

Harsha Trust

Annual Report 2020-21



Pic – Rajani, Harsha Trust

CONTENTS

SI No	Contents	Page No.
1	From Chairperson's Desk	2 - 3
2	Harsha Trust-About Us	4
3	Vision, Mission, Values	5
4	Locations we work in - Odisha & Chhattisgarh	6
5	Governing Board	7 - 8
6	Highlights of the year	9 - 10
7	Odisha - A Contextual View of Rural Development Indices	11
8	Building Institutions and Strengthening Collectives	12 - 17
9	Producer Groups	17 - 18
10	Farmer Producer Organization	19 - 20
11	Credit Mobilization	21
12	Interventions in Agriculture and Horticulture	22 - 23
13	WADI	24
14	Mix Multi Cropping	24 - 29
15	Major Crops	29 - 30
16	Livestock Intervention	31 - 33
17	Technology Interventions in Agriculture	34
18	Food and Nutritional Security	35 - 36
19	Collaboration and Convergence	36 - 39
20	Rapid Response to COVID-19	40 - 42
21	Education	42 - 46
22	Bridging the Gap between Govt. and Community	46 - 47
23	Advancing Rural Innovation	48 - 50
24	Promotion of Nutri-Garden	50 - 51
25	Harnessing Solar Energy	52 - 54
26	Professional Grooming	55
27	Our Finances	56 - 57
28	Our Donors	59

From Chairperson's Desk



Still in the grips of the pandemic, and a global economy in a staggered recovery mode, the impact on the poor need not be over emphasised. For organizations like ours, it has also not been easy, trying to make the delicate walk between meeting challenges of hunger and deprivation in the midst of dwindling global resources available. But with deprivation also came hope. Industrial houses, banks and IT firms came forward to meet urgent requirements of communities in distress. When there was no movement of transport, provision of inputs for the years Kharif and Rabi crop almost felt hopeless, till our donors came together yet again to save the farmer with inputs, which would have otherwise meant hunger for families.

This year we have been able to reach more than 45,439 farmers in our different agriculture-based interventions, including introducing solar based lift irrigation, developing cluster-based production of vegetables, introducing new technology in paddy production, which is both climate friendly and reduces human drudgery, as well as WADI. As our goal has been to introduce technology based, market linked and community centric institutions we have continued to work with full gusto on strengthening and developing Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). Currently we are engaged with 10 FPOs, with a total membership of 16,455 and a combined annual turnover of Rs 6.4 crores. In order to sustain the momentum built in the FPOs as well as the Community based institutions like Area level and Gram Panchayat Level bodies, we have built capacities of about 259 local youth as community service providers.

Building institutions led and for women will help us turn back centuries of inequity. While we work with existing SHGs (Self Help Groups) of women, we understand the need to strengthen these collectives, where the last person in the group is strengthened to the extent to question her subordination in position and condition. We work with 1,673 women SHGs and a membership base of 18,367. While thrift and credit are definitely one of our goals as it will help build women's enterprise, we also understand the importance of ownership of assets and property. Asset lessness is the bane that has a direct co relation with violence against women both within and outside the houses.

Our programs on nutrition, health and education are models that are now well established and much appreciated. We worked with 58,600 farmers to establish nutrition gardens in their backyards. These kitchen gardens ensure a steady supply of vegetables contributing to the wholesome nutrition and health of their families.

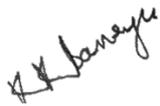
Harsha Trust played a crucial role in ensuring that students continued to learn throughout the year when schools were closed due to the Corona Pandemic. Local volunteers continued the learning process with children at village level learning centres in Bissamcuttack Block (Rayagada District) and Kujanga Block (Jagatsinghpur District) while complying to the pandemic's limits and protocols.

The learning programme also included innovative learning initiatives such as children studying their village biographies while interacting with elders and children learning English communication remotely with the help of student volunteers from California (USA) and Bhubaneswar (India). Both of these carries immense potential for the future.

Harsha Trust also worked with community institutions and set up 75 more village level learning centres in various blocks. For these centres, financial support was offered from Cluster Level Forums and, parents too pitched in with ₹50-150, depending on the age and grade of their child. Classes were conducted by a highly inspired team of Saathis (male and female).

Harsha Trust is grateful for the generous support provided by different departments and agencies of Govt of India and Govt of Odisha; DFID, national and international corporate entities, institutions, trusts and others. We thank the community, partner organisations, other agencies and independent professionals for their kind contribution. We will continue our journey to bring in technology based, market linked and community centric institutions for eco-friendly, equitable and sustainable socio-economic development of rural people.

Sincerely



Kalyan Kumar Banerjee



Pic – Rajani, Harsha Trust

Harsha Trust - About Us

Harsha Trust, since its inception in 2002, has actively worked for the uplift of the rural population in Odisha. We have concentrated on the proverbially poor KBK (Kalahandi, Balangir & Koraput) region of the state with indigenous populations, with a gendered approach. Harsha Trust has introduced various self-sustaining and inclusive programs for poverty alleviation for the most vulnerable sections among the rural poor. We have through our empirical engagement over the years understood the lack of agency among Dalits, adivasis and examined the intersectionality within that of gender and physical ability causing further deprivation. We have understood the need to bridge the gap between communities and the seats of governance at all levels. Thus, we have facilitated access of the left out to livelihood initiatives from Governments and Corporations, strengthened peer learning through training on best practices in agriculture, horticulture, livestock and animal husbandry; we also mobilize resources to support new and innovative ventures, as we live and work in states which are resource rich, but have missed out of the benefits of economic reform.

Over the years, we have understood that successful poverty eradication requires a multi-pronged approach. Our development model therefore addresses challenges in food and nutritional security, explores employment round the year, and facilitates access to healthcare and education. We have also embraced innovative green technology in many of our on-going projects and have successfully launched many new initiatives in harnessing clean solar energy and water conservation.

People's institutions of the likes of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) that Harsha has helped build and nurture, have empowered our rural communities to access and leverage finances and market for their produce, while promoting and supporting rural entrepreneurs. These institutions provide a forum for the exchange of best practices and knowledge amongst them, apart from being a community building platform. We are firmly committed to make a bold dent at poverty alleviation and give agency to the disempowered in the regions we operate in Odisha.

1. **Year of Inception** - 2002
2. **Staff Strength** - 127
3. **Operations** – 59 blocks, 13 districts
4. **Villages Covered** - 4,011
5. **Outreach to rural households** – 1.8 lakhs



Pic – Rajani, Harsha Trust

VISION

To be a professional based institution of excellence for promoting technology led and market driven institutions primarily through community-based organizations.

MISSION

To ensure the livelihood security and improve the quality of life of the rural poor.

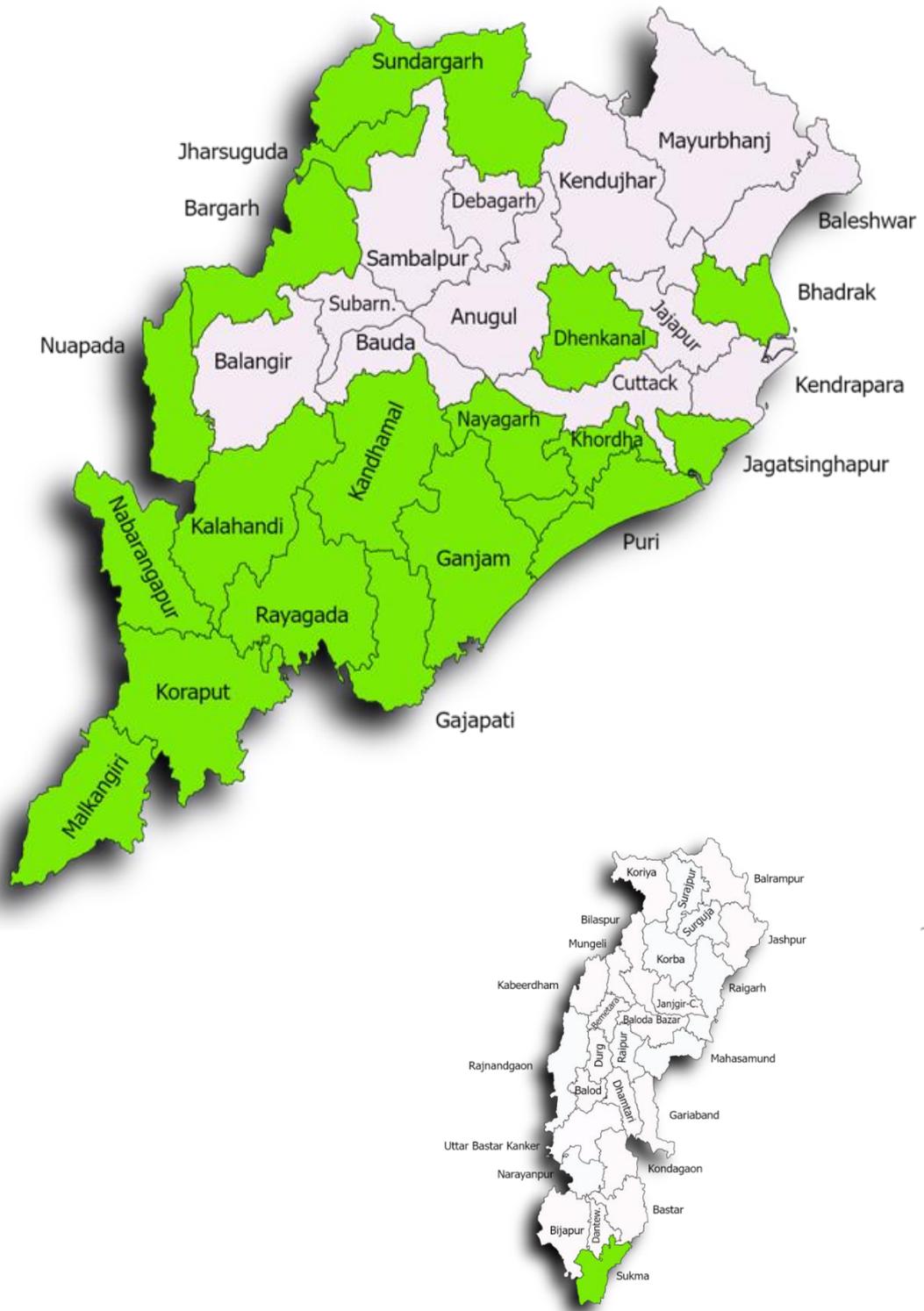
VALUES

Integrity, Discipline, Transparency, Caring, Quality & Innovation.



Pic – Rajani, Harsha Trust

Locations we work in Odisha & Chattisgarh



Governing Board

Mr. Kalyan Kumar Banerjee: Chairperson



Kalyan Kumar Banerjee graduated in Electrical Engineering from IIT Delhi and has a Masters in Computer Science from IIT Kanpur. He is the co-founder of Klorofeel Foundation and Klorofeel Education Association, two organizations focused on delivering joyful, effective, meaningful education in under-served areas. Earlier, he was among the ten co-founders of Mindtree, a global IT leader. He supports education and socially focused enterprises like Reap Benefit, Walnut, Forum for Rural Weavers, Rise High Public School, Heraizen, iAccept. Hestrides to nurture people through the process of peer learning, making sense of diverse signals, systems thinking, self discovery, and finding personal purpose.

Prof. Haribandhu Panda: Managing Trustee



Prof. Haribandhu Panda has more than 35 years of national and international experience in academics and industry. Prof. Panda worked in organizations like Human Development Foundation, Bhubaneswar, Institute of Rural Management (IRMA), Anand; South East Asia Technology Co., Ltd., Bangkok; National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd (NTPC), Delhi; and Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok. His last assignment was as the Vice Chancellor of Centurion University of Technology & Management (CUTM), Odisha. His interests are in the areas of technology-led, market linked, sustainable livelihood security; and high-quality education for the underprivileged.

Dr. Annapurna Devi Pandey: Trustee



Dr Annapurna Devi Pandey is a faculty in the Department of Cultural Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Dr. Pandey holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from Jawaharlal Nehru University, and was a post-Doctoral fellow in Social Anthropology at Cambridge. She is the author of numerous essays on Indian Women's activism, agency, entrepreneurship and empowerment in India and the Indian Diasporas. Currently she is a senior Fulbright U.S. Scholar working in Odisha. She was President of the Orissa Society of the Americas (2011-2013), the oldest socio-cultural organization of diasporic Odias in North America.

Ms Nisha Jamvwal: Trustee: Columnist, author, brand consultant, designer, Nisha Jamvwal's work in branding, luxury, social causes, interiors, architecture & design blend seamlessly, converting her passion for the creative and visual arts into her work where all synergize. She authors six columns as well as television shows on design. Nisha is also a crafts crusader and works to save our traditional heritage. She has authored two books on traditional Indian craft & is also working with activist Abha Singh to make India Accessible.



Dr. Nivedita Narain: Trustee



Dr. Nivedita Narain has a Ph.D in Management Studies from the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi; a Master's in Professional Studies in International Development Policy from Cornell University in the USA; a Post-Graduate Diploma in Rural Management from the Institute of Rural Management (IRMA), Anand. Nivedita has led NGO PRADAN's Human Resources Development Unit, and Research and Resource Centre and has also led PRADAN's initiative to institutionalize development practices in the higher education sector, in collaboration with Ambedkar University, Delhi.

Dr D. V. Ramana: Trustee



Dr Ramana is a Director of Business Management School, IMT, Hyderabad. Formerly with Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar (XIMB) and Price Waterhouse Coopers (PwC) Ltd, he brings with him three decades of rich teaching and consulting experience. He is an expert in Strategic Management, Business Analysis, Finance and Regulatory Accounting domains while decoding best practices in Team Management and Group Dynamics. He has been associated with various Regulatory Boards and State Advisory Committees.

Mr. Rajesh Mahapatra: Trustee



Rajesh Mahapatra has been at various points over the last 25 years, a business journalist, political analyst, public policy expert, newsroom leader and editor. His journey has taken him from Chitrakonda in remote Odisha to New Delhi and several others parts of the world. Mahapatra studied economics at Delhi University and JNU. In his early years of journalism, he covered India's economic transformation for international publications such as the Associated Press and Bridge News, before an extended stint at Hindustan Times, where he drove organisational change and digital innovation. He is now a columnist and commentator seeking to contribute and shape public policy debates in Odisha.

Highlights of the year

Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

- Number of SHGs Promoted – 1,673
- Number of Members – 18,367
- Savings from SHGs - Rs 3.56 Crores
- Credit Mobilized - Rs 9.5 Crores

❖ **Farmer Producers Organizations (FPO)**

- Number of FPOs established – 12
- Number of Members – 17,847
- Combined annual turnover –Rs 6.4 Crores
- Built capacities of about 259 local youth as community service providers

❖ **Agriculture**



- Vegetable production clusters promoted with 16,588 farmers
- Mango and Cashew orchards developed in 4,020 acres
- 1,650 irrigation schemes implemented benefitting more than 11,000 farmers
- 19,754 farmers covered under livestock farming



Pic – Rajani, Harsha Trust

❖ **Community Infrastructure Development**

3,089 toilets constructed with 24 hrs water supply

❖ **Education**

Operating 104 Learning Centres with activity based Joyful Learning technique

❖ **Community Health and Wellbeing**

Active as a resource NGO for Odisha Livelihood Mission to promote nutrition sensitive interventions in 18 blocks of Odisha

❖ **Assured Employment**

- Mobilized rural community to access 7,71,415 man-days of employment under MGNREGS, translating to Rs 16.68 Crores
- Supported 3,387 rural households to access Social Security Scheme in 2020-21

Odisha - A Contextual View of Rural Development Indices

One of the poorest states in India where progress and development, especially among the rural population, has been very slow to reach.

Odisha Population: 4,19,74,218

- Urban – 17,03,656 which is 16.69%
- Rural – 3,49,70,562 which is 83.31%
- **Literacy in %**

DISTRICT	LITERACY		GENDER GAP
	MALE	FEMALE	
Kalahandi	88.38	74.52	13.86
Nuapada	86.65	71.25	15.4
Nabarangpur	84.93	70.75	14.18
Rayagada	61.04	39.19	21.85
Ganjam	70.97	54.14	16.83
Puri	90.96	83.54	7.42
Jagatsingpur	88.55	69.28	19.27
Cuttack	93.66	87.39	6.27
Kandhamal	93.30	80.29	13.01
Sundergarh	90.21	80.04	10.17

Census 2011

- Below Poverty Line (BPL): 13.85 million (32.59 % of population)
- Livelihood dependent on agriculture

Sex	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Self employment (%)	Regular wage/Salary (%)	Casual labour (%)	Self employment (%)	Regular wage/Salary (%)	Casual labour (%)	Self Emp (%)	Regular wage (%)	Casual labour (%)
Male	61.6	11.3	27.1	45.9	40.5	13.6	59.3	15.7	25.1
Femal	52.6	9.5	38.0	34.8	46.5	18.7	50.3	14.2	35.5
Total	59.7	10.9	29.4	43.8	41.6	14.5	57.4	15.4	27.2

Source: Periodic labour Force Survey, 2017-18; NSSO

Odisha has 23% ST population, next only to the North Eastern states (in %) and in numbers is also just next to Madhya Pradesh. 45% of Geographical area is under scheduled area. Similarly, the state has 17 % of SC population.

Building Institutions and Strengthening Collectives

We believe building strong and self-sustainable institutions are integral to community development. Harsha Trust has dedicated personnel who ensure services and support individual community members in order to help them become active and contributing members. At the institutional level we help frame standard operational practices (SOPs), streamline processes, mobilise resources and ensure access to funds and development programs. Our end objective is to ensure the institutions we help build are self-sustainable and bring a positive impact to the livelihood of our rural communities in Odisha.

Community Based Institutions promoted by Harsha Trust:



Self-Help Groups (SHGs) – Towards Economic Independence & Social upliftment of Rural Women in Odisha

Harsha Trust has helped form and support over 7,663 SHGs with 74,973 members since the start of its operations in South Odisha. Our aim is to organise women into collectives, to be able to enhance their intra and inter household access and control over resources, ensure the financial inclusion of rural women leading to creation of empowered women entrepreneurs who contribute to their household and the national economy.

FY 2020-21			
Number of SHG's Promoted	Total Members	Total saving (Rs)	Credit Mobilized (Rs)
1,673	18,367	3,55,95,140	9,50,67,395

Income of Various SHGs from Group Activities for the Year:

HT's intervention has empowered the SHGs to transform their livelihood through different activities. *See below: Production & Processing of Turmeric by SHG women.*



Our women as members of SHGs have mobilized funds using their savings as matching grants to engage in both farm and nonfarm activities. The details of their income are provided below.

Sl. No	Type	Activity	Income For the Year 2020-21 (approx in Rs)
1	Farm	Poultry farming	8500
2		Mushroom cultivation	10850
3		Mushroom Cultivation	15400
4		Mushroom Cultivation	19200
5		Mushroom Cultivation	17560
6		Mushroom Cultivation	15600
7		Mushroom Cultivation	27030
8		Mushroom Cultivation	22500
9		Solar Irrigation System	10555
10		Paddy Procurement	50200
11		Millet procurement	21250
12		Turmeric business	35200
13		Turmeric processing	45450
14		Chilli Grinding and Marketing	33000
15		Vegetable Marketing	110000
Total			4,42,295
1	Non-Farm	Phenyl Making	16800
2		PDS supply	12000
3		Leaf plate stitching	80500
Total			1,09,300



Women from SHGs marketing their produce at Kalyansinghpur Block



Women SHGs members engaged in mushroom cultivation at Golamunda

Ernst & Young (E&Y) Foundation supported Project – Building Empowered Institutions in South West Odisha

Started in 2017, Harsha Trust is the implementation partner for EY Foundation’s project to empower women to lead three-tier community institutions and link them to key stakeholders. We work in Koraput & Nabarangpur districts of Odisha, in the four blocks shown in the map.



We began work on Phase II of the project in May 2020. Aiming to achieve sustainability of apex institution in each block, we identified SHGs and Cluster Level Forums (CLFs) who would carry forward the initiatives, with appropriate investment of person power and other resources, long after the project cycle.

Hearing the voice of the unheard by ensuring the entitlement: The story of Paramananda

Paramananda Gollari lives in Bhalubeda, a village set amidst dense forests in Hatipakhna of Kollar Panchayat, Boipariguda Block. Paramananda is about 65 years of age. The people of this village are all Adivasis (Kandha) and live below the poverty line (BPL).

Paramananda is speech and hearing impaired since birth and never attended school because of his disability and, on the whole suffered from parental neglect. He had a meagre 40 decimal patch of land and a small grocery shop to sustain himself. However, his shop was looted about 12 years ago and he lost his proof of identification documents in this unfortunate incident. He has been unable to recover from this loss and was also not able to access any of the entitlements that were given to disabled persons.

With the help of the then Sarpanch he was included in the Indira Awas Yojana and, also received his 100% disability certificate. The villagers chipped in to help re-build his home. However, despite repeated attempts he could not receive his disability pension which he was entitled to.

In the year 2019, Harsha Trust initiated its work in Bhalubeda Village. We organized workshops on women's empowerment and awareness and helped revive SHG Maa Mauli.

During COVID-19, Philanthropic Welfare project also initiated work in the same area. The objective of this project was to provide livelihood security through relief for families not included under any social security schemes of the Government and, to strengthen local self-help institutions. Regular village meetings and Palli Sabha were organized under this project by Harsha Trust. Maa Mauli SHG, under the leadership of its President, Pramila Kandulia, pursued the cause of Paramananda in full earnest. They received active support from the Ward Member, Nanda Gadaba and all presiding members in the Palli Sabha and mobilized the whole community to petition for Paramananda's pension and entitlements. Their struggles were covered in the digital media and reached the Chief Minister's grievance cell via his Twitter account.

As a result of these multi-pronged efforts, Paramananda received 4 months' pension (@INR 700/ per month) amounting to INR 2,800 with retrospective effect. He is now covered under the Antodaya Yojana Scheme and receives 35 kg rice from the Gram Panchayat. He has been able to restart his grocery shop and has also leased his small land.



Producer Groups

93 producer groups supported by Harsha Trust are active in 5 blocks and include over 8,000 farmers

Producer Groups (PGs) facilitated by Harsha Trust are supported by the Government of Odisha under the Agriculture Promotion Clusters (APC) program. Various crops such as Tomato, Brinjal, Bitter gourd, Cauliflower, Green peas, Broccoli, Green chillies and sweet potato were grown in over 1,800 acres. Producer Groups also mobilized various farm equipment, established grading & sorting centres, aggregation centres, vegetable crates, poultry & goat sheds and working capital from local agriculture & horticulture departments under the APC Program. Producer Groups also built infrastructure like dug wells, farm ponds and cluster bore wells under MGNREGS.

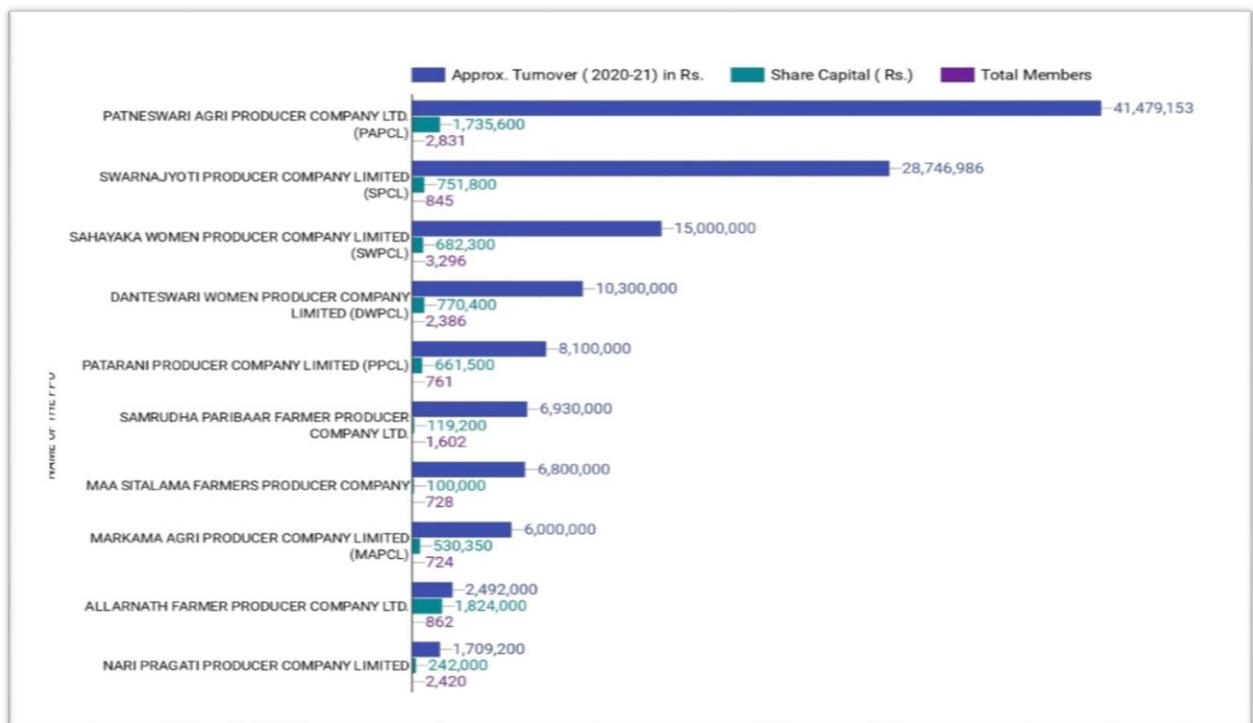


Rabi Vegetable Cultivation from Producer Groups (PGs)



Members of Producer Groups from Boriguma Block

Producer Groups members from Ksinghpur & Bissamcuttack Block (Rayagada)



Farmers Producers Organisations (FPOs) – A Co-operative of Farmers for Farmers

FPOs play a pivotal role in transforming agriculture into a sustainable enterprise for farmers. These farmer co-operatives ensure small and marginal farmers get a platform to collectively access credit, technology and marketplace.

	NAME OF THE FPO	District	Block	Total Members
1.	SWARNAJYOTI PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED (SPCL)	Rayagada	Muniguda	845
2.	SAMRUDHA PARIBAAR FARMER PRODUCER COMPANY LTD.	Nabarangpur	Nabarangpur	1,602
3.	SAHAYAKA WOMEN PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED (SWPCL)	Nabarangpur	Papadahandi	3,296
4.	PATNESWARI AGRI PRODUCER COMPANY LTD. (PAPCL)	Koraput	Boipariguda, Jeypore	2,831
5.	PATARANI PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED (PPCL)	Kalahandi	Golamunda	761
6.	NARI PRAGATI PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED	Borigumma	Borigumma, Kundra	2,420
7.	MARKAMA AGRI PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED (MAPCL)	Rayagada	Bissamcuttack	724
8.	MAA SITALAMA FARMERS PRODUCER COMPANY	Rayagada	Kalyansingpur	728
9.	DANTESWARI WOMEN PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED (DWPCL)	Nabarangpur	Kosagumuda	2,386
10.	ALLARNATH FARMER PRODUCER COMPANY LTD.	Puri	Brahmagiri	862
			Grand total	16,455

Demonstration of a sustainable FPO – We’ve also taken steps to build and develop a third level of institutions. Through these initiatives, two of our FPOs have tried output linkage of maize, linking about 220 tons of maize to DeHaat Agency, clocking a turnover of Rs. 3, 19, 000.

To help farmers’ access storage units and testing labs, FPOs in Nabarangpur District are now enrolled as Nodal Agencies with RMC, a District unit of Department of Cooperatives. Collaborating with the District Administration, FPOs have now enrolled over 800 maize farmers from 2 FPOs, giving them access to larger markets.

	Papadahandi	Nabarangpur	Boipariguda	Borigumma	Total (Rs)
Amount of Share Capital	0	5,12,200	17,35,600	2,26,900	24,74,700
Business Turn over	1,76,09,826	1,83,850	3,92,02,244	33,94,470	6,03,90,390
Net Profit from business	1,18,376.50	20,149	16,21,249	51,697	18,11,471.50
CRP/BP incentive paid	2,47,827	1,27,700	3,90,281	80,635	8,46,443
Service Charge deposited	2,40,763	1,27,700	3,18,882	1,10,210	7,97,555

All figures in (Rs) In lakhs.

FPO Paid Community Resource Person MODEL

As per the commitment we made in Phase II, we initiated a FPO paid CRP model. Accordingly, FPOs pay monthly incentives to CRPs from the service charges that is generated at FPO.

Number of SHGs Paying Service Charge	CSPs Engaged with FPOs from Own Resources	Service Charge Deposited	Service Charge Spent by FPOs	Balance at FPO
781	64	Rs 26.9 lakhs	Rs 10.08 lakhs	Rs.16.82 lakhs



Credit Mobilisation from Rangde – Timely Aid in Times of Pandemic

Rural credit markets in India comprise of both formal and informal channels. Though the market is fragmented, many approach informal channels for their credit requirements. The most common source of credit in the villages of Koraput & Nabarangpur is from moneylenders, aka Sahukaars. These moneylenders charge around 60% to 120% interest annually. Although the share of informal credit has dropped drastically, it still accounts to almost half of all credit linkage services in the country.

	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2002
Institutional Agencies						
Government	3.3	5.3	6.7	4.0	5.7	2.3
Co-op. Society/ Banks	3.1	9.1	20.1	28.6	18.6	27.3
Comm. Banks	0.8	0.4	2.2	28.0	29.0	24.5
Insurance	---	---	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.3
Provident Fund	---	---	0.1	0.3	0.9	0.5
Other agencies	---	---	---	---	9.3	2.4
Non-institutional Agencies						
Landlord	1.5	0.9	8.6	4.0	4.0	1.0
Agricultural moneylenders	24.9	45.9	23.1	8.6	6.3	10.0
Professional moneylenders	44.8	14.9	13.8	8.3	9.4	19.6
Traders and commission agents	5.5	7.7	8.7	3.4	7.1	2.6
Relatives and friends	14.2	6.8	13.8	9.0	6.7	7.1
Others	1.9	8.9	2.8	4.9	2.5	2.6

Crises of finance especially in rural India during the pandemic period was further exacerbated. With assistance from RangeDe, the online platform making credit affordable and accessible to millions, we were able to assist 1,103 SHG members access INR 217.91 lakhs during these challenging times. Achieving a repayment of 92% during this period was possible due to the continuous effort of our Harsha Trust Field Team.

Strict guidelines have been put in place to develop an effective Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to select, monitor and document the process. Prior to any processing of application, Harsha Trust adopted a mandatory **Three-Tier Institutional Operational (Credit) System;**

- 1) At SHG level to which the shareholder belongs to;
- 2) At VO or CLF level to which the SHG belongs to; and
- 3) At the FPO level, the Board of Directors will review & approve the application.

The loans are provided to the shareholders at zero percent interest while Harsha Trust ensures RangDe of full recovery of the amount. A thorough counseling of all interested shareholders is done prior to providing them credit to determine the activity/ asset they are likely to invest in and the profit they are expecting to get at the end of the cycle. After thorough verification all required documents are uploaded to the Rangde portal. A second round of verification of the applications is done by Rangde after which the amount is disbursed to the applicants account.



Block	No of SHGs	No of Members	Amount (Rs in lakhs)
<u>Boipariguda</u>	59	390	48.11
<u>Boriguma</u>	39	246	38.30
<u>Nabarangpur</u>	108	482	92.45
<u>Papadahandi</u>	74	335	49.10
TOTAL	280	1458	227.96

Interventions in Agriculture and Horticulture

Odisha continues to lag behind many other states in food grain production. It is to address this lack of progress that our team of deeply committed grassroots workers have been involved in encouraging the adoption of the best practices in traditional and modern agriculture techniques to the people of rural Odisha.

Our objective is to ensure year-round employment opportunities, better and increased yield from agricultural, ideal nutritional balance in rural communities, especially in women and children, and encourage rural entrepreneurship.

Sunischit Dhan (SUDHA) – Assured Rice Production for All

Sunischit Dhan, or SUDHA in short, is a methodology by which uninterrupted and high yielding paddy is produced in South Odisha despite its vulnerable climatic conditions.

South Odisha is vulnerable to extreme and erratic climate conditions. The long dry spells and unpredictable rains compel farmers to go for broadcasting of paddy multiple times in a year. Often farmers don't get sufficient time to prepare the land for paddy transplantation because of the short window of time and poor-quality seedlings. To combat these adverse conditions, Harsha Trust trained and supported the community to implement the SUDHA process of paddy

cultivation – a process by which high-energy paddy seedlings are grown to withstand the climatic conditions. Some of the interventions that worked are as follows:

- Better input and nutrient availability for seedlings at nursery stage.
- Appropriate quantities of zinc, boron and DAP is introduced to the soil at the nursery stage.
- Application of 1.5% urea and 2% urea 15 and 30 days after nursery preparation to ensure vigour in the seedling and enable them to give at par production.
- Controlled watering of seedlings to avoid loss of moisture.
- Improved drainage systems for water management inside the nursery.
- Nurseries were fitted with poly material shed nets and mosquito nets.
- Timely weather forecasts to farmers to help them plan their farming activities.



WADI- CONVERTING WASTELAND TO PRODUCTIVE LAND

This year Harsha Trust supported **150 tribal households in Pottangi block of Koraput district**



to start WADI projects – a process in which wastelands and highlands are converted in productive land by planting trees such as mango and cashews 5-6 feet apart. The spaces between the trees are utilized to grow seasonal vegetables or millets, ensuring optimal use of land and resources.

The project which is sanctioned by NABARD will ultimately benefit **500 tribal households.**

We expect to convert over 500 acres of uncultivable waste land to productive land under this project.

- Work has begun on planting horticulture trees such as cashew and guava along with various intercrop vegetables for optimal use of land and resources.
- We are helping the community to build permanent water resources.
- Soil and moisture conservation techniques are adopted at multiple levels.
- Live fencing and community institution are other interventions that bring a holistic approach to the program.



MIX/MULTI CROPPING

Mix/Multi cropping is a form of ‘Ecological Intensification’ that is highly sustainable when two or more crops are grown at the same time or in a sequence. It balances three principal ecological processes - competition, commensalism (one plant benefitting from the other) and mutualism (two plants benefitting from each other).

Harsha Trust has been driving home the benefits of Multiple Cropping to our community members. **In collaboration with Axis Bank Foundation, we promote 3 different packages of multi-crop farming, as follows:**



Mix/Multi Cropping Packages Promoted by Harsha

<p><u>Paddy Plus</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paddy – 2 acres; 2. Pulses – 0.5 acres; 3. Livestock Rearing and MGNREGS – 25 days 	<p><u>Vegetable Plus</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paddy – 1 acre; 2. Vegetables – 0.5 acre; 3. Livestock rearing 	<p><u>Ultra-Poor</u></p> <p>Livestock and MGNREGS – 100 days</p>
---	---	---

Land based models we promote:

- 3 - 4 acres - A mix of Horticulture, Paddy, and Ragi;
- 2-3 acres - A mix of Paddy /Lemon grass, Ragi, Pulses and Vegetables
- 1- 2 acres - A mix of Paddy, Ragi and Maize;
- 1 acre - A mix of Paddy and Ragi
- 0.5 acre - Vegetables throughout the year



The benefits of mix/multi crop system are as follows

- Risk mitigation of crop damage or failure;
- Increase in family income;
- Marginal farmers can earn more with this model;
- Same land can be used multiple times;
- Contributes to food security and enhanced nutrition;

All is well for Dasmi and Dasa with a new Well

Land and soil are of different kinds; soil, land and climate play an important role in helping the farmer to decide the crops that s/he will grow in their land. Similarly with the size of the land and the socio-cultural practices which determine the food grown and consumed. Large patches of land allow for easy mechanization. To add this there are factors of irrigation and agriculture extension which help farmers grow diverse crops. In Kharif (monsoon/assured rainfall/ adequate water) in low and medium land, paddy can be cultivated as it requires standing water; the uplands are suitable for Vegetables and Pulses like Arhar, Black Gram and Green Gram. In Rabi (winter) lowlands are suitable for Pulses, Onions and the upland is suitable for Vegetables.

Here is a case of an adivasi farmer- couple who have cultivated paddy along with numerous vegetables in a limited patch (0.7 acres) which is suitably addressing their family's food and nutritional security.

In Golamunda block, Padampur village in Kalahandi district is a densely populated inhabitation. Most of the occupants of this village are Adivasis. Dasmi and Dasa Sabar is a couple who live in the village. They have four children, all studying in the village high school. They are marginal farmers with a land holding size of 1.7 acres; of which 1acre is lowland, used for paddy cultivation and 0.7 acres upland used for cultivating vegetables.



Dasmi and Dasa is a hard-working couple. They had 0.7 acres of upland lying fallow due to the lack of irrigation; they had no money to dig a dug well or install a bore well. Close to their land another tenant-farmer had dug a well under the Million Well Scheme in 2003. The well was not useful for the concerned farmer and his family as they were not interested in vegetable cultivation. The well was almost damaged due to lack of use and repairs.

Dasmi and Dasa planned to hire the dug well and initiate vegetable cultivation in their land. They convinced the dug well owner to lease the well and decided to start vegetable cultivation in 0.1 acre of land to start with. Subsequently they extended their cultivation to their entire 0.7 acres of land, as the land grew in fertility with the application of desired inputs and availability

of water. In the last three seasons they have cultivated 5-6 kinds of vegetables which include Tomato, Brinjal, Chilli, Drumstick, Papaya and Gourds of different kinds grown in Trellis, like Bitter Gourd, Pointed Gourd.



They have been able to sell a quintal of vegetables every week and in this one month the couple has earned Rs 28, 900/-. The family has in the difficult months of the pandemic suffered no nutritional insecurity due to their on-farm vegetable production. In the Rabi season they are planning to cultivate cabbages along with the other vegetables.

Even during the pandemic, Dasmi and Dasa did not face any marketing problems as two vendors were regularly purchasing vegetables from them. Being cut off from the markets did not affect the family income or their food security.

Multiple Crops – Many benefits in the same patch – The story of Purnima Kanta of Koraput district

During crop selection we focus on land ownership pattern. A farmer with more low land will be encouraged to go for paddy cultivation. Likewise, medium land is considered suitable for maize, millets and vegetables and upland for plantation activities.



Food and Nutritional Benefit:

Through an impact study, Harsha Trust, Bandhugaon found that post intervention every household was able to address food and nutritional security. The harvesting has increased to 20 quintals paddy from an acre, 7 quintal millets from 0.5 acres, and 600 kg vegetables from 0.10 acres. Families with access to irrigation are able to grow two crops now. Paddy, Lemon grass and Vegetable is able to address both food and income security. Majority of the families are promoting nutritional gardens in their backyards, where they grow vegetables

organically to meet their family nutrition needs. Crops grown in the nutrition garden include Green leafy vegetables, Tomato, Brinjal, Cowpea, Bottle Gourd, Pumpkin, Okra and Radish.

Purnima Kanta is an inhabitant of Bariabhatta village from Bandhugaon block in Koraput district. She has five members in her family and is a marginal farmer with 2 acres of land; she used her entire land to grow paddy previous to Harsha Trust intervention. Yet it was not enough to feed her family or make an income to live on. After Harsha Trust's intervention she started following all the crop guidelines, as instructed by the professionals. With 2 acres of land she planned to grow paddy on an acre, millet in 0.7 acres



and vegetables in 0.3 acres. Gradually her multi crop began to give her returns. Then she availed irrigation and cultivated vegetables around the year.

From local seeds she shifted to hybrid varieties and cultivated hybrid paddy and vegetables in her land. Her home is surrounded by her agricultural land making it easy to tend to the crops. In her multi cropping, vegetables were the prime focus. She selected different vegetables based on season and followed the package of practices (POP) prescribed. Now she has emerged as an expert in growing Cauliflowers, Okra, Ivy Gourd, Tomato and Pumpkin. From paddy and millets, she is able to maintain her family's food and nutritional security and vegetables apart from adding to the diet, add to her family's income. Last year Purnima harvested 20 quintals of paddy and 5 quintals of millets from 1.5 acres of land. This year till September (2020) her family had been able to earn Rs 25,000 from vegetables alone (Brinjal, Ivy Gourd and Tomato). She also earned Rs 15, 000 from selling paddy the previous year.



Purnima is expecting to soon harvest approximately 22 quintals of paddy, 6 quintals of millet and 10 quintals of vegetables. She is expecting an income of Rs 40,000 from this. Multi cropping has solved her families' food and income insecurities.

Major Crops

Name of Crop	No of farmers	Average increase in	Total acreage	Crops Grown
Paddy	45,439	38%		
Millets	6,970	65%	5096.8	
Pulses	4,315		2322	Arhar, Pigeon Pea, Black gram, Green gram, Horse gram
Maize	3,738	58%	3032	Hybrid maize, sweet corn
Vegetables	14,236	66%	3114.6	Bean, Chili, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Tomato, Bitter gourd, Brinjal

Measuring yield enhancement and income from paddy cultivation through crop cutting method.



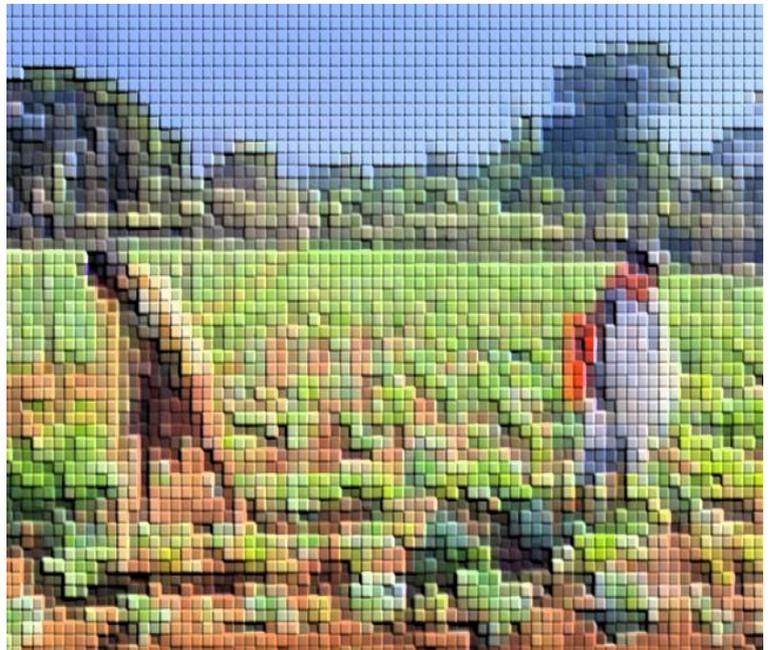
Millets

An increase in the Minimum Selling Price (MSP) set for millet by the Government led to a very substantial increase in income for the Ragi cultivators.



Millet intercropping in WADI

Vegetables & Maize



Livestock Intervention

Harsha Trust supports the community in building successful livestock and dairy enterprises by providing inputs, trainings, interventions and marketplace access throughout the year.

Health Camps in villages	Vaccination Programs	Infrastructure built with support of ITDA under MGNREGS	Training
133	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23,289 goats • 86,026 birds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 108 poultry sheds • 222 goat sheds 	151 CSPs and 40 of them promoted as Livestock

As a result of the intervention on a saturation mode with livestock, covering 17,712 households, the families showed an income of Rs 49. 58 lakhs just from livestock.



Livestock Entrepreneurs at Borigungma Block

Poor diet and disease in hens resulted in low yield of adult birds fit for sale. Harsha Trust trained 36 poultry farmers in Golamunda Block to feed an ideal balanced diet to day old chicks and mother hens for one month, followed by periodic vaccinations. This resulted in mother hens laying more quality eggs, substantially reducing their mortality rates and increasing body weight of growing birds quickly.

Outcome

The adult bird population/farmer increased by 120 % after the 1st year of intervention.

The egg laying cycle/ bird increased to four from the previous three cycles annually.



Capacity Building of Milk Mantra Dairy Farmers – FCDO Funded Project

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), partnered with Milk Mantra for their flagship program “happy farmers”, in order to train farmers in best practices in dairy farming including cattle management and clean milk production. The outcome of the project is envisioned to significantly improve quality of milk production and income generation for dairy farmers.

The project was awarded to Harsha Trust for implementation and covered dairy farmers in Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapada and Cuttack districts. Despite the severe limitations necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic, we were able to successfully complete this project within the stipulated time. Since gatherings were banned to curb the spread of the infections, our staff took the initiative to visit individual homes of the farmers and deliver services at their door-steps.

Project Coverage:

State	District	Block	Village
01	04	40	290

Project Interventions by Harsha Trust

- Organisation of animal health camp.
- Capacity building of dairy farmers.
- Capacity building of technicians employed with milk mantra on best practices to improve productivity.
- Distribution of milk cans for safe and hygienic collection of milk.
- Hydroponics to create good fodder for cattle
- The use of mobile voice messages to transmit learning nuggets for dairy farmers

Major Activities Covered Under the Project:

Activities	Total Number
Farmers covered by our program	21,446
No of Days of training	234
Nos of farmers trained	12,155
Nos of health Camp	243
Nos of farmers participating at the health camp	9,214
No of farmers to receive information via phone messages	1,831
Nos of Case Studies on Best Practices Completed	10
Nos of Case Studies on Poor Practices Completed	7
Nos of Short Videos produced on Best Practices	10
Nos of Paravet Trained	13
Nos of Model Village developed	1
Milk Can Distribution	124
Hydroponic fodder unit	5

Technology Interventions in Agriculture

We promoted various technology interventions to enhance farm productivity and increase product value. Some of them are mentioned below.

SI	Material	Use	Benefits	Numbers mobilised
1	Solar Insect trap	To control pest attack	Crops will be secure from insect	812
2	Battery sprayer	Drudgery reduction	Farmer will save time and labor cost	6,990
3	Trellis vegetable method	To reduce fungus infestations during rainy season	Improve quality of products	387
4	Drip Irrigation	To reduce water uses	Higher productivity and reduced labour cost	32
5	Poly House Nursery	To produce seedlings in all weather conditions	Healthy seedlings; Availability of seedlings on time	147
6	Shed Net Nursery	Suitable for summer season crop	Healthy Seedling, availability of seedlings on time	510
7	System of Millet Intensification (SMI)	Enhance yield of Millets	Higher productivity, reduces labour time	320
8	Cycle weeder	Easy weeding	Reduces Drudgery	2,148
9	Solar Fencing	Low-cost Fencing	Low maintenance cost, easy to install	885
10	Bush Cutter	Weeding inside orchard	Saves time	1,000
11	Solar river lift irrigation	Lifting of river water for irrigation purposes.	Easy to operate; Higher income due to off season cultivation	276
12	Solar Dryer	Drying of fruits & vegetables	Storage of fruits and vegetables	100

Ensuring Nutritional Security in Rural Households

Encouraging kitchen gardens in all households was important to fight malnutrition among our community members. We worked with 58,600 farmers to establish nutrition gardens in their backyards. Individual families now grow at least 6-7 different types of vegetables. These kitchen gardens ensure a steady supply of 5-8 kgs of vegetables every week for each family, contributing to the wholesome nutrition and health of their families.

Mo Upakari Bagicha: Food & Nutrition Security During the Pandemic

People from Degpadar Gram Panchayat in Koraput District are mostly Adivasis and depend on manual labour for their sustenance. They are employed in construction sites, timber mills and farms lands within the district and survive on daily wages.



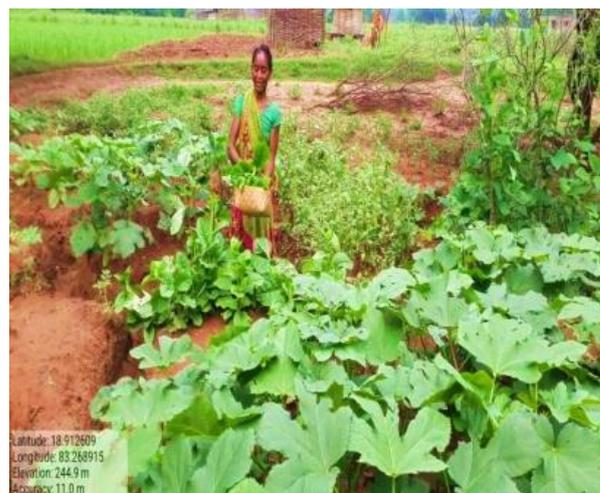
But with the Covid-19 pandemic they lost their daily jobs and were left with no food except some rice and pulses, supplied by the public distribution system. Considering the high levels of malnutrition already existing in the state, Harsha Trust drew up plans to start hundred

(100) nutrition gardens to ensure the addition of different vegetables to their diet. The gardens known as ‘Mo Upakari Bagicha (MUB)’ was made possible with the assistance of Block-MGNREGS Cell and Odisha Livelihood Mission (OLM).

Initiated in July 2020, the families were provided with garden layouts and inputs were provided to grow vegetables such as Green Pea, Radish, Chili, Brinjal, Beans and leafy vegetables. The fruit crops included three saplings of papaya and drumstick each and two saplings of lemon and banana. The papaya and drumstick saplings were procured from the SHG Tulasi, while the lemon and banana saplings were sourced from the Horticulture Department. In addition, a cash supplement of INR 6,831/- as wages for 33 person days (@INR 207/person day) was credited to the family’s bank account.



As a result of this initiative, each household harvests about a kg of vegetables daily, which is sufficient to meet the nutritional requirement of a family of four. Draupadi Bhatra, from one such family, says that the variety of dishes she cooks every day, makes her children smile. Further, the family is able to sell surplus vegetables at the local market, earning them about INR 450 every month.



They now eagerly look forward to papaya, drumstick, lemon and banana trees to bear fruit.

Collaboration & Convergence Initiatives

We recognize that collaboration and convergence with local development associates and government agencies are essential to make any development effort successful. We partnered with agencies such as ICAR’s Central Horticultural Experiment Station (ICAR-CHES), who supported two of our teams at Nabarangpur district of Odisha to promote high value vegetables. Through collaboration with government agencies, we were able to tap into programs from MGNREGS, which turned out be the most effective program for the rural poor during the pandemic.

A total of 35, 441 person days of work was generated under MGNREGA Scheme and INR 88.67 lakhs was transferred to the beneficiary households during the pandemic.

Mobilised in Cash & Kind

Type of Activities	Govt. Department /Scheme	Numbers/Kg/ Acres	Nos of farmers benefited (cumulative)
Unskilled labour works	MGNREGS	5,20,023	24,600
Dug Well	MGNREGS	28	106
Cluster Bore well	OLIC	111	173
Farm Pond	MGNREGS	345	1,370
Dug Well	MGNREGS	23	87
Community river Lift	MGNREGS	49	295
Nutrition garden	MGNREGS	49,582	49,582
Mango & Cashew	MGNREGS, ITDA, Horticulture	2,867.5	2,717
Agriculture Inputs	ITDA, Agriculture Dept, Odisha Millet Mission	3,233 Acres	7,978

Agriculture Inputs	Agriculture Production Clusters	1,624 Acres	2,980
CB & Working Capital	Agriculture Production Clusters	CBOs, PGs	10,002
Aggregation Centre	Agriculture Production Clusters	6 centres	440
Sweet Potato Seed	International Potato Research Centre	103 Acres	110
Grading & Processing Centre	Agriculture Production Clusters	4 centres	228
Poultry Shed	Integrated Tribal Development Agency	158 sheds	158
Poultry Birds	Integrated Tribal Development Agency	3,100 birds	230
	Total		1,01,056

MGNREGA – A Ray of Hope to Regenerate Livelihood for The Disadvantaged Sections During the Nationwide Lockdown

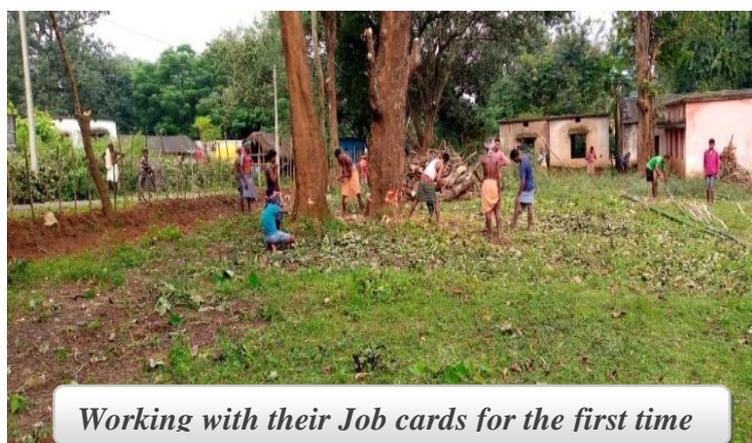
When India locked down to stem the spread of the Covid-19 infections, the poor were the most affected. Migrant labourers lost their daily wages work by the millions and trudged their arduous way back to the villages in order to sustain themselves. Those in villages also suffered similarly as all contractual labour work in nearby farms, mills and brick kilns also came to a grinding halt.



We partnered with **Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives (APPI)** and launched social welfare programs, MGNREGS awareness workshops and empowered many communities with the skills to access their rightful entitlements.

Beginning in June 2020, we organized several awareness meetings on

MGNREGS, even involving the Gram Panchayat headquarters.



Working with their Job cards for the first time

After realizing how their rights and funds had been usurped by illegal agents, villagers confronted the agents and took decisive steps to have their job cards and wages restored to them. Gram Panchayat Cadre and Ward Member, Sahadev Jani actively worked to support this drive. The villagers contacted the GRS (Gram Rojgar Sevak) and Program Officer) demanding work

under MGNREGS in the 3rd week of September, 2020. At the Palli Sabha they took the decision to access work within the village and were successful.

Harsha Trust is now in the process of forming a Village Organization in Kaujharan to strengthen community action. IECs (Information Education Communication) & AV (Audio Visual) tools are being used to promote awareness and usher greater awareness.

Kudaljodi village, situated in the Chipakur GP of Boipariguda Block of Koraput District, is set amongst dense forest cover and can be reached only after negotiating hilly terrains. The 50 households in this village are all Adivasis (Kandha, Gadaba and Paraja communities) and are categorized as families Below Poverty Line (BPL). The villagers migrate to nearby towns for daily wage labour as there is no other source of income. Many of them are exploited in brick kilns. With all business activities coming to a grinding halt after the national lockdown, these villagers were left with no livelihood source whatsoever.

Since 2019 Harsha Trust was involved in setting up different livelihood activities in Kudaljodi village. We revived the defunct village SHG, Hundi Debata. After the COVID-19 pandemic set-in, a welfare project supported by Azim Premji Philanthropy Trust was also launched by us.



Dhano Khilla, bought a goat and repaired his house

Basudev Hantal, a Community Service Provider (CSP) generated awareness of the importance of Palli Sabha & Gram Sabha in the village governance matters, as well as the role & rights of villagers to access their rights and entitlements in a series of deliberations held at the village. Motivated by the understanding of their citizenship rights and under the leadership of Surjya Hantal and Santi Gollari of Hundi Debata SHG, the Palli Sabha got down to work and mobilized the

community as a united front to draw up a village level plan to identify different problems that need to be addressed such as access to safe drinking water, roads, land development, etc., Ward Member Ananda Hantal joined Sarpanch Bhagabati Hantal to drive this initiative. They obtained approval to construct a road from Debatadangar to Kudaljodi which is about 500 metres under MGNREGS.

We also helped all 50 households of Kudaljodi to apply for work and a work order for 15 days was issued by the Panchayat. Applications have been submitted for 54 job cards and pensions for 23 elderly persons. As per guidelines of MGNREGS, Rs 207/person days was received by the villagers and Rs 7,452 was credited to their bank accounts within 22 days of completion of work.

To the people of Kudaljodi village, this was a miracle as the scheme is notorious for delayed payments. They are now highly motivated to take the fight forward and ensure their right to

work and pay under MGNREGS is realized and have resolved never to be exploited by the kiln owners.



Road construction in Kudaljodi village under MGNREGS



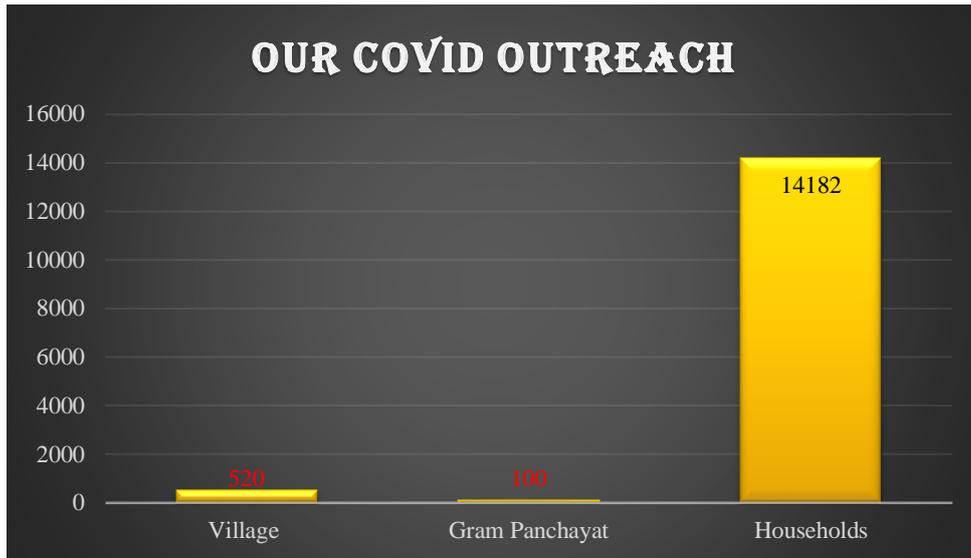
*Kudaljodi
villagers
proudly hold
up their
MGNREGA*

Harsha Trust is now organizing Gram Panchayat camps on MGNREGS and Social Security Entitlements and is assisting community members for application of new job cards and different pension schemes.

We have submitted 65 Job card applications and 33 applications for Pensions coverage. Going forward, we are preparing Annual Plans for each village, which will be submitted before the Gram Sabha.

Rapid Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic

As India, indeed the World, scrambled to make sense of the pandemic that was breaking out and causing devastation to lives and livelihood, we at Harsha Trust quickly mobilized our resources to bring relief to vulnerable rural communities in Odisha. Since these places have restricted access to relief due to its geographic isolation from the mainland, we knew preparing the communities to be as self-reliant as possible was critical to prevent the spread of the disease.



Awareness Programs: We organized a number of awareness programs to drive home the fact that wearing masks, maintaining requisite physical distance and ensuring good hygiene, such as frequent hand washing, is the best way to stay protected from this virulent infection.



Harsha Trust Staff Sanitizing the whole town of Sikarpai in Ravagada

Mass Production of Face Masks: With the severe shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and face masks, especially in the first phase of the Pandemic, we soon realized that we needed to produce these masks within our communities and distribute it quickly. Women from our Self-Help Groups (SHGs) rose, as expected, to this unprecedented challenge and, together we mass produced masks to combat the spread of the virus. For instance, Ma Kali SHG in Bissam-cuttack block of Rayagada district produced 1,600 masks alone.

Distribution of Relief: Ensuring essential ration kits, masks and soaps reach the community members was the next challenge we addressed. To ensure aid reached the needy urgently, we distributed them through HP (Hindustan Petroleum) Gas Stations, Panchayat and MGNREGS offices. In Muniguda block of Rayagada district, masks were provided to vegetable vendors too. Masks were also distributed to Community Service Providers (CSPs), Anganwadi Workers, ASHA volunteers and FPOs. Daily need kits were also distributed to the most vulnerable in the community such as widows, senior citizens and the differently abled. Migrant labour communities were also included in our relief work.



Distributing COVID relief rations in Rayagada, Kalyansingpur block, Odisha.

Distribution of Various Relief Material

Sl	Relief Aid/Measure	Gram Panchayat (number)	Villages (number)	Households (number)	Individuals (number)
1.	Support to Government Health Workers	49	161	-	2,508
2.	Masks supplied	60	193	-	2,559
3.	Soap Supplied	66	324	4,747	
4.	Emergency Supplies	19	57		2,038
5.	Awareness Generation	100	520		14,182
6.	Food packets distributed	109	504	7,729	



*Mask distribution, Golamunda Block
Kalahandi*



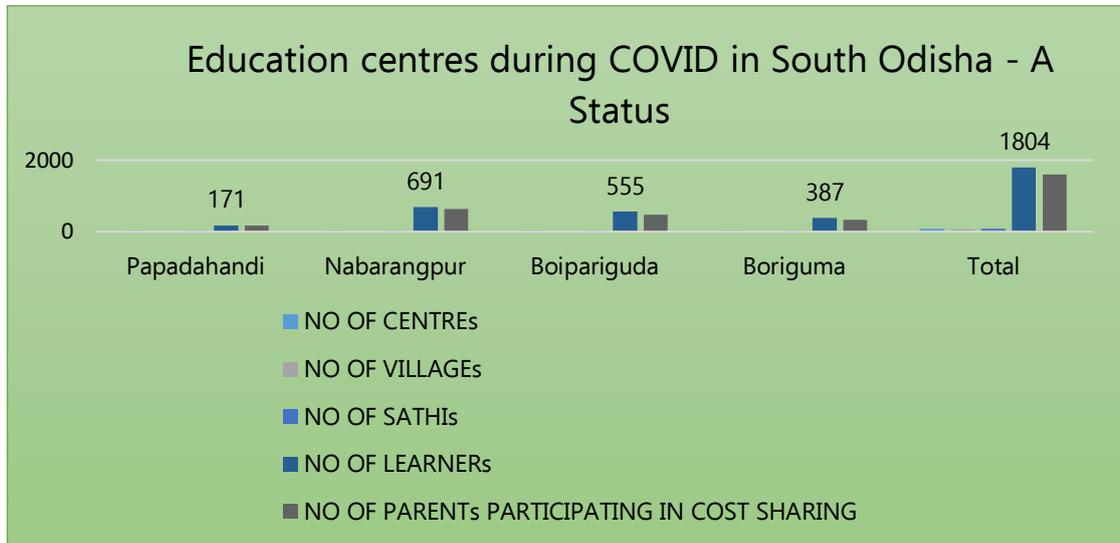
Reaching aid to the most vulnerable

Keeping School Lights On for Rural Students in Odisha

Harsha Trust has partnered Klorofeel Foundation to increase the learning levels of primary school children through community and school interventions. Village level learning centres in Bissam cuttack Block (Rayagada District) and Kujanga Block (Jagatsinghpur District) played a crucial role in ensuring that students continued to learn throughout the year when schools were closed due to the pandemic. Learning has been facilitated by adhering to the restrictions and protocols mandated under the pandemic.

With the help of student volunteers from Bhubaneswar (India) and California (USA), an effort has been made to improve communication skills of children in the Kujanga block via an online platform. This is a replicable model at near zero cost that must be adopted across

the country to rapidly increase English communication confidence among less privileged children. Playscapes were installed in six schools in Kujanga block with the support of Paradeep Phosphate Limited.



Teaching-Learning Process at Village Level Learning Centres:

The village level learning centres in Bissamcuttack and Kujanga blocks were unable to function normally due to the epidemic and state wide lockdown. Thus, alternative techniques for encouraging learning among children in small groups and through one-to-one contacts were implemented. In Kujanga, we could use the online mode to make learning easier.



The Saathis and Mothers' groups of the individual villages played a significant part in all of these. As the time spent with the children dwindled, it was determined to concentrate on fewer but more significant elements, such as number sense in arithmetic and learning to read Odia literature. The children needed to understand why the number ten was written as 10. As a result, more emphasis was placed on

teaching children the place values of digits in a number while also physically depicting a number with a bundle and sticks.

Village Biography by children and Saathis at Kujanga block

A programme to capture the village biography has been started in six villages in Kujanga block. This is an opportunity for students to understand and know more about their village from their elders. In today's world of overflowing information, an age-old tradition of passing on local knowledge on good behaviour, eco-friendly living, and folklore through storytelling has taken a back seat. This initiative has aided children in connecting with their elders and learning important facts about their village and communities.



First, the children with the support of Saathis created a detailed script on various aspects of the village including the economic, social, ecological, historical and geographical aspects. The program is being guided by an expert who has created many such biographies for other villages.

Leveraging Online Platform for Improving Communication Skills



At Kujang Block, our Saathis and government school students learnt English Communication in a unique way. **Cognitive Exchange** is a California based organization providing English communication lessons remotely, with Class 9 to 12 high school students as “teachers”. All we need at our end is a computer with a web camera and internet access.

Then we discussed why we needed California? Why not English medium school children in Indian cities? We tried with an English proficient student in Bhubaneswar and it worked. We have conducted more than 50 classes for students from four Government Schools located in four villages of Kujanga block (Jagatsinghpur) with the support of four interns.



Having Playscapes at Schools: Play Materials like slide, swing and see-saw forms the collective image of a school environment for a lot of students and adults. But unfortunately, only a few of the schools in the rural pockets of Odisha have play equipment for students.

With the objective of making the school environment more vibrant and attractive for students, we installed playscapes in six schools of Kujanga block. We noticed a significant increase

in student enthusiasm for spending more time on campus. In addition, the play equipment improved the students’ physical activities in a variety of ways.

Improvement in Learning Level of Students:

Both baseline and endline assessment were conducted for 628 students from grade 1 to 5 of Kujanga block and 338 students of Bissam cuttack block. Comparing the baseline and endline data it was inferred that, through the community level interventions there was a 15 to 20 percent improvement of the learning levels of children across different subjects and grades in both the locations.

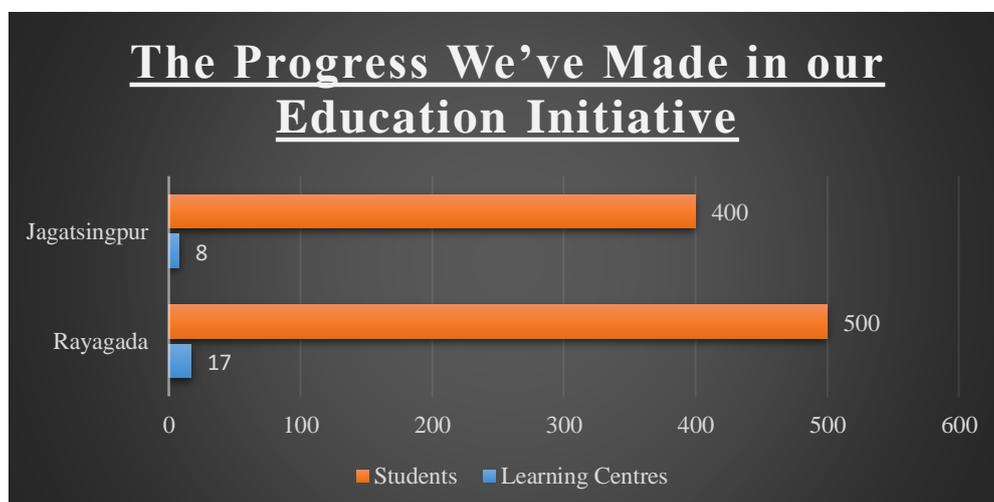
Some of the systems and processes we laid down for the success of the education initiative which are as follows:

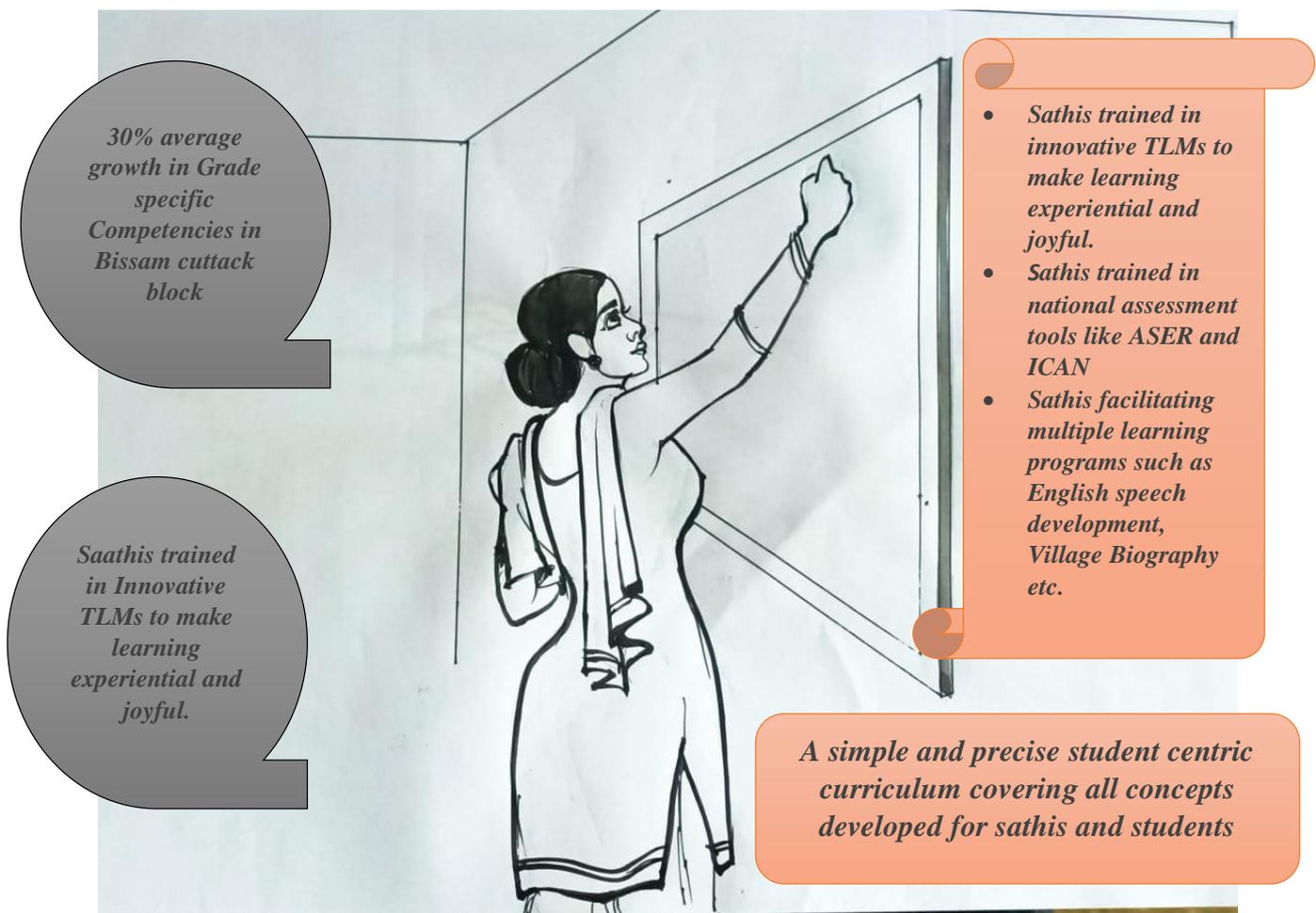
Formation of Mothers’ Groups: Active participation of mothers are critical to ensure the success of the program, so we helped set-up *Mothers’ Group* in various blocks. The mothers are involved in identifying locations for the Learning Centre, nomination of the Saathis (friend) to teach the children and collaborate with the Learning Enablers to monitor the progress of their children.

Selection of Saathis: The candidates nominated by the Mothers Group were invited to a three-day selection camp, and introduced to the objectives and mission of the education initiative. Candidates are evaluated on several critical parameters such as *empathy, communication skills, emotional maturity, connection with children, interest and ability for action learning and subject matter competency*. After the workshop, the merit wise list of Saathis is conveyed to the Mothers’ Group for final appointment.

Content and Learning: Emphasis is laid on teaching concepts, encouraging critical thinking, game-based learning and real-life solutions to ensure lessons are meaningful, experiential and joyful.

Assessment and Tracking: To assess and monitor the progress of the children, Saathis use assessment tools such as a web-based platforms called, *I got knowledge* which records the weekly progress of the children, which is communicated on a regular basis to the mothers along with suggestions and measures to improve.





Bridging the gap between Government Agencies and the Community

Our staff and Community Service Providers actively assisted officials in distributing benefits and entitlements under various Government schemes, as shown in the table below:

Schemes	GP	Village	Households/Individuals
Public Distribution	09	32	2,322
Jan Dhan	06	15	142
Nirman Shramik	06	60	432

Harsha Trust acted as an important bridging point between the community and the different government schemes. While the government has a plethora of schemes for the rural poor, much of the schemes face bottlenecks in the last mile delivery. The community members are often unaware of schemes and have to be informed of the details as well as supported with the paperwork, and concurrently the government officials have to be linked with the community members, so that no one is left out.

Apart from this we also volunteered our services for the distribution of:

- Labour benefits
- Pension Benefits (Widows, Senior Citizens, Disabled)
- Anganwadi Worker benefits
- Monitoring Quarantine Centres for displaced migrants



Labour Benefits Distribution & Maintenance of Social Distancing at Ujjala Cooking Gas Centre.



COVID Relief to 16 Villages Water-locked By the Indravati Water Reservoir

16 villages were water-locked after the construction of the Indravati Water Reservoir in Kalahandi district, cutting off access to the mainland for its inhabitants, primarily indigenous communities. Surrounded by water from all sides, boats are the only means of transport for these villagers, who have to go to the mainland to fulfil basic everyday needs. When the pandemic locked down the entire country, these villagers were more isolated and vulnerable than ever before.

Harsha Trust resolved to get aid and relief to these villagers with support from the Sarpanch and Gram Panchayat officers of the Thuamul Rampur block of Kalahandi district.

A little after sunrise, a team from Harsha set-off to cover over 52 kms by road, in order to reach the Indravati shore. From there they got on to boats to row over nine kms in boats across the Indravati River, which is a daunting task in itself. With the relief supplies loaded into these boats, it was a pretty unnerving trip. But having resolved to help the stranded villagers, we were successful in reaching all of them. We were able to connect with all the inhabitants of the 16 villages and distribute the relief kits to over **673 households**, despite the fact that they don't speak in Odiya and have their own distinct dialect.

With the mission accomplished our team was able to reach the mainland shore by around 6 PM as it was critical to cross the river before sunset.



Advancing Rural Innovation

Harsha Trust believes that bringing long-term social and economic benefits to rural Odisha requires new and creative ideas that are viable, transferrable, inexpensive and environmentally safe for the local community.

From solar-powered energy efficient devices and, programs to increase yield from agricultural and livestock enterprises, to constructing bamboo lined low-cost irrigation wells, we have launched several innovative initiatives to improve the livelihood of our community members.

Introducing chili production using organic practices:

With financial support from Axis Bank Innovation Fund, we helped chilli farmers overcome low yield from their efforts.

We introduced 39 farmers (harvested area - 20 acres) to a local variety of chili seed that is disease resistant. For more effective fertilization, we recommended an ideal mix of bio-fertilizers incubated for 15 days with Azospirillum, Azotobacter and PSB (@ 1% on dry weight compost @ 1.0 tone/ha mixed with 50%.

Outcome

- Increase in yield: 15 Quintal/Acre to 26 Quintal/Acre
- Improvement in yield: By 80-90%
- Improvement in soil health due to the use of Rhizobium culture, Trichoderma and PSB culture
- Increase in the ground water levels due to line sowing



Improving Survivability and Increasing Yield from Drumstick Production

The first change we introduced is to plant drumstick saplings in summer instead of during the rainy season. Thereby ensuring the young plants are not lost in the heavy monsoon rains. Next, we set-up a nursery for growing the drumstick saplings to a healthy 5 to 6 feet in height before distributing them to farmers. Before transplanting them, they are treated with fungicide for 15 minutes and the top of the stem is covered with cow dung paste. They are planted 12 feet apart, in 1.5 feet pits filled with sand for up to 5-6 inches. They are then watered for the first three days & at intervals of three days for two months. For healthy growth we trained the farmers to feed appropriate quantities of Chloro @ 2 ml/lit of water, DAP 50 gms, Urea 200 gms, MOP 50 gms, SSP 200 gms and zinc 10 gms to the plants.



Outcome

- Survivability – 60 to 70%
- Yearly Income Rise – Rs20,000

Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) Cultivation to Combat Greenhouse Gas Emissions

DSR is advantageous over Traditional POP because it significantly reduces the cost of paddy cultivation, requires less inputs such as seed rate and pesticides and nursery preparation is not required. Time and labour costs involved in DSR is also just 1/4th of the traditional systems.

Transplanted rice saplings also consume excessive amounts of water, which has become a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, especially methane, contributing to global warming and climate change. ***DSR may very well be the game changer in paddy cultivation for the future***

Bullock Driven DSR Promoted By ITC MSK in Hinjilicut – Ganjam

We convinced 116 farmers in Ganjam covering 123 acres to cultivate direct seeded rice using a DSR machine and bullock carts instead of the conventional transplanting method.

Major Challenges

1. Unavailability of labour as migration is high in these areas.
2. Traditional practices predominate in paddy cultivation.
3. Cost of cultivation is very high.



Net increase in income from DSR Paddy – 15%

Promotion of Nutritional Gardens and nutritional Diversity to Tackle Malnutrition

In Odisha, malnutrition among children below 5 years, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating women is an acute health crisis. To eradicate this malaise, Odisha Livelihood Mission, with support from Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives (APPI), launched the Mo Upakaari Bagicha initiative across 30 districts of Odisha with technical support from Resource NGOs.

Harsha Trust is a Resource NGO in this initiative. We have successfully supported SHG members to set-up nearly 58,600 nutrition gardens in their backyards. We provide direct support to 18 blocks and need based support to 23 Blocks across 10 districts. Two models of nutrition gardens are followed:

Rectangular Nutrition Gardens

About 80% of SHG members follow this model. The gardens are set-up in 2 cents of land with seven raised beds. Mixed/intercrop vegetables are grown for maximum produce and dietary diversity.



Circular Nutrition Gardens

Raised beds are arranged in a circular design. In this model, in addition to different vegetables 10 fruit bearing trees of 4 different kinds are also grown.



This initiative has ensured the nutritional sufficiency of a family in various villages across the different districts of Odisha.

Low Cost, Environmentally Sustainable Bamboo Dug Wells:

Lack of water for irrigation during the summer seasons was one of the major reasons why only one crop was cultivated in the tribal regions of Odisha. Moreover, just about 15% of the tribal lands where Harsha Trust is active, was utilised for irrigation. Convincing the community to grow an additional crop in a year, to enhance their income, was proving unsuccessful due to the

high cost, approximately Rs. 80,000 to Rs 1 lakh for building conventional wells using bricks and cement.

To overcome this hurdle, we used tech-know provided to us by Selco Foundation to build traditional wells and line them with pre-fabricated bamboo rings, for less than half the cost. Age-old wisdom and knowledge of the local tribal community to build this environmentally safe bamboo dug wells proved hugely beneficial in this initiative.



This model has proved its scalability impact further in the particular terrain with minimal resources. Within an interval of one year the number of bamboo dug wells has increased from 3 to 50 supporting 100 farmers in providing irrigation facility.

Harnessing the Power of Solar Energy

Solar power is a low-cost, energy efficient alternative to conventional sources of generating power. We've made several successful efforts to tap into this clean renewable energy source in ways that are relevant to the needs of our community.

Some of our initiatives in solar power are listed below:

Solar Panels Power Rural Loads: Equipment such as solar water pumps for irrigation, rice hullers and other agro-loads support more than 150 women farmers in various agro-ventures. An automated central control unit manages the distribution. The unit can be remotely monitored for real time operations. The surplus power from these panels are used to power food processing & other micro-enterprises.

Solar Powered Field Sprayers: Traditionally, manual sprayers were used to spray pesticides and fertilizers in the fields - a drudgery suffered by the community for long, especially women. Harsha Trust introduced spray machines powered by batteries charged from solar charging stations installed at village centres.

Solar Powered Agro Processing Machines - We installed multipurpose solar powered agro processing machines capable of producing and processing chili, turmeric, millet & wheat powders.



Solar Dryers: were installed to dehydrate and conserve produce such as chili and turmeric.



Innovative Energy Solution powering multiple Agri loads at a remote village in Orissa





Solar Fruit Dryer

Solar Power Light Up Poultry sheds: Light plays an important role in having a healthy and productive flock of chickens. We helped the community install bulbs that are charged with solar energy and have power back-up of up to twelve hours. The system is cost effective, pollution free and requires very little maintenance.



Professional Grooming- An Integral Part of The Organization

The Covid-19 Pandemic necessitated all in-person gatherings be halted in order to curtail the spread of the disease. However, as in other businesses worldwide, Harsha Trust also quickly adapted to conduct all meetings and training workshops for our staff on the virtual platform. We are happy to record that we were able to as seamlessly as possible ensure least disruption in continuing our services to the rural communities we serve.

A calendar of all the workshops, trainings, and review meetings for our staff members is listed below:

Sl	Details of Training	Date of event
1.	Training on Package of Practices (PoP) of Pulses & Maize	6 th & 11 th August, 2020
2.	Training On Backyard Poultry and Goat Rearing	7 th & 8 th August, 2020
3.	Training on Convergence with ongoing govt. programmes	10 th & 29 th August, 2020
4.	Workshop on Future Scenario Building during Covid	3 rd & 16 th September, 2020
5.	Review and Planning of Activities	18th & 20th July, 2020
6.	Training on Concept of Service Charges collection	24th July & 30 th September, 2020
7.	Preparation of Business Plan	21st October, 6 th November & 20 th & 21 st November 2020
8.	Convergence with Government departments for the Maize procurement in the district of Nabarangpur, Odisha	11 th November 2020
9.	Professional CSP Engagement Plan	4 th December 2020
10.	Facilitation of Vegetables and Maize Marketing	9 th December 2020,
11.	Cadre Building for Providing Livelihood Plus Services	9 th & 10 th December 2020
12.	Annual Review and Planning	28th, 29th & 30 th December 2020
13.	Pashu Sakhi Training on Goat Management, Khurda	19 & 20 th Feb 2021 14 th March 2021



HARSHA TRUST
217/B, Bayababa Matha Lane
Unit - IX Flats, Bhubaneswar- 751 022

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

PARTICULARS	Sch.	As at 31.03.2021		As at 31.03.2020	
		Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)
SOURCES OF FUNDS:					
CAPITAL FUND ACCOUNT	" A "		4,31,54,602.48		4,07,99,473.47
REVOLVING FUND	" B "		1,77,39,051.00		1,76,56,527.00
RESTRICTED FUND	" C "		3,21,01,623.83		4,36,40,152.39
TOTAL			9,29,95,277.31		10,20,96,152.86
APPLICATION OF FUNDS :					
FIXED ASSETS					
Gross Block	" D "	3,28,72,747.00		3,08,55,409.00	
Less: Depreciation		-		-	
Net Block			3,28,72,747.00		3,08,55,409.00
INVESTMENTS	" E "		24,06,560.00		20,98,638.00
CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS & ADVANCES :					
CURRENT ASSETS :					
Cash and Bank Balances	" F "	3,71,00,822.29		5,16,04,507.03	
Loans & Advances	" G "	1,91,94,820.66		1,94,72,991.92	
Grant Receivable	" H "	1,97,02,476.16		1,81,87,696.01	
		7,59,98,119.11		8,92,65,194.96	
LESS : CURRENT LIABILITIES & PROVISIONS :	" I "	1,82,82,148.80		2,01,23,089.10	
NET CURRENT ASSETS:			5,77,15,970.31		6,91,42,105.86
TOTAL			9,29,95,277.31		10,20,96,152.86

Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts "N"

Note:- Schedules A to M and N referred to above form an integral part of the Balance Sheet.

As per our report of even date

For SPP ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants
FRN-322862E

CA. Bibhu P Mohapatra, FCA
Partner
M. No:060051
Place :Bhubaneswar
Date : 29th Nov' 2021
UDIN: 22060051AAAAW5864

For H A R S H A T R U S T

Daniel Umi
Trustee
Place :Bhubaneswar
Date : 29th Nov' 2021

Gautam Kumar Pradhan
Managing Trustee
Place :Bhubaneswar
Date : 29th Nov' 2021

Rashmi Adlekha
Executive Director
Place :Bhubaneswar
Date : 29th Nov' 2021

HARSHA TRUST
217/B, Bayababa Matha Lane
Unit - IX Flats, Bhubaneswar- 751 022
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

PARTICULARS	Schedules	For the Year Ending	
		31.03.2021	31.03.2020
INCOME :			
CONTRIBUTION & GRANT RECEIVED	" J "	20,72,61,190.06	20,72,31,686.29
OTHER RECEIPTS	" K "	34,61,848.91	31,38,746.31
TOTAL		21,07,23,038.97	21,03,70,432.60
EXPENDITURE :			
PROJECT EXECUTION EXPENDITURE	" L "	20,72,61,190.06	20,72,31,686.29
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE	" M "	39,57,248.90	22,89,502.49
TOTAL		21,12,18,438.96	20,95,21,188.78
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		(4,95,399.99)	8,49,243.82
TOTAL		21,07,23,038.97	21,03,70,432.60
AMOUNT TRANSFERRED TO B/S		(4,95,399.99)	8,49,243.82

Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts "N"

Note:- Schedules J to M and N referred to above form an integral part of the Balance Sheet.

As per our report of even date

For **SPP ASSOCIATES**
Chartered Accountants
FRN-322862E

CA. Bibhu P Mohapatra, FCA
Partner
M. No:060051
Place :Bhubaneswar
Date : 29th Nov' 2021
UDIN: 22060051AAAAW5864



For **H A R S H A T R U S T**

U. Deccil
Daniel Umi
Trustee
Place :Bhubaneswar
Date : 29th Nov' 2021

RB Man
Gautam Kumar Pradhan
Managing Trustee
Place :Bhubaneswar
Date : 29th Nov' 2021

Rashmi Adlekha
Rashmi Adlekha
Executive Director
Place :Bhubaneswar
Date : 29th Nov' 2021

Our Donors

<p>Govt. of India</p>  <p>सर्वोदय Ministry of Rural Development Government of India</p> <p>Ministry of Rural Development</p>  <p>NABARD</p> <p>Foreign Corporate</p>  <p>syngenta foundation for sustainable agriculture</p> <p>SYNGENTA Foundation</p>  <p>foundation Schneider Electric India</p> <p>Schneider Electric India Foundation</p>	<p>Indian Corporate Funding</p>  <p>HT Parekh FOUNDATION An NDFC Initiative</p> <p>HT Parekh Foundation</p>  <p>ITC Limited ITC</p>  <p>adventz</p> <p>Pradeep Phosphates Limited</p>  <p>ADITYA BIRLA UTKAL ALUMINA</p> <p>Utkal Alumina International Limited</p>	 <p>AXIS BANK FOUNDATION</p> <p>Axis Bank Foundatn</p>  <p>HDFC BANK PARIVARTAN A step towards progress</p> <p>HDFC Foundation</p> <p>Foreign Funding Agencies</p>  <p>Department for International Development</p> <p>Department of International Development</p>	<p>Govt. of Odisha</p>  <p>ST & SC Development, Minorities & Backward Classes Welfare Department Government of Odisha</p> <p>ST & SC Development, Minorities and Backward Classes Welfare Department</p>  <p>District Rural Development Agency (DRDA)</p> <p>District Rural Development agency</p>  <p>Integrated Tribal Development Society</p>  <p>Department of Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water- Odisha Livelihood Mission</p>  <p>Agriculture and Farmers Empowerment</p>	<p>Philanthropists/Foundations</p>  <p>Azim Premji Foundation</p>  <p>Ernst & Young Foundation</p>  <p>Building a better working world</p> <p>Ernst & Young Foundation klorofeel</p> <p>Caring Friends</p> <p>Research Institutions</p>  <p>INTERNATIONAL CROPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR THE SEMI-ARID TROPICS</p> <p>International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)</p>  <p>IRRI</p> <p>International Rice Research Institute</p>
---	--	--	--	---



Registered Office:

Plot No-217/B,
Bayababa Matha Lane Unit-9 Flats,
Bhubaneswar; District: Khurda,
Pin: -751022, Odisha, India

Admin Office:

N-1/36, 1st Floor, IRC Village, Nayapalli
Bhubaneswar; District: Khurda; Pin: – 751015
Tel No.- 0674 – 2564683, 2565857
E-mail: harshaho@harshatrust.org
Website: www.harshatrust.org