2,198,302	2,441,837
Gratuity Fund	6	1,199,412	1,213,625
Current Assets, Loans and Advances:			
Cash & Bank Balances	7	2,778,368	9,916,670
Loans & Advances	8	828,484	817,185
	(A)	3,606,852	10,733,855
Less: Current Liabilities and Provisions			
Current Liabilities	9	2,588,671	1,632,505
	(B)	2,588,671	1,632,505
Net Current Assets	(A-B)	1,018,181	9,101,350
TOTAL		4,415,895	12,756,812
Notes to Accounts	16		
The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Balance Sheet As per our Separate Report of even Date			
For A.K LENKA & CO. Chartered Accountants FRN: 0325851E		For REGIONAL CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (RCDC)	
  CA A.K Lenka, FCA, DISA (ICAI) PARTNER M No. 061761		 Kailash Chandra Dash Executive Director Executive Director Regional Centre for Development Cooperation	
Place: Bhubaneswar Date: 25th Jan 2022 UDIN - 22061761AAAA01240			

REGIONAL CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (RCDC)

At-HIG-26, K-6, HOUSING SCHEME, PHASE-II, KALINGA VIHAR
BHUBANESWAR, Dist-KHORDA
ODISHA-751019

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st March, 2021

PARTICULARS	SCH.	2020-21 (₹)	2019-20 (₹)
INCOME:			
Grant-in-Aid			
Restricted Grants (including Peoples' Contribution and Organisation's Contribution) for Projects	10	27,088,167	46,272,450
BANK INTEREST			
On Saving Bank		183,086	214,959
OTHER RECEIPTS			
Donations		2,282,412	508,407
Other Revenue	11 (A)	3,286,760	9,860,879
TOTAL		32,840,425	56,856,695
EXPENDITURE:			
Utilisation of Restricted Grants (including People's and 'Organisation's Contribution) for Projects	12	35,496,380	43,291,840
Administrative and other input costs	13 (A)	5,090,099	10,133,271
TOTAL		40,586,479	53,425,111
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE DEPRECIATION		(7,746,055)	3,431,584
Less: Depreciation		487,994	571,618
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(8,234,049)	2,859,966
Notes to Accounts	16		

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Income & Expenditure Account.
As per our Separate Report of even Date

For A.K LENKA & CO.
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 0325851E

CA A.K Lenka, FCA, DISA (ICAI)
PARTNER
M No. 061761



Place: Bhubaneswar
Date: 25th Jan 2022
UDIN - 22061761AAAAB01240

For REGIONAL CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (RCDC)

Kailash Chandra Dash
Executive Director

Executive Director
Regional Centre for
Development Cooperation





Regional Centre for Development Cooperation

HIG-26, K-6, Phase-II, Kalinga Vihar, Bhubaneswar-751019, Odisha

Tel: (+91) 2475410, 2475652

E-mail: rcdcbbsr@gmail.com, Website: <https://www.rcdcindia.org>, <https://www.banajata.org>