

DETAILED PROJECT REPORT

# PROMOTION OF LARGE SCALE TASAR BASED LIVELIHOODS IN MAHARASHTRA



Under  
**Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana**  
Non-Timber Forest Produce  
[A sub-component of NRLM]



Prepared by

**CENTRAL SILK BOARD**  
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
GOVT. OF INDIA



Project Implementing Agency

**BHARATIYA AGRO INDUSTRIES  
FOUNDATION (BAIF)**  
PUNE, MAHARASHTRA





## CONTENTS

Sl. No.	Particulars	Page No.
	<b>Abbreviations</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Project at a Glance &amp; Executive Summary</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Summary of the proposal</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Chapters</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Project background, context and rationale</b>	<b>10</b>
1.1	Demographic Profile of the area	<b>12</b>
1.2	Rural Poverty Context in the area	<b>16</b>
1.3	Context of Social Inclusion and Social Mobilization	<b>22</b>
1.4	Context of Financial Inclusion	<b>23</b>
1.5	Livelihood Context	<b>26</b>
1.6	Performance of NREGA in the state	<b>31</b>
1.7	Existing Livelihood Initiatives and social sector initiatives in the selected area	<b>32</b>
1.8	PIA's prior experience in developing the prototype for proposed interventions	<b>33</b>
1.9	Basic PIA information	<b>35</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Detailed intervention strategy and phasing</b>	<b>37</b>
2.1	Objectives of the project	<b>37</b>
2.2	Project Strategy	<b>40</b>
2.3	Community Institutions Architecture	<b>40</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Detailed Program Components</b>	<b>51</b>
3.1	Detail of Proposed Action	<b>51</b>
3.2	Convergence with MGNREGA and other line departments	<b>61</b>
3.3	Training and Capacity building of communities	<b>62</b>
3.4	Training and Capacity building of Community Professionals	<b>64</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Implementation Arrangements</b>	<b>65</b>
4.1	Implementation Plan	<b>67</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Implementation schedule</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Results framework- impact, outcomes and outputs</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Project monitoring and evaluation</b>	<b>82</b>
7.1	Web based MIS and real time input-output monitoring at	<b>82</b>
7.2	Review Mechanism	<b>83</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Budget estimates and financing plan</b>	<b>90</b>

## ANNEXURES

Sl. No.	Particulars	Annexure No.	Page No.
1	Sericulture Statistics of Maharashtra	i	106
2	Financial allocation and expenditure for sericulture development in Maharashtra	ii	107
3	Sericulture production statistics 2011-12	iii	108
4	Tasar Silkworm dfl production trends	iv	109
5	Tentative coverage of villages for implementation of MKSP activities	v	110
6	Project at a Glance	1	111
7	Productivity norms	2	112
8	Year-wise physical phasing	3	113
9	Year-wise physical and financial phasing	4	115
10	Year-wise financial phasing and sharing pattern	5	119
11	Year-wise physical & financial outlay & sharing pattern- Year-I	6	122
12	Year-wise physical & financial outlay & sharing pattern- Year-II	7	125
13	Year-wise physical & financial outlay & sharing pattern- Year-III	8	128
14	Unit Costs of project activities	9-16	131
15	Project Output	17	139
16	Economics of project activities	19-23	140

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

AMC	Apex Monitoring Committee
APM	Assistant Project Manager
ASR	Adopted Seed Rearers
BAIF	Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation
BMI	Body Mass Index
BPL	Below Poverty Line
BRGF	Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme
BSM&TC	Basic Seed Multiplication & Training Centre
BSPU	Basic Seed Production Unit
BSR	Basic Seed Rearer
BTSSO	Basic Tasar Silkworm Seed Organization
BV	Bivoltine
CBO	Community Based Organizations
CC	Cluster Coordinator
CDP	Catalytic Development Programme
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CINI	Collective for integrated Livelihood Initiative
CF	Cluster Federation
CIF	Community Investment Fund
CPT	Cattle proof trench
CR	Commercial Rearer
CRP	Community Resource Person
CSB	Central Silk Board
CTR&TI	Central Tasar Research & Training Institute
CTSSS	Central Tasar Silkworm Seed Station
DCTSC	Demonstration-cum-Technical Service Center
DF	District Federation
DFL	Disease Free Laying

DOS	Department of Sericulture
DOT&H	Department of Textiles & Handlooms
DPAP	Drought Prone Areas Programme
DRDA	District Rural Development Agency
EA	Executing Agency
EDI	Education Development Index
EMT	Entrepreneurial Motivational Training
FIA	Field Implementing Agency
FIU	Field Implementation Units
GOI	Government of India
GP	Gram Panchayat
GSDP	Gross state domestic product
GDP	Gross domestic product
HDI	Human Development Index
ICAR	Indian Council for Agricultural Research
IFAD	The International Fund for Agricultural Development
IKP	Indira Kranthi Patham
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IGNOAPS	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension
INRM	Integrated Natural Resource Management
ISDS	Integrate Skill Development Scheme
ISTP	Inter State Tasar Project
ITDA	Integrated Tribal Development Agency
KSS	Kosa Shikar Sangha
KMS	Kosa Maha Sanga
KVS	Kosa Vikas Samithy
LWE	Left Wing Extremism
MACS	Mutually Aided Cooperatives Societies
MAP	Medicinal & Aromatic Plants

MFI	Micro Finance Institution
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MITTRA	Maharashtra Institute of Technology Transfer for Rural areas
MKSP	Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MNAIS	Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme
MORD	Ministry of Rural Development
MOT	Ministry of Textiles
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MS	Mandala Samakhya
MSRLM	Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission
MT	Metric Tonne
NABFINS	NABARD Financial Services Limited
NAIP	National Agricultural Innovation Project
NAIS	National Agricultural Insurance Scheme
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NFSM	National Food Security Mission
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHM	National Horticulture Mission
NIRD	National Institute of Rural Development
NREGA	National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
NRHM	National Rural Health Mission
NRLM	National Rural Livelihoods Mission
NSR	Nucleus Seed Rearer
NTFP	Non Timber Forest produce
PCC	Project Coordination Committee
PCDDP	Per Capita District Domestic Product
PDS	Public Distribution System
PEC	Project Execution Committee

PHC	Public Health centre
PIA	Project Implementing Agency
PMB	Project Management Board
PPC	Pilot Project Centre
PPPP	Private Public Panchayat Partnership
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRADAN	Professional Assistance for Development Action
PRFU	Project Resource and Facilitation Unit
PRI	Panchayat Raj Institutions
PTG	Primitive tribal Group
PVTG	Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups
QPR	Quarterly Progress Report
REC	Research Extension Center
RGJAY	Rajiv Gandhi Jeevandayi Arogya Yojna
RKVY	Rasthriya Krishi Vikas Yojana
RO	Regional Office
RTRS	Regional Tasar Research Station
RSVY	Rasthriya Sam Vikas Yojana
SBLP	SHG-Bank Linkage Programme
SC	Scheduled Caste
SERIFED	Orissa Co-op Tasar & Silk Federation
SFAC	Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium
SGSY	Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana
SHG	Self Help Group
SIDBI	Small Industries Development Bank of India
SLMC	State Level Monitoring Committee
SLSCC	State Level Sericulture Coordination Committee
SLTPSG	State Level Technical Project Support Group
SMS	Subject Matter Specialist

SRI	Systemic Rice Intensification
SRLM	State Rural Livelihood Mission
SRLSP	Sustainable Rural Livelihood Security Project
ST	Scheduled Tribe
TDC	Tribal Development Corporation
TDF	Tribal Development Fund
ToR	Terms of Reference
TOT	Transfer of Technology
TRIFED	Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India LTD
TSP	Tribal Sub-Plan
TTP	Trainers Training Programmes
TV	Trivoltine
TVS	Tasar Vikas Samity
UC	Utilization Certificate
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VAPCOL	Vasundhara Agri Horti Producer Company Ltd
VLC	Village Level Committee
VO	Village Organisation
WBCIS	Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme
WPR	Work Participation Rate
WUA	Water Users Associations
ZS	Zilla Samakya



## PROJECT AT A GLANCE

1	Title	Promotion of Large Scale Tasar Sericulture Based Livelihoods in Maharashtra			
2	Project area	Gadchiroli, Gondia, Chandrapur & Yavatmal			
3	Executing/Technical Agency	Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India			
4	Supporting Agency	Department of Sericulture, Govt. of Maharashtra			
5	Project Implementing Agency	Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation (BAIF), Pune, Maharashtra			
	Field Implementing Agency	Maharashtra Institute of Technology Transfer For Rural areas (MITTRA), Maharashtra			
6	Total Project Cost (Rs. In Lakhs)	<b>1203.540</b>			
7	Funding Pattern (Rs. in lakhs)	<b>CREDIT</b>	<b>BENEFI-CIARY</b>	<b>MORD</b>	<b>CSB</b>
		81.377	109.152	759.800	253.211
	<i>Sharing pattern (%)</i>	6.76	9.07	63.13	21.04
			<i>Cost/ beneficiary</i>	<i>%</i>	
	<i>Investment per beneficiary</i>		20783.6		
	<i>Cost of capacity building</i>		4176.0	17.2	
	<i>Cost of infrastructure</i>		5490.3	16.1	
	<i>Cost of equipment</i>		7921.9	19.4	
8	Project Period	2013-14 to 2015-16 (Three years)			
9	Beneficiaries to be covered (Direct)				
	Nursery farmers	60			
	Nucleus Seed rearers	40			
	Basic Seed rearers	240			
	Commercial rearers	2786			
	Private graineurs	60			
	Reelers	100			
	Spinners	40			
	Community Resource Persons	82			
	BSPU members (15 per unit)	15			
	Improved agriculture/NTFP	3266			
	Vegetable cultivation	653			
	Women SHG members	1633			
	Indirect beneficiaries	831			
	Total Project Beneficiaries	<b>5790</b>			
10	Infrastructure to be created				
a	Block plantation of tasar host plants (ha)	200			
b	Regeneration of block plantation (ha.)	1750			
c	Basic Seed Production Units (No.)	1			
d	Rearers' Collective (No.)	5			
e	Reelers' Collective (No.)	4			
11	Value of the Project output (Lakh Rs.)	1724.42			

## Executive Summary

The tribal population is an integral part of India's social fabric and has the second largest concentration after that of the African continent. It is more than the total population of France and Britain and four times that of Australia. Tribals have traditionally lived in about 15% of the country's geographical areas, mainly forests, hills and undulating inaccessible terrain in plateau areas, rich in natural resources. They have lived as isolated entities for centuries, largely untouched by the society around them. This seclusion has been responsible for the slower growth, dissimilar pattern of their socio-economic and cultural development and inability to negotiate and cope with the consequences of their involuntary integration into mainstream society and economy.

The status of women in a society is a significant reflection of the level of social justice in that society. Women's status is often described in terms of their level of income, employment, education health and fertility as well as their roles within the family, the community and society. In tribal communities, the role of women is substantial and crucial. They constitute about half the total population but in tribal society women are more important than in other social groups, because they work harder and the family economy and management depends on them. Even after industrialization and the resultant commercialization swamped the tribal economy, women continued to play a significant role. Collection of minor forest produce is done mostly by women and children. Many also work as labourers in industries, households and construction, contributing to their family income. Despite exploitation by contractors and managers, tribals are more sincere and honest than non tribals.

However, tribal women face problems and challenges in getting sustainable livelihood and a decent life due to environmental degradation and the interference from outsiders. The strategy for tribal development, and specially women, needs improvement betterment, development and upliftment to effect their empowerment. Tribal women have adjusted themselves to live a traditional life style in the local environment and follow occupation based on natural resources. Undoubtedly, the project, oriented towards the empowerment of tribals, particularly women, has improved their economic conditions and status. However, there are wide variations across regions and tribes in terms of work participation, sex ratio, economic productivity and social life.

The expanding Indian economy is generating unprecedented demands for goods and services. Through appropriate policies and action, the disadvantaged sections of the society can be enabled to generate adequate and secure livelihoods for themselves by meeting those demands. This is especially true where the resources required for producing such goods and services are human labour and other idle under-utilised assets, the technologies are not too complicated, the poor have some familiarities within the technologies and the capital investments required is not too large. The enabling inputs needed by the poor in such situation are assistance in organisation and access to technologies, capital and the input-output markets.

With this construct in mind, BAIF has initiated this project for consideration under MKSP. This project proposes to build on the foundations of a) large scale social mobilization of women in selected four districts of Maharashtra and b) an array of livelihood propositions for the marginalized, based on Tasar sericulture that have

been made standardized through decades of meticulous efforts by PRADAN with support from the Central Silk Board (CSB).

The project proposes to create over 6000 sustainable livelihoods for the marginalized households, specially seeking involvement of Scheduled tribe communities and women in 4 selected backward and tribal districts of Maharashtra such as Gadchiroli, Gondia, Chandrapur and Yavatmal. These districts come under Tribal Sub-Plan Areas and most backward area of this forest belt also affected by Left Wing Extremism.

MKSP project for tasar development in Maharashtra is proposed to be implemented four districts with a project assistance of Rs. 10.13 crores shared by MoRD (Rs. 7.598 crores) and CSB (Rs. 2.532 crores) covering 5790 beneficiaries including 3326 direct, 831 indirect beneficiaries and 1633 SHG members. Main objective of the project is to augment silkworm seed production in private sector, nurturing Community Resource Persons and yarn conversion on pilot scale. Besides, the project envisages promoting integrated activities like improved Agriculture, vegetable cultivation and other best practices. The total project investment per family is worked out at Rs. 20,784/- per family and project grant of Rs. 17,493/- per family of which about Rs. 5,490/- is invested at individual level, Rs. 4,176/- towards capacity building, Rs. 7,922/- towards creation of common assets for participating families and Rs. 3,195/- towards sector support costs.

As mentioned earlier, the mainstay of livelihood interventions would be around Tasar Sericulture, a forest based activity, traditionally undertaken by communities living in forest villages. The current project would exploit the benefits of recent advancements in the sector to extend the livelihood opportunities to newer clusters, covering families with no prior experience to facilitate adoption of improved technologies of Tasar sericulture and enabling them to access mainstream markets and sustain economic gains. The idea here is to broad base the best practices of the above-mentioned project to other areas to benefit a large number of poorer households. The project would take 3 years for complete implementation of all the activities.

While selecting the area of intervention, we have taken into consideration two major factor conditions such as (i) presence of active Women Self help Groups (ii) existence of Tasar-host tree resources within the access of the local communities. Another associated factor condition that would favour the project is the availability of fallow / wastelands owned by the SHG-member families. These lands are proposed to be utilized for raising host tree plantations in isolated patches. The project would promote, from among the participants, a group of rearers who would be involved in seed stock multiplication in these isolated plantations under aseptic conditions. The seed stock would be processed to prepare Disease Free Layings (DFLs) or high quality Tasar seeds. Isolated plantations would thus be a unique feature of the project that would create capacities for large scale seed production in the next 4-5 years. Beyond the project period, this facility would serve at least double the number of families, who would be directly covered during the project period.

Besides enhancing the stake and involvement of the women in the income activities like Tasar sericulture, the project would work for strengthening their position at household. Although women play a central role in agriculture, yet low productivity of rain fed farming hardly supports the family to meet year-round food requirement. Food shortages affect women most, both physically as well as emotionally. As

homemakers and rearers of small children, they bear the emotional trauma of coping with hungry children, and are most likely to receive less or go without food in times of shortages. The project proposes to support at least 50% of the participating families to overcome food shortage by ways of increasing their paddy production. This effort would be further supplemented by SHGs and Cluster associations, who will support their members to claim food grains from PDSs.

#### A. Summary of the project

1	Title of the Project	Promotion of Large Scale Tasar Sericulture Based Livelihoods in Maharashtra
2	Project duration	Three years (2013-16)
3	Total Project Budget (Rs. in Lakhs)	<b>Rs. 1203.540 lakhs - Total outlay</b> Rs. 759.799 lakhs – MoRD share Rs. 253.211 lakhs - CSB share (revised) <b>Rs. 1013.011 lakhs – Total Project Grant</b> Rs. 190.529 lakhs- Beneficiary and other sources
4	Project area	Gadchiroli, Gondia, Chandrapur and Yavatmal districts
5	Coordinating Agency	Central Silk Board, Min. of Textiles, Govt. of India
6	Project Implementing Agency	<b>Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation</b> (BAIF), Pune, Maharashtra
7	Technical Support Agency	Department of Sericulture, Govt. of Maharashtra
8	Field Implementing Agency	MITTRA, Nashik, Maharashtra
9	Total project beneficiaries	5790
	Direct Beneficiaries	3326
	Women SHG members	1633
	Indirect beneficiaries	831
10	Key outputs of the project	Enhanced family incomes by Rs.10,000-Rs.18,700 for 60% of participant women and tribal families through various income generating activities across the tasar silk value chain viz., <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60 Kisan nursery farmers to raise seedlings of tasar host flora</li> <li>• Tasar silkworm rearing (40 nucleus &amp; 240 basic seed and 2786 commercial rearers)</li> <li>• Tasar Basic (15) and commercial (45) silkworm seed producers</li> <li>• Intercropping in block plantation of tasar host plants</li> <li>• 100 Tasar silk reelers and 40 spinners</li> <li>• 82 Community Resource Persons</li> </ul> Most of the activities are for about 1 to 3 months during the lean season of agriculture. Besides the above activities, other income generating activities viz., vegetable cultivation, improved agriculture, NTFP/MAPs etc., will be taken up with support under the project which will further augment the income of about Rs.8000/- to Rs.12000/- and also address the tribal health and nutritional security issues.



## Chapter 1: Project background, context and rationale

Public and private efforts for socio-economic developments during the past six decades have produced significant gains for India. These can be seen in increased agricultural and industrial production, expanded human resource capability and a wide spread socio-economic infrastructure. These gains unfortunately have not been shared equitably by all sections of the Indian society due to deep rooted social hierarchies, highly skewed ownership of the resources and a pre occupation in the past with growth rather than distributive justice. Those at the bottom of the traditional Indian society, such as harijans (formerly untouchable), women, landless and artisans and those peripheral to it, such as the *adivasis* (tribal people) have not commensurately benefited. Comprising nearly the half of the Indian population, these subsist under condition of acute social and economic deprivation. Given the skews and biases inherent in the Indian economy and the society, it is unlikely that the fruits of development will automatically trickle down to the socio-economically disadvantaged in the foreseeable future. The disadvantaged would have to be enabled to gain access to new livelihoods and improve upon their traditional ones if they are to gain a secure foothold in the expanding socio-economic arena.

*Context of Area and Community:* The proposed project area is located in four tribal districts of Maharashtra. The geographical spread of the project is in Gadchiroli, Gondia, Chandrapur and Yavatmal Districts of Maharashtra. These districts have been lagging behind on various development fronts especially in the farm sector, which forms the livelihood for a majority of the population. Target group would comprise the tribal communities mostly women belonging to Katkaria, Maria Gond and Kolam are among the primitive tribal Groups (PTGs) besides Deewar belonging to Backward Communities, who practice tasar silkworm rearing as part of their tradition and culture.

*Problem Analysis:* The paddy, cotton, chillies and vegetables growing tribal districts have also been affected adversely due to another set of issues. The once forest dependent livelihoods of these tribal families have been adversely affected due to heavy deforestation and dwindling forest produce and poor marketing facilities of goods. Certain other challenges faced are low soil cover, increased frequency of shifting cultivation, heavy soil erosion, high input costs, problems of pests and diseases and limited credit availability. Irrigation facilities are scanty in this area and majority of the families depend upon rainfed agriculture.

Besides this, high rate of inflation, the prevailing social practices of high expenditure for family functions like weddings and the intermittent medical expenses for one or the other member of the family further stretch the available financial resources to the limit and force the families to avail credit at exorbitant interest rates from the unscrupulous moneylenders. The distress of these tribal families is however not realized as it has manifested itself in a different manner. Thus, in these tribal belts there is growing extremism. Gadchiroli, Gondia and Chandrapur districts are badly affected by this menace and many families are being forced into this form of protest due to financial plight and extremist influence.

*Opportunities:* BAIF strongly believes in holistic development of the family and predominantly working with the people by designing appropriate and innovative developmental model in consultation with farming community for sustainability of the

programme. It is thus confirmed that the choice of the livelihood for most farming families has been narrowed down considerably and there is a need to widen this base to alleviate the distress situation. Hence efforts have been made to introduce alternate seasonal livelihood activities such as lac, tasar, water chestnut & fish cultivation, rock bee honey harvesting etc. have shown promising results in some of the tribal areas. Tribals involve in farming activity for only 4-6 months in year depending up on the rain. After rainy season most of tribal engage in collection of NTFP, hunting and migrate to other urban areas for labour work. It was noticed that, the tribal communities particularly youths have shown keen interest in learning new activities and supplement their agriculture income. Involvement of tribal families in one or more activity during non farming months ensures steady source of income, employment round the year. It also helps conserve forest, prevent migration, protect culture & tradition and improve quality of life.

Traditionally the tribal families are involved in some NTFP activities viz. collection of gum, mahua & mahua seeds, honey & bees wax, chironji, karonji, amla, tendu leaf, livestock, Buchanania, medicinal & herbal plants, etc which are sold by them to local traders in weekly markets and VAPCOL for cash or barter them for other goods. There exists great opportunity to introduce highly remunerative new NTFP activities like lac and tasar cultivation by undertaking capacity building of members of existing groups in the first phase and expanding to new families and areas in subsequent years.

Since the tribal communities have detail knowledge of the surrounding forest will themselves be involved in the activities, backward linkages will be strengthened by imparting training and practice. Forward linkages will be established with traders/industry by providing partially processed raw material.

***Rationale for Support under MKSP:*** With this construct in mind, this project proposal was conceived for consideration under MKSP. This project proposes to build on the foundations of large scale social mobilization of women facilitated by BAIF and MSRLM's partners in Maharashtra and an array of livelihood propositions for the marginalized, based on Tasar sericulture that have been made standardized through decades of meticulous efforts by PRADAN with support from the Central Silk Board (CSB) under the special SGSY Projects in Bihar and Jharkhand.

The project proposes to create about 5790 sustainable livelihoods for the marginalized households, specially seeking involvement of Scheduled tribe communities and women in Gadchiroli, Gondia, Chandrapur and Yavatmal district of Maharashtra, which come under Tribal Sub-Plan Areas.

As mentioned earlier, the mainstay of livelihood interventions would be around Tasar Sericulture, a forest based activity, traditionally undertaken by communities living in forest villages. The proposed project would exploit the benefits of recent advancements in the sector to extend the livelihood opportunities to newer clusters, covering families with no prior experience to facilitate adoption of improved technologies of Tasar sericulture and enabling them to access mainstream markets and sustain economic gains. The status (Physical and financial) of sericulture in general, tasar in particular during 2011-12, dfl production and the plan of coverage under the project are depicted in **Tables- i to v.**

This project is designed to capitalize on the revival and growth attained in Tasar sericulture in recent years in Bihar & Jharkhand through intensive efforts of PRADAN in collaboration with Central Silk Board to implement a Special SGSY Project for development of Tasar Sericulture. The idea here is to broad base the best practices of the above-mentioned project within forest areas of Maharashtra to benefit a large number of poorer households. The proposed Special project would take 3 years for complete implementation of all the activities.

While selecting the area of intervention, we have taken into consideration two major factor conditions such as (i) presence of active Women Self help Groups (ii) existence of Tasar-host tree resources within the access of the local communities. Another associated factor condition that would favour the project is the availability of fallow/ wastelands owned by the SHG-member families. These lands are proposed to be utilized for raising host tree plantations in isolated patches. The project would promote, from among the participants, a group of rearers who would be involved in seed stock multiplication in these isolated plantations under aseptic conditions. The seed stock would be processed to prepare Disease Free Layings (DFLs) or high quality Tasar silkworm seeds. Isolated plantations would thus be a unique feature of the project that would create capacities for large scale seed production in the next 4-5 years. Beyond the project period, this facility would serve at least double the number of families, who would be directly covered during the project period.

Besides enhancing the stake and involvement of the women in the income activities like Tasar sericulture, the project would work for strengthening their position at household. Although women play a central role in agriculture, yet low productivity of rain fed farming hardly supports the family to meet year-round food requirement. Food shortages affect mostly, women both physically as well as emotionally. As homemakers and rearers of small children, they bear the emotional trauma of coping with hungry children, and are most likely to receive less or go without food in times of shortages. The project proposes to support at least 50% of the participating families to overcome food shortage by ways of increasing their paddy production. This effort would be further supplemented by SHGs and CBOs, who will support their members to claim food grains from PDSs besides improving the wage days under MGNREGS.

### **1.1 Demographic profile of the area**

Maharashtra state is situated on the western part of the country is the third largest state and stands second in population (11.24 crore) with 9.3 per cent of the total population of the country. The state is surrounded by the Arabian Sea on the western part, and Gujarat on the North West, Madhya Pradesh to the North, Karnataka on the South and Chhattisgarh on the East, this state of India is 3,07,713 sq km in area. The state has a typical tropical monsoon climate, with three distinct seasons of hot, scorching summers, and cold, chilly winters. Monsoons cause heavy rainfall, usually on the Konkan area and mild drizzles on the rest of the state. One of the important physical features of the area is the natural vegetation that forms open scrub jungles, comprising almost 17-20% of the geographical area of the state. Evergreen deciduous forests exist due to the variations in the topological and climatic conditions. The soil is residual type, black in colour, clayey in nature, retains moisture and is also rich in iron, hence shallow and poor, not suitable for every type of crop.

The State is highly urbanized with 45.2 percent people residing in urban areas. The State has 35 districts which are divided into six revenue division's viz., Konkan, Pune, Nashik, Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur for administrative purposes. The State has a long tradition of having statutory bodies for planning at the district level. Mumbai, the capital of Maharashtra and the financial capital of India, houses the headquarters of most of the major corporate & financial institutions. The gross state domestic product (GSDP) at current prices for 2011-12 is estimated at 11, 99,548 crore and contributes about 14.4 per cent of the GDP. The GSDP has been growing at a rapid pace over the last few years. Presently industrial and services sector both together contribute about 87.1 per cent of the State's income. The agriculture & allied activities sector contributes 12.9 per cent to the State's income. The State has 226.1 lakh hectares of land under cultivation and area under forest is 52.1 lakh hectares. Numbers of irrigation projects are being implemented to improve irrigation. A watershed mission has been launched to ensure that soil and water conservation measures are implemented speedily in the non irrigated area. Animal husbandry is an important agriculture related activity. The State's share in livestock and poultry population in India is about 7 per cent and 10 per cent respectively. Maharashtra is the most industrialized State and has maintained leading position in the industrial sector in India. The State is pioneer in Small Scale industries. The State continues to attract industrial investments from both, domestic as well as foreign institutions

Gadchiroli and Gondia districts are among the poorest in the State of Maharashtra and extensive social mobilization base. The districts are categorized as a tribal and undeveloped district and most of the land is covered with forest and hills. These districts are famous for bamboo and Tendu leaves. The sex ratio in both the districts is positive i.e., just below 1000 and the involvement of women in agriculture and allied sector is of substantial level. The other two districts, Chandrapur and Yavatmal also included under back ward area with large numbers of tribals, Scheduled castes and other backward castes are living there.

The agriculture itself though is of primitive technology and labour intensive with very less mechanization and irrigation coverage. It demands a substantial investment in livelihood creation and focus on creation of successful extendable prototypes, particularly for the poor households, specially seeking involvement of Scheduled tribe, Scheduled caste and other backward communities and women. The mainstay of livelihood interventions would be around Tasar Sericulture, a forest based activity, traditionally undertaken by communities living in forest villages. The proposed project would exploit the benefits of recent advancements in the Tasar sector and technological up gradation to extend the livelihood opportunities to existing and newer clusters, covering families with no prior experience to facilitate adoption of improved technologies of Tasar sericulture and enabling them to access mainstream markets and sustain economic gains.

The women households in the proposed project area are yet to be equipped with knowledge about latest technology in the tasar sector various activities profitably. This leads to disempowerment of women participating in decision making process. The project under Mahila Kisan Shashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) has been formulated with this idea in mind. It seeks to cover 5790 beneficiaries in six blocks in Gadchiroli, two blocks in Gondia and one block each in Chandrapur and Yavatmal districts. It seeks to empower women with focus on enhancing the stake and involvement of the women in the income activities like tasar sericulture, the project



would work for strengthening their position at household. The demographic profile of the area is shown in the following Table.

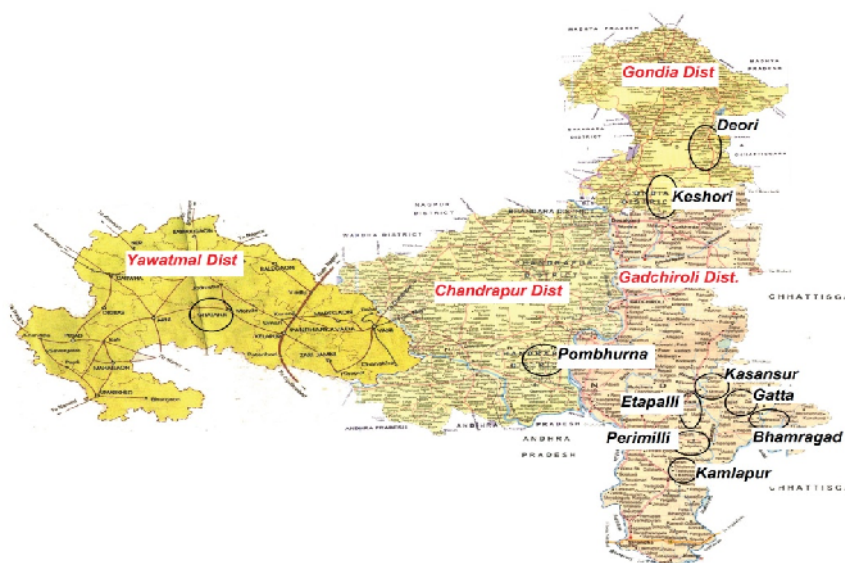
Demographic indicators	Maharashtra State	Project Districts			
		Gadchiroli	Gondia	Chandrapur	Yavatmal
Rural population (%)	54.78	89	87	64.82	82.81
Literacy (%)	82.34	72.42	76.61	80.01	57.96
Scheduled tribe (%)	09.35	54.45	16.20	17.67	18.54
Scheduled caste (%)	11.81	38.71	13.31	15.58	11.85
Sex ratio	929	982	996	961	951
Density of population	365	74	253	193	153

Source: census, 2011

### District-wise Map of Maharashtra



### Cluster-wise Map of Project Districts in Maharashtra



**Gadchiroli** is situated in the north-eastern part of the state. It is the second least populous district of Maharashtra after Sindhudurg and it is bordered by the states of Chattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh. The district is covered with hills and forests and is considered as a tribal area. It is well known for its Tendu leaves and bamboo. The main agriculture produce of the district is paddy. Other agricultural products include linseed, wheat, jowar and tur. The Armori taluk is the home for tasar sericulture activities. The district has a population density of 74 inhabitants per square kilometre and its population growth rate over the decade 2001-2011 was 10.46%. Gadchiroli has a sex ratio of 982 females for every 1000 males and a literacy rate of 72.42%. Scheduled tribe and scheduled caste population in the district is 54.45% and 38.71% respectively. Seven languages are spoken in the district namely, Gondi, Madiya, Marathi, Hindi, Telugu, Bengali, Chattisgadi. There is no large scale Industry in the district except the paper mill at Ashti in Chamorshi Taluka, and the paper pulp factory at Desaiganj. There are many rice mills in the district. In 2006, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj named Gadchiroli as one of the country's 250 most backward districts and it is one of the twelve districts in Maharashtra currently receiving funds from the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF).

**Gondia** is popularly known as Rice City, as it is a rice producing district and has about 250 rice mills near the vicinity of city. It is also a major trading place. The Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta Road is the only national highway passing through the district, which covers to a total distance of 99.37 km. Out of the total population, 87% is residing in rural area. The district has a population density of 253 inhabitants per square kilometre. Its population growth rate over the decade 2001-2011 was 10.13%. Gondia has a sex ratio of 996 females for every 1000 males, and a literacy rate of 76.61. Gondia experiences extreme variations in temperature with very hot summers and very cold winters and it has an average relative humidity of 62 percent. Also records average rainfall more than 1200 mm each year in rainy season.

**Chandrapur** is one of the largest districts in the state and is a renowned tourist spot as well as major trading hub. The district is located in the eastern edge of Maharashtra in Nagpur division and forms the eastern part of 'Vidharbha' region. It is located between 19.30' N and 20.45' N latitude and 78.46'E longitude. It is the eastern most district of the state of Maharashtra. The district is bounded by Nagpur, Bhandara and Wardha on the northern side, Yavatmal on the western side, Gadchiroli on the eastern side and Adilabad district of the Andhra Pradesh on the southern side. Chandrapur district occupies an area of 11,443 km<sup>2</sup> which constitutes 3.72 percent of the total area of the state. The climate of Chandrapur is mostly tropical. Summer months are mostly hot and humid while the winter season is moderate and pleasant. The average annual rainfall is about 1420 mm and the entire area of the district falls in the Godavari basin. Sex ratio of the district is 961 and population density is 193. The District of Chandrapur prides in owing the largest super thermal power plant which is the biggest in Asia. It also has vast reserves of coal and large reservoirs of limestone.

**Yavatmal** district lies in the South-Western part of the Wardha Penganga-Wainganga plain. The district lies between 19.26' and 20.42' north latitudes and 77.18' and 79.9' east longitudes. It is surrounded by Amravati and Wardha district to the north. Chandrapur district to the east, Andhra Pradesh State and Nanded district to the south and Parbhani and Akola district. The district has an area of 13582 sq. km (4.41% of

the state) and a population of 2077144 (2.63% of the State). The density of population is 153 persons per km<sup>2</sup>. This district literacy rate is low (57.96%) when compared with other selected districts and 82.81% of population lives in rural area. Yavatmal ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in terms of area and 19<sup>th</sup> in terms of population in the state. The district consists of masses of hilly country broken by broad valley and partially surrounded by plains. The central portion is a plateau with very steep sides and attains an elevation of between 300 and 600 meters above the mean sea level.

The selected areas of these four districts are marked with high tribal population and subsistence farming systems. Literacy levels have increased in the past decades but they do not imply into being employment worthy in non-farm sector. Apart from district head quarters towns, the entire area is rural, agriculture and allied activities being the mainstay of the people's life and livelihood.

## **1.2 Rural Poverty Context in the area**

**1.2.1 Poverty and Human Development:** Maharashtra is among the richest states in India in terms of per capita income, yet incidence of poverty in the state remains close to the national average. National data shows that poverty in Maharashtra is rising. Yet, strangely, Maharashtra has slashed the number of families below the poverty line by over two and a half lakhs in the recent years<sup>1</sup>. The state is grappling with farmers' suicides, which are the highest in the country; the malnutrition cases are on the rise across its tribal belt yet the reduction in the number of poor is startling. The lessons that Maharashtra state provides is that growth has to be more broad-based and inclusive, and that intervention should be designed to suit the local resource base of poorer regions for faster poverty reduction in the backward tribal area.

A recent economic survey indicate that the poverty ratio in the state is 30.7% and 3.2% more than the all-India (27.5%) figure, with the state ranking third amongst major states, after Uttar Pradesh and Bihar as regards the population below poverty line. The poverty and backwardness are more prevailed in the areas of selected districts for the project where tribal population is dominant. The profile of the life and livelihoods in four project districts is broadly summarized as under:

**Socio-cultural and Climatic:** The selected blocks of the project districts have mainly tribal dominated villages with heavy dependence on poorly productive agriculture and migration to cities for both agriculture and non-farm labour opportunities. Although women play a central role in agriculture the household economic activities, yet low productivity of rainfed farming hardly supports the family to meet year-round food requirement. Latest data indicated that women's are participating in the MGNREGA scheme than in other works in Maharashtra state (46%) and recorded 6<sup>th</sup> position in all India level. However, there is prevalence of male dominance within socio-political space.

Area experiences extreme variations in temperature with very hot summers and very cold winters and an average relative humidity of 62 percent and the area generally receive significant amount of rainfall (about 1200-1500 mm) which supports streams, a few of which carry water for round the year. There is large area of forest land (35%) and the pressure on forest resources has been increasing and

---

<sup>1</sup> *Srijit Mishra and Manoj Panda – Growth and poverty in Maharashtra, 2005*

as a result the forest resources have depleted significantly. However, they still contribute significantly to the livelihoods of the people at least in some parts of the project area.

The basic service system like transportation and communication facility and also the livelihoods supporting infrastructure have significantly improved in the recent years. Annual per capita income of these districts are low (Gondia - 53802, Yavatmal - 54497 and Gadchiroli - 43311) when compared with average value of the nation (61564). However, per capita income of Chandrapur district is well above the national average and below the state average (95339). Human Development Index (HDI) is a composite statistic index of life expectancy, education and income and it also recorded low for the districts of Yavatmal (0.22), Gadchiroli (0.21), Chandrapur (0.41) and Gondia (0.46) when compared with state average of Maharashtra (0.58).

The rural BPL percentage value also indicated that districts Gondia (57.90%) and Gadchiroli (55.00%) have higher population of BPL families when compared with entire Maharashtra (35.70%). Malnutrition is caused by complex mechanism traversing social, political and economic arenas. Food security feeding and health seeking practices, the status of women and availability of health care are only some of the factors that determine the nutritional status. Severe acute malnutrition for children and infant mortality rate were recorded higher for the project districts. Even average value school dropout (Class 1-V) is low for Maharashtra state, the drop out from fourth standard was recorded higher for Maharashtra (15.30%). Migration is a both old and new human practice, the scale, type and implications of migration vary greatly between individuals and societies. Intra and interstate migration was recorded higher for Maharashtra when compared with most of the states.

Description	Rural			Urban		
	Maharashtra	Gondia	Gadchiroli	Maharashtra	Gondia	Gadchiroli
Population (%)	54.78	82.92	89.00	45.22	17.08	11.00
Male population (%)	51.24	49.97	50.40	52.55	50.29	50.87
Female population (%)	48.76	49.03	49.60	47.45	49.71	49.13
Male literacy (%)	88.38	91.30	80.87	85.97	95.57	93.71
Female literacy (%)	69.87	75.94	64.05	67.03	87.36	84.16

Source: Maharashtra census, 2011

Particulars	Per Capita income*	HDI	Rural BPL%	Infant mortality rate
Maharashtra	95339	0.58	35.70	31
Gondia	53802	0.46	57.90	33
Gadchiroli	43311	0.21	55.00	28
Chandrapur	73328	0.41	47.50	44
Yavatmal	54497	0.22	45.50	44

Source HDC, Maharashtra, 2002; \*2012

Details of underweight children of (0-6 yrs) %(as per wt for age)		
State/District	Severely Underweight children	Severe acute malnutrition children
Maharashtra	17.31	1.30
Gondia	24.75	1.87
Gadchiroli	24.99	5.66
Chandrapur	05.99	2.90
Yavatmal	06.00	1.26

Source: VCDC & CTC, 2011



<b>Details of Intra and Interstate migration in different states (%)</b>						
India and Major states	Intra-state Male	Intra-state Female	Inter-state Male	Inter-state Female	Intra+Inter State Male	Intra+Inter State Female
Assam	5.75	6.22	1.25	0.93	7.01	7.15
Bihar/Jharkhand	4.14	6.83	0.42	0.70	4.56	7.53
Madyapradesh	5.09	6.95	1.26	1.56	6.35	8.51
Andraprashesh	6.11	6.59	0.39	0.34	6.5	6.93
Karnataka	5.38	6.16	1.36	1.16	6.74	7.32
Kerala	4.81	8.06	0.6	0.40	5.41	8.46
West Bengal	2.45	4.23	1.43	1.11	3.88	5.34
<b>Maharastra</b>	<b>5.83</b>	<b>7.18</b>	<b>4.77</b>	<b>2.92</b>	<b>10.60</b>	<b>10.09</b>
Himachal pradesh	13.37	14.48	8.09	4.65	21.46	19.13
Orissa	09.44	10.31	1.10	1.10	10.54	11.41

Source: Census, 2001

**Livelihood (Agriculture and Others):** Agriculture is a part of lifestyle than being considered as an economic activity which is based on subsistence cropping system with focus on food crops. Gadchiroli district is categorized as a tribal and undeveloped district with forest cover of more than 79.36% of the geographical area and with cultivable area about 16%. More than 70% of the soil is deep black soil in both the districts. Gondia district also a main tribal belt where forest area covers 36% and cultivable area 31%. Paddy is the main agricultural product of selected districts. Other agriculture products of the district are pigeon pea, sorghum, Linseed, and wheat. Mango, sapota and cashew nuts are the main horticultural crops and main vegetable crops are chilli, onion, tomato, brinjal and potatoes, which mostly meet household consumption requirement. Most of the marginal farmers practice mixed cropping to cover risk of rainfed agriculture especially in Gadchiroli district where cultivable land is very less. Thus, most of the households, having access to a variety of land resources, grow a range of crops. The Main profession of the people is agriculture and there is very low penetration of modern technologies in agriculture sector and very few farmers apply fertilizers. Livestock is of very short build and cattle and buffaloes are low yielding local varieties and graded and cross breeds cattle are very few. The poultry and fisheries share is also negligible especially in Gadchiroli district.

<b>Area under Major Agricultural crops and productivity</b>						
Crops	Gondia		Gadchiroli		Chandrapur	
	Area ('000ha)	Productivity (Kg/ha)	Area ('000 ha)	Productivity (Kg/ha)	Area ('000 ha)	Productivity (Kg/ha)
Paddy	205.3	1256	149.6	968.5	153.3	2540
Pigeon pea	5.1	826	6.2	642		
Soybean			5.8			
Maize			2.3	1757		
Sorghum			0.5			
<b>Rabi</b>						
Wheat	2.3	700	1.6	1085		
Gram	6.1	433	3.8	927	40.4	
Rabisorghm			9.5	483		
Linseed	10.7		3.9	215		
Cotton					42.4	662
Oil seeds					154.1	

Source: Agriculture Contingency plan for Districts, Maharashtra, 2011

## 1.2.2. Vulnerabilities

**1.2.2.1. Household level vulnerabilities:** Most rural tribal households constitute of husband-wife and their children. Mostly the aged does not stay with married sons and daughters; however, if weak and physically unfit to tend to their piece of land, they join their sons' family as a dependant. The farming households own some homestead land varying between 0.25 to 0.5 acres. The homestead, which is the most attended piece of land (fenced and with good manure application) is used to cultivate vegetables. Most of the Scheduled caste farmers are marginal farmers having about 0.5 to 1 ha of land. However ST farmers are medium or semi medium farmers have up to 10 acres of land. Traditionally, women have been a significant contributor in farming activities and there is a gender based division of labour. Women are extensively involved in grain and millet production, seed selection, seedling preparation, applying fertilizers and pesticides, weeding, transplanting, threshing, winnowing, harvesting apart from taking care of livestock. Activities like land leveling, sowing, fencing are common for both men and Women but ploughing is carried out exclusively by men. Activities like manure application, transplanting, weeding, hoeing, threshing, drying, carrying head loads of wood and water are done exclusively by women. Thus, the tasks carried out by the womenfolk are not only more in number but also involve more time and are tedious in nature. Their working time also spans for a longer duration of the agriculture cycle. This shows that there is a high volume of drudgery in farming work for women and that it also affects their physical health.

District wise percentage of distribution of land holdings of scheduled caste and tribe				
Percentage distribution of land holding by size (Area in Ha.)		Gondia	Gadchiroli	Maharashtra
Marginal – below 1	SC	40.20	43.40	43.80
	ST	07.50	05.00	06.20
Small -1-2	SC	30.30	31.00	29.70
	ST	19.40	16.90	19.20
Semi medium 2-4	SC	19.80	19.30	18.40
	ST	30.80	29.90	28.20
Medium -4-10	SC	09.00	06.00	07.40
	ST	33.20	34.90	34.30
Large and above 10	SC	08.00	00.04	00.80
	ST	09.00	12.40	12.10

*Source: Census, 2001*

### 1.2.2.2. District/ State level

There are two levels of vulnerabilities at the area/ community that affect the lives and livelihoods of the tribal population in these districts. One is related to direct area-level disasters such as drought, floods, LWEs, etc. and the other ones related to the state level in either the same areas or otherwise which affect the resources allocation and efforts at the field level.

Tribal livelihoods and local economy is highly dependent on rain fed agriculture and forest. The failure of monsoons has had a disastrous effect on the states' sizable agriculture sector and a large share of the population dependent on agriculture for livelihood. Field experiences show the vagaries in the climate have drastically affected their agriculture, which is the key for food insecurity among tribal households. Increasingly, the quantum of food available from agriculture is low due to climatic vagaries.

All the four project districts covered are declared as districts affected by 'Left Wing Extremism' (LWE). Presence of LWE affects the lives and livelihoods through various dimensions – communities' access to external world, the type of support that they could obtain, the level of threat in communities' mind affecting their lives and livelihoods, etc. Most of the villages/ pockets that are to be covered under the project are remote, with villages spread out and with limited/ no access to roads and bus services. Being located in forest terrains, the access is further affected during monsoon seasons. This limits the access to credit and markets to a large extent and also the opportunities that are available for the tribal for their livelihoods.

**Health vulnerabilities:** Nutritional status of women shows vulnerability of women in Maharashtra and this is seen from the fact that body mass of women is just above the national average. The all India status for women with low BMI (body mass index) is 35.6% while that of Maharashtra is 36.20%. Anaemia is widespread among women. Overall, 52 percent of women in India have some degree of anaemia and 40 percent or more of women in every population subgroup are anaemic. Anaemia is a serious concern for women because it can be an underlying cause of maternal and infant death. In Maharashtra rural population was reported more anaemic when compared with urban. Similarly, SC/STs are more anaemic than others. The maternal mortality rate (MMR) in India remains very high at over 500 per thousand live births. Further there appears to be no sign of decline in MMR with time. This remains a matter of serious concern. IMR is high in selected districts when compared with average figure of Maharashtra. Human development index (HDI) was the lowest for Gadchiroli. Gondia is in 21<sup>st</sup> and Chandrapur is in 26<sup>th</sup> rank. The Health Status Report of Maharashtra (2010) too has estimated severe under-nourishment in the State using Weight-For-Age and Weight-For-Height Criteria.

Indicators	Situation in Maharashtra	Tribal Situation
Infant mortality rate	35	110
Crude death rate	7.9	13
Maternal mortality rate	104	Not available
LBW babies	28%	40%
Family Size	3.8	4.2
Delivery by TBA	86%	12%

Source: S. L.Kate, 2000 Health Problems of Tribal Population Groups from the State of Maharashtra

Considering the fact that women population in selected districts just below or equal to male population and field data showing that engagement to agriculture by women is significant there is scope for giving them ample opportunity to learn and let others learn for better reproductive health system and family health through nutritional intake in family food consumption through more and varied production. Percentage of Infant mortality rate, crude death rate, low body weight babies are higher in tribal areas of when compared with entire Maharashtra.

India and Major states	MMR *(2007-09)	IMR (2006)*	Low BMI and Anaemia in Women (%) **	
			Women with below normal BMI	Anemia in married women
Assam	390	67	36.5	62.90
Bihar/Jharkhand	261	60	45.1	67.40
Madyapradesh	269	74	41.70	56.00
Andraprasesh	134	56	33.50	62.90
Karnataka	178	48	33.50	51.50
Kerala	81	15	18.00	32.80

India and Major states	MMR *(2007-09)	IMR (2006)*	Low BMI and Anaemia in Women (%) **	
			Women with below normal BMI	Anemia in married women
Punjab	172	44	18.90	38.00
West Bengal	145	38	39.10	63.20
Maharashtra	104	35	36.20	48.40
India (Total)	212	52	35.60	55.30

Source: \*Indiastat.com; \*\* NFHS-2 &NFHS-3

Sickle cell disorder is a hereditary blood disorder due to defective haemoglobin structure. Population genetic survey data from Health Dept. indicates that the prevalence of sickle cell disorder in the overall population of Maharashtra is less than 0.1% while it is very high (more than 35% ) amongst the tribal population groups (Otkar and Pardhan) from Nanded, Gadchiroli and Yavatmal districts of the State.

Most of the children are enrolled at the village level anganwadi and primary school. However, then onwards education becomes logistically difficult and expensive in terms of opportunity cost and other conditions and it is the girl child who is more often completing the course and become drop out. As per the Education Development Index (EDI), Maharashtra was ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in 2010, reflecting the poor and unequal provision of schooling services and infrastructure to children. The composite EDI was 0.66, which was lower than Tamil Nadu (0.744) and Kerala (0.772). In Maharashtra school dropout percentage after fourth standard has recorded as 15.30 % and it is more than double of National average 7.3%.

Similarly health services have not been able to reach in many parts of the selected districts and it is one of the biggest disturbing factors to the cash flow of the family. Though, wherever they are available, the PHC/APHC/CHC is thronged by people for basic ailments they are cheap and effective. The local quacks and traditional healers also have their relevance in such a scenario.

**Public distribution system:** In Gondia district a total of 988 fair price shops were running and out of this major share (847) were owned by private individuals, 70 and 60 were running by women self groups and co-operative societies respectively. Similarly in Gadchiroli district out of 686 fair price shops, 490 are owned by private individuals. In Gondia district 91938 and in Gadchiroli district 39361 numbers of BPL cards were distributed. However, in Chandrapur and Yavatmal districts more numbers of BPL card were distributed.

State/District	Yellow ration card		Saffron (APL)	Anna-purna	White	Total
	BPL	Antyodaya				
Maharashtra	4341138	2440870	14277157	78425	1843321	22980911
Gondia	91938	67755	75217	1524	6106	242540
Gadchiroli	39361	90742	67105	0	8993	206201
Chandrapur	107455	126112	169644	1347	31700	436258
Yavatmal	133165	134607	249573	4697	6429	528471

Source: Food and civil supplies and consumer protection Dept, Maharashtra, 2013

State/District	Individuals	SHGs (women)	SHGs (Men)	Gram panchayat	Co-operative societies	Total
Maharashtra	41202	2050	48	77	8219	51596
Gondia	847	70	02	01	68	988
Gadchiroli	490	141	05	0	50	686
Chandrapur	1742	31	03	0	128	1904
Yavatmal	1888	37	02	0	73	2000

Source: Food and civil supplies and consumer protection Dept, Maharashtra, .2011



**Natural calamities:** The backward areas of the two districts are covered with dense forests and plantations and this entire area is affected with leftwing extremism. Other natural calamities are less affected in this area and in Gondia district drought incidence were regularly reported. In Gadchiroli district, occasional incidence of drought, flood and heat wave were reported and 3 major floods occurred in the last 10 years, 9.89% population lives in flood prone area. In Chandrapur also a flood zone, 12 major floods happened in this area.

### 1.3. Context of Social Inclusion and Social Mobilization

In total, there are 47 scheduled tribal population groups in the State and majority of them are inhabitants of these geographically difficult terrain and they are largely unaffected by the developmental processes going on in the rest of the State. Therefore, these groups remain backward, particularly in health, education and socio-economic aspects. The cultivable area is interspersed with forests and rich green cover and the people have huge dependence on these resources. With the socio-economic conditions in the villages not being very promising, there is a high tendency of people moving closer to such causes.

**1.3.1 Self Help group movement:** Though the Indian Constitution guarantees that there shall be no discrimination on the grounds of gender, in reality, rural women have harder lives and are often discriminated against with regard to land and property rights and in access to medical facilities and rural finance. Women undertake the more onerous tasks involved in the day-to-day running of households, including the collection of fuelwood for cooking and the fetching of drinking water, and their nutritional status and literacy rates are lower than those of men. They also command lower wages as non-agricultural labourers.

Women's empowerment has long been a central feature of the partnership between the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Government of India, with focus on the capacity building of self-help groups, which are in need of support in accounting, financial management, and organisational development besides the gender focus in rural financial services. Following are the details of savings, loans disbursed and bank loan outstanding SHGs in different commercial banks, regional banks and cooperative banks.

		Commercial Banks (Rs)	Regional banks(Rs)	Co-op. Banks(Rs)
Savings	Maharashtra	7417	6361	10534
	All India	9784	7237	11695
Bank loan disbursed	Maharashtra	110785	85852	55747
	All India	145199	107746	70794
Bank loan outstanding	Maharashtra	49829	50457	29541
	All India	71646	57980	42228

The Table below indicates the position of linkage of self help groups with bank and In Maharashtra highest number of self help groups (410864) has savings in commercial banks with amount of Rs 367389. Sizeable number of SHG has account and saving in cooperative bank also. More than Ten thousand SHG were provided with loan by different banks.

State	Commercial Banks		Regional Rural Bank		Cooperative Bank		Total (Rs. In Lakh)	
	No. of SHGs	Saving Amount	No. of SHGs	Saving Amount	No. of SHGs	Saving Account	No. of SHGs	Saving Amount
Maharashtra	410864	29428.56	91762	703.82	368069	26695.64	770695	56828.02
India	4052915	367389.24	1820870	129937.49	1079465	122544.16	6953250	619870.89

Source : MAVIM 2011.

In Maharashtra there are efforts to widen the ambit of financial services through micro finance and micro insurance to the rural poor. However, certain areas that require immediate and focused attention are, there needs to be a greater emphasis on strengthening the bank branch network, expansion of SHGs and development of micro finance besides making SHGs functional. Further, only about 34 per cent of the women SHGs in the State have started economic activities and their inability to undertake group economic activities using micro finance need to be addressed.

### **1.3.2. Co-operatives for Tribal Development**

Maharashtra State Co-operative Tribal Development Corporation Limited was registered in 1972 as a General Society under Section 12(1) of Maharashtra State Cooperative Act as a Promotional Organisation. Its ownership vested in Govt. of Maharashtra in the Social Welfare department. Subsequently with the creation of the separate department of Tribal Development in the year 1983 the TDC came under the administrative control of the Tribal Development Department.

The scheme Door Step Delivery Scheme under Public Distribution System is being implemented in the tribal, remote and DPAP areas wherein the transportation of the commodities is carried out from government godowns up to door step of fair price shops by the government vehicles and at the government cost. In tribal areas, this scheme is being implemented through the Maharashtra State Co-operative Tribal Development Corporation Limited, while in DPAP areas it is implemented through Maharashtra State Co-operative Marketing Federation Limited.

### **1.3.3. Tribal Traditional Structure**

It is important to mention that the tribal culture as such is characterized by very high sense of community and togetherness. There are many traditional social structures of governance, problem solving platforms, support and communication systems. While there have been some erosion of these social structures over a period of time, these still exist and operational in some areas. These will play an important role while we address the issue of livelihoods and social mobilisation. These need to be recognised and also their strengths could be leveraged for effective implementation and achievement of development initiatives.

Overall, social inclusion and mobilisation is a critical area to address poverty reduction. The state and particularly project area offer many opportunities, with BAIF anchored women SHG movement being a great leverage platform. While the social mobilisation movement is implemented at a scale in the state, there is also recognition that the level of performances is varied; and particularly the extent and quality of institutions at the grass-root level. Many opportunities exist to link up with these movements while addressing the livelihood promotion of tribal population. There is also a need to recognize the importance of traditional structures among tribal communities, and possibly find ways to build on them too.

## **1.4. Context of Financial inclusion**

In most tribal areas, absence of banks and other financial institutions have made the poor dependent on the informal sources of credit delivery. These traders and money

lenders, no doubt, do provide an important service to the poor but their conditions are so strangling that poor end up becoming poorer and rarely do come out these traps as a significant economic production systems is influenced and controlled by these agents. The widespread practiced subsistence agriculture has limited scope to create surplus and generate savings. Thus, as soon as the first misfortune a family meets; there is no other way than go to the money lender, thus beginning the vicious debt cycle. The banks have poor reach out due to low bank branch density (also because of low population density) and even provide poorer access to rural poor as they find it easy to entertain few customers with big pockets than mass of poor customers with a little surplus and savings and credit worthiness. The KCCs could not pick up as many families did not have land title and those who had never came back to the PACs as there was no intention/incentive of repaying the first loan.

#### **1.4.1. Insurance and pension scheme**

**Health insurance for poor:** Rajiv Gandhi Jeevodaya Arogya Yojna (RGJAY) was launched in Maharashtra and scheme, offering an exclusive health insurance scheme for the poor. The project endeavors to cover people below poverty line and the ones with annual family income upto Rs. 100,000 by providing free and quality critical medical care in government as well as private hospitals. RGJAY project was launched by state government in July 2012 in 8 state's 35 districts which benefited around 5 million families. Under this scheme, a premium of Rs. 333 is paid by government against a cover of Rs. 150,000 for each family. Also, treatment is provided against 972 surgeries, procedures, therapies and 121 follow-up processes. Out of 12 crore state's population, this project intends to cover around two crore people which is sure to increase later.

**Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension (IGNOAPS):** The Government of Maharashtra has started this scheme with effect from 1-11-07, This Pension scheme is now granted to all Senior Citizens of 65 & above belonging to a house hold below the poverty line and not limited to destitute only. The contribution of Central Government is Rs 200 per beneficiary p.m. and minimum Rs 200 from the State. Pension is to be credited, where feasible, in to a Post Office or Public Sector Bank account of the beneficiary for 3 months with permission to withdraw every month only one month's pension. The amount of this Pension is notified as Rs 500 p.m. (State Contribution Rs 300). The claimant has to be in the list of families under BPL, has to produce proof of age and certificate of residing in Maharashtra for 15 years.

**Crop insurance:** National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is being implemented in the notified areas for notified crops in Maharashtra since 1999. NAIS has been reviewed to make it more farmer friendly and accordingly the same scheme has been modified as new scheme (MNAIS) and scheme aim at sustainable production in agriculture sector there by ensuring food security, crop diversification and enhancing growth and competitiveness in Agriculture sector besides protecting farmers from production risk. Coverage of farmers under crop insurance scheme in Maharashtra during 2011-12 is given below.

Coverage of Farmers under Crop Insurance Schemes (NAIS+WBCIS+MNAIS) in Maharashtra (2011-2012)						
(Rs. in Lakh)						
State	Farmers Insured (No.)	Area Insured (Hect.)	Sum Insured	Premium Collected	Claims Paid/ Payable	Farmers Benefited (No.)
Maharashtra	30977750	27067322	1949873	88898	198696	8927349
India	218533091	326795663	30163488	1168285	2704719	63178510

**Abbr.:** NAIS : Crops Notified Under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, MNAIS : Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, WBCIS : Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme.

**Source:** Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1557, dated on 07.12.2012.

#### 1.4.2. Challenges of financial inclusion:

Financial inclusion is important for improving the living conditions of poor farmers, rural non-farm enterprises and other vulnerable groups. Financial exclusion, in terms of lack of access to credit from formal institutions, is high for small and marginal farmers and some social groups. Apart from formal banking institutions, which should look at inclusion both as a business opportunity and social responsibility, the role of the self-help group movement and microfinance institutions is important to improve financial inclusion. This requires new regulatory procedures and depoliticisation of the financial system. According to latest RBI report the financial inclusion index is high for Maharashtra. However, the financial inclusion and access to bank credit is still not improved in rural areas particularly tribal belt.

In the last two decades, the major institutional innovation in India for expanding financial system access and usage for the poor and marginalized sections of the population has been the SHG-Bank Linkage Programme (SBLP). This was an outcome of pilot projects during the 1980s for improving access of rural poor to formal institutional financial services. For the banks, it was a way of reducing their transaction costs by dealing with groups of people rather than individuals, reducing the credit risks through peer pressure and making people save. Subsequently in the year 1992, the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) started a pilot project of linking SHGs with branches of banks across the country. The project provided a cost-effective SBLP model for providing financial services to the underserved poor. Being a 'savings-first, credit later' model, credit discipline became a norm for SHGs and 'social collateral' made them bankable. The model was also successful in providing solution to the twin problems faced by banks, i.e., low recovery of loans in rural areas and high transaction costs in dealing with small borrowers at frequent intervals. One of the major positive impacts of the SBLP was social and economic empowerment of the membership. The following table illustrates the SHG bank linkage in India.

Particulars	2009-10	2010-11
Total number of SHGs savings linked with banks	6.95	7.46
Total savings amount of SHGs with banks (Rs)	61.98 billion	70.16 billion
Total number of SHG credit linked during the year	1.58	1.19
Total amount of loans disbursed to SHGs during the year (Rs)	144.53 billion	145.47 billion
Total number of SHGs having loans outstanding	4.85	4.78
Total amount of loans outstanding against SHGs (Rs)	280.38 billion	312.21 billion
Estimated number of families covered	97.00	97.00

Source: Status of Micro Finance in India, NABARD. Numbers in million

**1.4.3. Challenges and Opportunities to Poverty Reduction:** In the Maharashtra state the selected district for the project have rich flora of forest with abundance presence of host trees of Tasar culture. The area has sizeable percentage of scheduled tribe population (42% for Gadchiroli and 18% for Gondia district in rural area). The area has 57% and 53% workers population in rural areas respectively for these two districts Gadchiroli and Gondia. However, even in rural areas main cultivator population is 18% and 12% for the selected districts. In both districts 13% of agriculture labours population also recorded. It is interesting to note that non working population in rural and urban areas are high and different schemes are to be introduced to bring out these people to find out their livelihood. The main obstacles to Economic Development of Schedule Tribes are destruction of forests, illiteracy, indebtedness, lack of awareness about the schemes for them, strict follow of traditions and customs, in effective implementation of schemes etc. The four project districts comes under category 12 districts in Maharashtra and 250 districts in national wide receiving special assistance from Central Government.

(Rs. in Crore)			
State	No. of BRGF Districts	Annual Entitlement	Funds Released (As on 31.07.2012)
Maharashtra	12	292.56	27.69
<b>India</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>*5049.98</b>	<b>420.26</b>

Source : Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1348, dated on 17.08.2012.

State/District	Level	Scheduled Castes population Person	Scheduled Tribes population Person	Worker Population Person	Main Working Population Person	Main Cultivator Population Person	Main Agricultural Labourers Population Person	Non Working Population Person
Maharashtra	Total	11.81	9.35	43.99	38.94	10.21	9.85	56.01
	Rural	12.18	14.63	49.79	43.07	18.15	16.98	50.21
	Urban	11.38	2.96	36.95	33.95	0.61	1.22	63.05
Gondia	Total	13.31	16.20	50.31	32.81	10.37	11.14	49.69
	Rural	12.35	18.41	53.28	33.53	12.30	13.09	46.72
	Urban	17.96	5.46	35.92	29.32	1.02	1.71	64.08
Gadchiroli	Total	11.25	38.71	54.45	36.62	16.61	12.13	45.55
	Rural	10.67	41.71	56.56	37.54	18.50	13.21	43.44
	Urban	15.98	14.44	37.39	29.18	1.30	3.33	62.61
Chandrapur	Total	15.80	17.67	48.00	36.49	8.74	13.75	52.00
	Rural	13.13	22.66	55.81	40.67	13.16	20.39	44.19
	Urban	20.73	8.47	33.63	28.79	0.59	1.51	66.37
Yavatmal	Total	11.85	18.54	48.91	43.11	11.21	22.84	51.09
	Rural	11.49	21.79	53.05	46.53	13.93	27.93	46.95
	Urban	13.16	6.74	33.88	30.69	1.34	4.32	66.12

Source: Census, 2011

## 1.5 Livelihood Context

The selected project area is surrounded by dense forest and thus many adjoining villages, basically constituting tribal families, from the main stream. Agriculture is the main livelihood source with significant contribution coming from wage labour and forests (in all the project blocks). Migration is an accepted fact of life in want of better options within the village. MGNREGS has had negligible impact on migration but it certainly has pushed the prevailing wage rates upwards.

As the traditional livelihood base from forests is declining, there has been an increasing shift by tribal communities towards agriculture and allied activities.

Moreover, the pressure on the cultivable land has also increased in recent years and is making demands on the carrying capacity of the land leading to migration in search of alternate employment opportunities. Agriculture, marked with lowest levels of productivity, is the mainstay of the communities. For a significant number of the small and marginal farmers, income from the crop productivity from both the seasons taken together would approximate to a little over Rs. 10000 per annum from their land holding.

#### **1.5.1. Non Farm / Non Timber**

Rural life is closely related to the forest, traditional rural people have been fulfilling their basic daily product from needs from forest. Farmers are main contributors to add the national income and their livelihood support depends on agriculture and livestock. Apart from this rural people especially tribals are interlinked with their daily needful with forest NTFPs are defined as “all biological materials, other than timber, which are extracted from forests for human use.” These include rattan and other materials for craft making, forest fruits, resins, gums, medicinal plants and honey. Working with communities towards an optimal use and management of NTFP resources, not only supports basic livelihoods, but also can provide a strong incentive for involvement in forest conservation. Our shared goal is to empower forest-based communities to make use of and manage forest resources in a sustainable manner.

**1.5.1.1. Issues in NTFP:** In India, out of the total land area of 329 million ha, only 77 million ha are classified as forests. This represents only 22% of the total geographic area as against the recommended forest coverage of 33%. However, the actual green cover is confined to only 12% of the geographic area. Due to such reduction in the forest cover, there has been severe scarcity of fodder, fuel wood and water and destruction of flora and fauna. A large number of plant species are under severe threat, facing extinction. With drastic reduction in the income from minor forest produce, unemployed local people are indulging in illicit felling of trees to sustain their livelihood. Therefore, promotion of NTFP species, through productivity improvement and value addition is necessary to reverse this trend and to sustain the livelihood of the rural families, who have been dependent on NTFP since ages.

Insufficient access to and knowledge of technology to add value to the NTFPs limits the return they are able to get from NTFPs. Market access is difficult as many of the tribal villages are quite remote and often have only footpaths to link themselves with outside world. Present marketing mechanisms for NTFPs are also insufficient, inefficient and exploitative in nature. The increasingly restricted access and degradation has reduces the ability of the forests in enduring food and livelihood security through supply of forest produce for direct consumption and income by sale of NTFPs. This has made landless and marginal tribal farmers more vulnerable to shocks.

Among the above categories of NTFP, collection of food, fuel wood, fodder and other types of biomass are crucial, as these are the basic needs for survival of the local communities. The tribal communities living on the edge of the forests have developed a unique system to make sustainable use of food and biomass for their survival. In the absence of assured supply of these NTFP, particularly food



products, tribal migrate to urban and semi-urban areas to meet their basic needs. In spite of such a critical demand for these products, no serious efforts are being made to enhance the productivity of these NTFP and ease the supply of these commodities for local communities. Furthermore, in spite of severe shortage of NTFP, most of the local communities are reluctant to procure commodities such as fuel wood, charcoal and forage from alternate sources, due to poor buying power and chronic poverty.

### 1.5.1.2 Opportunities for NTFP

The important NTFP collected by the tribals in Maharashtra, are products like *Terminalia bellerica*, *Terminalia chebula* and *Emblica officinalis* are available in plenty and they have good demand in the local market. Nevertheless, the tribals are finding it very difficult to collect the available NTFP due to poor price realisation and hurdles faced by them due to adverse Government policies. Furthermore, the collection of these products alone will not be able to provide them sustainable livelihood. Realising the above problems, BAIF has initiated the promotion of NTFP in selected locations in Maharashtra (Thane, Nandurbar and Nashik districts). These districts located in the Western Ghat hill ranges are dominated by different types of tribals. As in other parts of the country, these tribals who were mainly dependent on NTFP for their livelihood have also been deprived of their income due to denuding forest resources and poor price realisation for NTFP. In the absence of alternative sources of livelihood, BAIF has promoted the establishment of agri-horti-forestry on the degraded lands owned by these tribals, while arranging the collection of locally available NTFP as a supplementary activity.

Tasar silk development programme is implemented in four districts of Vidharbha viz. Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, Bhandara and Gondia. Area under plantation of ain trees is 18,866 ha in these four districts. Production of raw Tasar silk was 12.36 MT. Collective for integrated Livelihood Initiative (CINI) context is to identify key regional NTFP and promote it as profitable and visible option for income generation, enhance tribal lively hood and conservation of forest resources. The organization identified a gap in NTFP collection for livelihood for tribal people in their recent studies (Annual report, 2009-10 CINI) the gap was identified in producers or collectors level, at the intervention level (NGO) and at sectoral level.

A study was conducted by Nagpur University<sup>2</sup> in the tribal area of Goregaon cluster of Gondia district of Maharashtra. The results pointed out that Livelihood system in this districts are complex, primarily dependent on agriculture including allied activities of livestock, poultry etc. The study suggested alternate sources of income to the villagers to improve their socio economic conditions as well as increasing the income level and employment opportunities by effective collection and marketing of NTFP. The study also indicated that the forest produces are being used by aboriginals for their day-day needs and many of them are income generating sources. It was noticed that the consumption of these produces are there and parallel used for making many items like baskets, plates making, boom making ,medicinal purpose, beedi making etc. Total 24 NTFP's has been identified in this region. The study was realized effective marketing of NTFP's should recognize as a major strategy for the sustainable management and utilization of forest resource. A

---

<sup>2</sup> Mahesh Maske et al, 2011 – Impact of non timber produces (NTFP's) on rural tribes economy in Gondia district of Maharashtra, India Archives of Applied Science Research, 20013:109-114

holistic approach for domestication and commercialization of NTFP's should also involve the local the local community at grassroots level. Abundance of the species in the forest and their potential in the market offer better opportunity for the development of the NTFP's in the district. The study also pointed out that local tribal are dependent on non timber produces for their daily need and income after agriculture and on an average income of Rs 10361/households and Rs 9371/ households were got from agriculture and NTFP's respectively.

**1.5.2 Agriculture and Allied Activities:** India consisting of 16% of world's population sustains only on 2.4% of land resource Agriculture has progressed a long way in India from an era of frequent droughts and vulnerability to food shortages, to become a significant exporter of a diversified basket of agricultural commodities. Maharashtra accounts for nearly 9% of the total agricultural income of the country. The state has major area under jowar. Forty three per cent of the total area under jowar is in Maharashtra. The productivity of some of the food crops like wheat, paddy and cash crops such as cotton has however remained low. The net sown area of 18 million ha is distributed among nearly 10 million farm holdings. The state government have invested substantial amount in agriculture infrastructure like irrigation, fertiliser industry. However, only 16% of the land is under irrigation. As much as 76% of the irrigation water is used for sugarcane grown on 3 % of the cultivated area. The water resources are scarce, therefore improved methods of water management is imperative. In the last 10 to 12 years, drip irrigation has become most popular, particularly in crops like grapes, pomegranate, banana, sugarcane, cotton etc. The increased water use efficiency helps conserve scarce resources including capital investment for additional water storages as well as brings additional area under irrigation at much lesser cost. Sixty percent of the area under drip in the country is located in Maharashtra.

Agriculture sector is the only livelihood to the two-third of its population which gives employment to the 57% of work force. In Vidarbha, region comprising selected district like Gadchiroli and Gondia, basically the major crops grown are Cotton, Soybean, Jowar, paddy and Pulses. People rely on rainfed farming since irrigated farming is insignificant and is seen only in very few pockets where major rivers provide water for the whole year. The farmers are facing the problem of low productivity of farm produce due to rising cost of cultivation, relative absence of irrigation facilities, repeated crop failures, fluctuations in market prices and dependence on rainfall for farming. Consequent to all factors, livelihood status is quite pitiable in Vidarbha.

In this context, the National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) is a major initiative of Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi with the mission of establishing a system and action-based research consortium for improvement of livelihood in 150 backward districts of country of which 11 districts are in Maharashtra. Under NAIP Component III, BAIF Development Research Foundation, Pune has been working as a Consortium Leader to implement the Sustainable Rural Livelihood Security Project (SRLS) in five backward districts of Maharashtra<sup>3</sup> viz., Yavatmal, Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, Ahmednagar and Nandurbar. The overall objective of this project was to develop a replicable and holistic approach for promoting sustainable livelihood in tribal and remote regions of Maharashtra through

---

<sup>3</sup> *Kakade B. K. Exploring Livelihood Avenues in Distressed Vidarbha, India*

integration and blend of tested technologies and strategies of household-focused and area-based programmes. The study results concluded in the following heads

- Baseline study and problem analysis revealed the need to work for development of multiple options of livelihood as extreme reliance on agriculture has worsened the situation in Vidarbha.
- Interventions covering agriculture, water resource development, livestock development and forest based livelihood options are introduced.
- Along with livelihood interventions at household level, few enterprises such as Urea-DAP Briquetting machines, shade net, seed production have been also introduced to cater local needs and sustain people's institutions formed under the project.
- Adoption of integrated approach for enhancement of livelihood resources has yielded very good initial results.

Paddy is the main agricultural product of the district Gondia and Gadchiroli. Other agriculture products of the district are pigeon pea, sorghum, Linseed, and wheat. Mango, sapota and cashew nuts are the main horticultural crops and main vegetable crops are chilli, onion, tomato, brinjal and potatoes and it is mainly using for household consumption requirement. Most of the marginal farmers practice mixed cropping to cover for the various risks involved as most of the cultivation are rain-fed especially in Gadchiroli district where cultivable land is very less.

**Irrigation:** The State Government has undertaken various major, medium and minor irrigation projects to create maximum irrigation potential. There is a gap between the potential created and actual irrigated area. By the end of June, 2011, the total irrigation potential created was 48.25 lakh ha, of which, 26.71 lakh ha was from major irrigation projects, 8.55 lakh ha was from medium irrigation projects and remaining 12.99 lakh ha was from minor irrigation projects (State sector). The State has initiated few reforms in irrigation sector, which include declaration of water policy, establishment of Water Resources Regulatory Authority, Management of Irrigation System by Farmers and Water Users Associations (WUA). About 4,553 WUA covering command area of 21.20 lakh ha are under various stages of formation.

**1.5.2.1 Marketing:** In India, the organized marketing of agricultural commodities has been promoted through a net work of regulated markets. The advent of regulated markets has helped in mitigating the market handicaps of producers/sellers at wholesale assembling level. But the rural periodic market in general and the tribal markets in particular, remained out of its developmental ambit.

**Minimum Support Price Scheme:** Under this scheme, procurement in the State is undertaken by the Maharashtra State Co-operative Marketing Federation, Maharashtra State Co-operative Tribal Development Corporation, National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation and Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Growers Federation.

**1.5.3 Live stock:** Over 70% of the rural households in India depend on livestock farming for supplementary income. The sector is highly gender sensitive and over 90% of activities related to care and management of livestock are carried out by family's women folk.

### 1.5.3.1 Trends in Live-stock population

In Maharashtra, livestock population is declining in the present census. In the state indigenous cattle population is declining and the crossbreed female cattle are increasing. Buffalo are increasing in the state but they are increasing in the urban area. The sheep and goats proportion in total livestock have not changed in Maharashtra. Livestock provides income, employment and security to farmers. Decline in livestock population means their livelihood is under threat. Such threats are increasing even though there is demand for the livestock products. The role of livestock in income and employment generation should not be underestimated<sup>4</sup>.

In the selected district Gondia and Gadchiroli livestock population is very less and most of the cattle is low yielding indigenous variety and high yielding cross breed cattle and buffaloes are less in number. The milk production and poultry also in less advanced stage. Fresh water fisheries little progress in Gondia district when compared to Gadchiroli. However, from the field survey and experiences from the field show that the use of livestock either for consumption or for income from products is very limited. Tribal traditionally don't consume milk and are not used to maintaining cow or buffaloes for milk. The use of bullocks as draught animals are practiced, but to a very limited extent. People own poultry, in very small flock sizes, mainly as a coping strategy to manage any shocks (by selling these). Overall, livestock's a livelihood option for tribal household is extremely limited.

Live stock (In '000)	Gondia	Gadchiroli	Chandrapur
Non descriptive cattle (low yielding)	369	633	571
Cross breed cattle	17	6.3	27.4
Non descriptive buffaloes (low yielding)	130	108	151
Graded buffaloes	4.4	1.2	1.2
Goat	157	208.8	88
Sheep	-	62.2	35
Poultry (Commercial) Tot no. of birds	30	14.8	131.2
Backyard	130.7	325.8	305.4
Fisheries (fresh water) Prod (tons)	15766	3685	7354

Source: Agriculture Contingency plan for Districts, Maharashtra, 2010

Group of Districts	Estimated No. of Animals (In Lakh)			
	In-Milk		Milch	
Maharashtra	18.94	20.12	42.88	31.47
Wardha, Nagpur, Bhandara	1.55	0.98	4.58	1.77
Gadchiroli, Chandrapur	0.88	0.40	3.41	0.76

Source : Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Govt. of India.

## 1.6 Performance of NREGA in the State

MGRNREGA act was implemented initially in twelve districts of Maharashtra including Gondia, Gadchiroli, Yavatmal and Chandrapur. With a national participation rate of 47%<sup>5</sup>, evidence suggests that women are participating in the scheme more actively than in other works. Data also indicates that NREGA is an important work opportunity for women who would otherwise remained unemployed or underemployed. However significant interstate variation in participation of women in this scheme was reported and Kerala had the highest participation of women (93%) and Uttarpradesh and J&K recorded lowest participation and Maharashtra ranked in sixth position (46%).

<sup>4</sup> LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT IN MAHARASHTRA, 2011 p 103

<sup>5</sup> MGNREGA sameeksha

While assessing the problem in implantation stage, In Maharashtra<sup>6</sup>, the wages offered under NREGA are low in several districts of the state, which could be due to improper methods of measurement of productivity. The other problems relating to wages encompass lack of information on the part of workers about wage rates for different kinds of work in different types of terrain, lack of their bargaining power, fudging of muster rolls leading to low wage payment, difficulty in understanding the mode of payment-mix of cash and kind as prescribed in Maharashtra, etc. Ever since the Government of India launched its flagship welfare scheme the NREGA, there's been a lot of bickering about whether such interventions are necessary to reduce poverty and whether growth, by itself, will lift people from poverty to well-being<sup>7</sup>.

Status of NREGA activities in four districts										
District	Cumulative No. of HH issued jobcards				No. of HH working under NREGA	Cumulative Person days generated				
	SCs	STs	Others	Total		SCs	STs	Others	Total	Women
Gadchiroli	21671	62253	84832	168756	26303	288497	1052834	1205809	2547140	1172695
Gondia	15895	21419	175124	212438	7940	282817	505716	2195634	1857090	1066270
Chandrapur	20256	32118	193282	245656	5967	175791	638035	2129343	2943169	1183312
Yavatmal	34630	64783	240690	340103	9330	224390	410522	2436181	3071093	1576985

Source: MGNREGA

NREGA programme was implemented in the selected district and in Gadchiroli 168756 job card was issued out of this 62253 house holders are belonging STs and 21671 were SCs while in Gondia district a total 212438 job card was issued (21419 for STs and 15895 for SCs house holders during 2012-13). In Gadchiroli (2547140 nos) and in Gondia (1857090 nos) person days were generated under NREGA out of this 1052834 man days belonging STs from Gadchiroli and 505716 mandays belonging to SCs from Gondia district. Another feature is that 1172695 and 1066270 women man days were generated from Gadchiroli and Gondia districts respectively under this scheme.

### 1.7 Existing Livelihood Initiatives and Social Sector Initiatives in the Selected Area (by State Government, NGOs, Externally Aided Projects)

**Wadi programme under BAIF:** The agri-horti forestry development, Wadi programme, spread over the tribal clusters of 9 states including Maharashtra and enabled 1.84 lakhs of deprived families come out of poverty, contributing Rs 100 crores to GDP, while mitigating global warming and environmental sustainability. Apart from cultivation of drought tolerant fruit crops, new initiatives started for diversification of farm income and supply chain development for non timber produce such as lac, tasar, honey, fisheries, gum, wild fruits and vegetables. Value chain development for fruit and vegetable crop has been ensured through formation of the tribal producer company VAPCOL, formed by members of various tribal cooperatives promoted by BAIF. VAPCOL is also establishing effective forward and backward linkages between tribal cooperatives and small farmers Agribusiness consortium for better marketing opportunities through a forum of more than 40 members. This

<sup>6</sup> Deepak, Shah , Implementation of NREGA in Maharashtra: experiences, challenges and ways forward <http://mpr.aub.uni-muenchen.de/id/eprint/39270>

<sup>7</sup> Economic times ,March 21,2012

programme is under progress in selected districts and in Maharashtra 68 villages and 1812 families were covered under this programme during 2012-13

**Water shed Development under BAIF:** Water shed development spread over 192 villages covering 26393 families, has made a significant impact on crop productivity enhancement, employment generation and assurance of safe drinking water all round the year. The programme based on landscape approach in selected clusters in 6 states. Emphasis has been given to capacity strengthening of village watershed committees and other people's organization to ensure post project maintenance and sustainability. The programme demonstrated the potential of ensuring sustainable livelihood and environmental security while empowering weaker sections of the community.

**Cluster Based Approach for Sustainable Livelihood under BAIF:** Sustainable livelihood through transfer of appropriate technologies for holistic development in backward regions was promoted in 74 villages in 10 clusters of 5 backward districts of Maharashtra including selected clusters in 3 districts of Vidarbha through the Sustainable Rural Livelihood Security in Backward Districts of Maharashtra under the National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP), sponsored by ICAR. BAIF as a consortium leader introduced various interventions with focus on value chain development, which enabled 13,000 small farmers to enhance their income, ensuring food security and better quality of life.

The integrated farm development model comprising of improved agriculture and water resource development practices, increased the cropping intensity by 49%. 1122 ha were brought under improved crop varieties and 828 ha under irrigation, resulting in rise in net income by Rs.27,500 per ha, benefitting 5546 families. Linseed growers have been motivated to cultivate improved varieties, processing for Omega-3 oil for a nutraceutical, useful for treating many diseases.

Livestock breed improvement resulted in production of high yielding cattle and buffaloes at the doorsteps of the small farmers while installation of bulk milk coolers resulted in the processing of nearly 4,000 liters of milk per day, benefitting 500 milk producers in the project area. Value chain on tassar silk has led to production of disease free layings and superior quality cocoons, generating employment of 90 to 120 days per annum. 162 families in Etapalli block of Gadchiroli earned supplementary income of Rs. 8000 per annum from this activity. A Sustainability Fund has been created from people's contribution, to maintain the facilities. This model has shown potential for wider replication in the state.

**National Food Security Mission:** National Development Council launched the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to increase production of rice, wheat and pulses through area expansion and productivity enhancement in a sustainable manner. Under this mission, six districts (Nashik, Pune, Bhandara, Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, and Gondia) for rice, eight districts (Nashik, Pune, Dhule, Ahmadnagar, Solapur, Parbhani, Aurangabad and Nagpur) for wheat and 33 districts for pulses have been selected from the State.

## **1.8 PIA's prior experience in developing the prototype for proposed interventions**



BAIF (Bhartiya Agro Industries Foundation) Development Research Foundation was established in 1967. It is a non-political, non-govt, secular and professionally managed organization. BAIF mission is to create opportunities of gainful self employment for the rural families, especially disadvantaged sections, ensuring sustainable livelihood, enriched environment, improved quality of life and good human values. This is being achieved through development research, effective use of local resources, extension of appropriate technologies and up gradation of skills and capabilities with community participation.

Presently BAIF programme have been reached 4.4 million families spread over 70,000 villages in 16 states with 3500 Livestock development centers, enabling them to engage in sustainable livelihood activities, contributing Rs. 2800 crores (USD520million) to the national GDP. For efficient implementation of these programmes, BAIF have promoted over 10,000 strong People's Organizations mainly self help groups, user groups and their federation, of which 80% are represented by women. While Dairy Husbandry and watershed development and Sericulture programmes are being expanded in many areas. For ensuring food and nutritional security, the agri-horti-forestry (WADI) programme has enabled thousands of tribal families to demonstrate a unique approach of poverty alleviation, while reducing the ill effects of global warming. All these programmes have been made significant contribution to the millennium development goals.

<b>Basic PIA Information</b>
------------------------------

1	Name of PIA	BAIF Development Research Foundation Central Research Station, Urulikanchan.
2	Legal Status (NGO / Network NGO / CBO / Producer Co./ Section-25 Co. / Pvt. Co/ Other – Please specify)	Public Trust
3	If Network NGO, number of partners being supported?	N.A.
4	Registration No.& Date of Registration  Trust Registration no.	E-376,Pune  Dt.16.10.1967
5	Name of Donors in the past 3 years, if any (give max3)	1. DBT - Department of Biotechnology 2. NAIP- National Agriculture Innovation Project 3. CDP - Catalytic Development Project
6	Name with Size (Budget in INR) of relevant projects handled in the past 3 years (give max 3)	NAIP-Component-3- SMLS -Rs. 4,25,00,000/-
7	Annual Revenue of PIA for the most recent audited financial year	Rs. 19,46,43,203 /-(Financial Year 2010-2011)
8	List ongoing projects (max 3.) and their Size (INR) in the <b>proposed area</b>	NAIP-Component-3- SMLS Rs. 2,00,00,000/- extension received

		CDP- Catalytic Development Project Rs.23,89,000/-
9	Completion of last project (MM/YY)	NAIP-Component-3- SRLS ( March,2012)
10	Total value of assets available with the PIA in the <b>proposed area</b> ?	INR RS 46,35,520/-  Community Hall, Training equipments, Furniture's, Spinning and Reeling Machine, Tanks and ponds, Pruning machines etc.
11	Experience of working within the proposed area  (i) Women SHGs/Groups (Y/N) (ii) NTFP based livelihoods with existing tribal groups (Y/N)	(i) Yes <i>If YES, please elaborate in section B.1</i>  Elaborated in Section B.1  (ii)Yes
12	In the proposed project, what % of the implementation will be undertaken by existing capacities and what % will be leveraged from external community based organizations in the project area?	<i>Existing - 80 %</i>  <i>External – 20 %</i>

### 1.9 Human Resource for project implementation:

The project staffs, specifically the BAIF Project and programme officers would be the main trainers, they would be involved in community mobilisation, facilitate the women members to plan for their livelihood and implement the plan accordingly. Resource persons from BAIF and outside like PRADAN would be invited to impart training. There is a faculty in BAIF who impart trainings to CRPs on various modules, starting from visioning to technical areas. The same resource group would impart trainings and build capacity of other team members. The team has already developed a pool of women trainers amongst the SHG members who are trained and skilled to impart trainings on a given tried modules. So the team would keep on adding trainers from community by organizing TOTs.

Resource materials for trainings would be collected from best resource agency, especially the current knowledge. Also help of the Project Resource and Facilitation Unit to be created for the tasar projects would be sought in documenting the best practices, dissemination of same among different stakeholders, for which expert services in developing training modules would be hired. Availability of training centers would be made through collaborating with PRIs and using their training centres in GPs and Blocks. There is already experience of using the block training halls and the BAIF field offices for training purpose. Apart from this private spaces would also be hired if needed.

Si. No.	Name	Sex	Location	Designation	Experience in BAIF (Years)
1	Dr.I.I.Hugar	M	CRS, Pune	Associate Thematic Programme executive	17
2	Mr.Chudasama Omdevsinh	M	Yevatmal	Additional ChiefProgramme	12
3	Mr.N.B.Patil	M	Nashik	Joint Programme	6
4	Dr.D.V.Jadhav	M	Chandrapur	Project Officer	12
5	Mr. D.V. Pawar	M	Jawhar	Project Officer	10
6	Mr.Yogesh Joshi	M	CRS, Pune	Finance Coordinator	1
7	Mr.Somnath Takawale	M	CRS, Pune	Account Officer	2
8	Mr.G.V.Murkute	M	CRS, Pune	Technical Officer	10
9	Mr.Pramod Meshram	M	Chandrapur	Dy.Programme	9
10	Mr.Siddheshwar Bele	M	Chandrapur/A llapalli	Sr.Programme Officer	9
11	Mr.Balwant Kamdi	M	Bhamragad	Sr.Programme Officer	9
12	Mr.Patru Masram	M	Bhamragad	Jr. Block Programme	10
13	Mr.Naresh Banewar	M	Aheri	Block Programme	6
14	Mr.Chandrashekhar Turdade	M	Aheri	Jr. Block Programme Officer	6
15	Mr.Dinesh Dalvi	M	Aheri	Jr. Block Programme Officer	9
16	Mr.Manoj Meshram	M	Aheri	Sr.Programme Officer	10
17	Mr.Santosh Thalal	M	Pomburna	Sr.Programme Officer	9
18	Mr.Gurudas Giri	M	Ettapalli	Sr.Programme Officer	9
19	Mr.Rushikesh Rajurkar	M	Ettapalli	Sr.Programme Officer	1
20	Ms.Dipti Tekade	F	Ettapalli	Block Programme	6
21	Mr.Pravin Ramteke	M	Ettapalli	Jr.Programme Officer	9
22	Mr.Anil Bhimate	M	Ettapalli	Jr.Block Programme	6
23	Mr.Bhaskar Pande	M	Morgaon Arjuni	Programme Officer	3
24	Mr.Nilesh Raut	M	Morgaon Arjuni	Jr.Programme Officer	9
25	Mr.D.K.Shivankar	M	Gadchiroli/ Devri	Sr.Programme Officer	9
26	Mr.Sham Madavi	M	Gadchiroli/ Devri	Assistant Project Coordinator	10
27	Mr.Pandit	M	Gadchiroli/ Devri	Jr. Programme Officer	6
28	Ms.Jija Farkade	F	Chandrapur	Sr.Project Officer	9
29	Mr.Deepak Algare	M	Chandrapur	Sr. Accountant	10
30	Mr.Keshav Sah	M	CRS, Pune	Tech. Assistant	10

## Chapter 2: Detailed intervention strategy and phasing

### 2.1 Objectives of the project

**Vision of Success:** The Vision is to “Improve the quality of life of forest dependent tribal women and their families by engaging in environment friendly sustainable seasonal livelihood measures in four districts of Maharashtra”. Success of the project will be derived from the strength of the producer-owned and managed supply chain management system for NTFPs. Addressing issues to enable communities realize the potential of NTFP produce in general and tasar in particular, along with other critical areas will move communities towards improved quality of life. These will include capacities and resources to reduce expenditure on healthcare, improved food and nutritional security through sustainable agriculture, and to improved knowledge sharing and promotion of entrepreneurship in individuals and groups alike. Happy and contented tribal communities leading good quality of life by engaging in environment friendly sustainable seasonal livelihood measures. Adoption of appropriate technology for food (farming) and nutrition (perennial kitchen garden) security for disease free healthy life supplemented by productive engagement in NTFP activities during non-farming seasons giving additional cash incomes.

**Goals:** The project aims to achieve the following goals.

- To increase annual income of tribal families with the help of tasar culture
- To enhance technical knowledge of tribals there by the productivity
- To strengthen community institutions
- To reduce migration of Tribal families
- To conserve and regenerate natural resources

**Objectives:** The project would intervene with about 5790 tribal farmers in the Districts of Gadchiroli, Gondia, Chandrapur and Yavatmal and seek to achieve additional family incomes by Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 18,700/- besides food sufficiency and enhancement of nutritional status through strengthening the existing SHGs and clusters and orienting them to livelihood activities. Attention to be taken to improve infrastructure support in seed multiplication, promoting cultivation of host plants as block economic plantations, effective utilisation of existing natural resources like flora of tasar food plants/ infrastructure, extension support for effective dissemination of technologies/improved package of practices for cultivation, rearing of silkworms, upgrading skill levels of the farmers to undertake sericulture activities for income generation, generating adequate trained manpower with technical knowledge and motivational skills, revamping departmental machineries for implementation of developmental initiatives and their monitoring, coordinating with line Departments, directing efforts for privatization and emphasizing the development of entrepreneurship in tasar silk sector, with the help of Community Based Organizations and NGOs. **The project mainly focuses on the following broader objectives:**

- Strengthen the existing SHGs and clusters and orienting them to livelihood activities,
- Promote functional groups of Tasar silkworm rearers comprising of women and men,

- Promote District / Block level aggregations (formal or informal) of the primary groups. These organizations would enable the producers to sustain their initiatives,
- Implement a variety of activities pertaining to Tasar sericulture to build capacity of producers, equipping them with implements and accessories, create assets such as seed production units, host tree plantations, reeling units, sorting-grading centres,
- Set up Tasar Cocoon and silk Yarn banks as alternative marketing mechanisms,
- Support at least 50% of the participating families to adopt improved technologies and methods (such as SRI) of food grain production. The SHGs and Clusters would support the remaining families to claim their entitlements for food grains from PDS.
- Promote a cadre of community based service providers to provide hand holding assistance and linkages for credit and market for the participating Swarojgari families.
- Promote and nurture suitable producer organisations (co-operatives or producer companies as per the new Act) to provide sustainable systems for services to the project participants,
- Undertake activities pertaining to documentation of processes, impacts and for wider dissemination of experience.

**Key Guiding Principles of the Project:** Community managed supply chain development operate at a scale, with multiple levels of community organisation to ensure sustainability; empowerment process at each stage in the project, with participatory bottom-up approach in planning and monitoring; appropriate use of technology – for production, information, and others as applicable; convergence and leveraging existing bases and programmes from community, government, market; work across value chain and work across a set of enterprises to ensure higher incomes and risk management; environmental sustainability, promoting regeneration and non-exploitative practices.

**Key Outputs:** The current state of affairs in tasar sector in the State warrants attention to improve infrastructure support in seed multiplication, promoting cultivation of host plants as block economic plantations, effective utilization of existing resources and natural flora/infrastructure, extension support for effective dissemination of technologies/improved package of practices for cultivation, rearing of silkworms, upgrading skill levels of the farmers to undertaken tasar culture activities for income generation, generating adequate trained manpower with technical knowledge and motivational skills, revamping departmental machineries for implementation of development initiatives and their monitoring, coordinating with state Departments, directing efforts for privatization and emphasizing the development of entrepreneurship in tasar silk sector, with the help of Community Based Organizations and NGOs. The broad and specific objectives of the project are as follows:

- Building capacities of all beneficiaries in adopting skills to effectively and profitably engage in livelihood activities based on Tasar sericulture,
- Introduction of improved technologies and practices to enhance the productivity frontiers for accelerated growth in Tasar Sector,

- Strengthening seed sector to eliminate the key supply constraint in Tasar sericulture.
- To promote large scale replication through infusion of credits from the banks,
- Investment to create alternative market mechanisms to ensure fair prices for cocoons.
- Promote Producers' collective to provide sustainable systems of services to participant families.
- Design development and dissemination.
- Disease monitoring.

The main focus of the project is to facilitate rapid growth in the sub-sector of Tasar Sericulture through capacity building of poor tribal families to facilitate adoption of improved technologies and practices and enabling them to access mainstream markets to sustain the economic gains.

#### **Main Outcomes:**

- Increasing skill levels of the tribal households in various activities of tasar sector,
- Building backward and forward linkages across the tasar silk value chain and self-sustaining community institutions,
- Creation of large pool of technical and entrepreneurial capacity for the Tasar sub-sector to increase the bargaining power of tribals,
- Drudgery reduction for tribal women in various tasar activities specially in cocoon conversion through use of tools/ technologies,
- Many 'passive' rearers would become 'active' due to better linkages and market support,
- Youth would be attracted to the sub-sector through improved opportunities for employment and business environment to take up entrepreneurial activities in tribal areas,
- Production and availability of Basic and commercial seed locally,
- Significant improvement in poverty indicators of health and food security

#### **Non-negotiable:**

- Nurturing producers' institutions with focus on women SHGs for promoting various livelihood options including tasar,
- Community participation in planning, implementation and monitoring of livelihood activities to achieve self-reliance of institutions promoted,
- Functional modules of producers' institutions to ensure equity in decision making and other activities including benefit sharing,
- Focus on regeneration and maintenance of natural host flora of tasar silkworms with latest technology adoption,
- Establishment of forward and backward linkages across the tasar silk value chain by frontloading with existing infrastructure and resources and

- Covering most of the project stakeholders from the Poorest of the Poor and most vulnerable such as SC/ST, minorities, landless and the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) through NTFP based livelihood creation

## **2.2 Project Strategy**

The Project seeks to:

- Build on the existing resources viz., systematic plantation raised under ISTP (Inter State Tasar Project) and by DOS in its farms, natural host flora in the fringe forest areas, infrastructure developed under RSVY/RKVY with DOS in seed and post-cocoon sector.
- Build on the social capital nurtured by the PIA in the forms of SHGs, Village Organizations, CBOs at Block and District level in the four project districts by building suitable Community Based Organizations like KVSs etc.
- Build, systematize and replicate the best practices from the special SGSY and NABARD-TDF projects in Bihar and Jharkhand for tasar and others with respect of other livelihood options like SRI, vegetable cultivation, NTFP/MAPs etc.
- Work with Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI), Forest, Tribal Welfare and the Department of Sericulture, Govt. of Maharashtra in village level planning and thereby leveraging funds under MGNREGS for plantation raising and maintenance, with RKVY for creation of infrastructure in seed & post-cocoon sector (with DOS), working capital etc and with CDP, State Plan Funds of DOS for production incentives, seed production and cocoon conversion etc.
- Women's ownership of community assets under the project viz., seed multiplication infrastructure, Common Facility Centres, equipment, implements etc., with formal ownership of women.
- To utilise the funds towards working capital to build the Community Investment Fund for the producer groups and their apex bodies.

## **2.3 Community Institutions Architecture**

### **2.3.1. Past experience of PIA:**

Over a period of 25 years, BAIF has taken up several activities related to different aspects of sericulture through number of projects in the field of research, extension, training, technology development and demonstrations, field testing and adoption of technologies to meet farmer's requirement. BAIF in the past has done very successful innovative approaches for solving the location specific problems in adopting certain technologies coupled with farmer's willingness for effective technology transfer. Based on earlier experience and learning, realized that, sericulture intervention blend with integrated approach brings an excellent outcome and create visible impact in the rural area. It was experienced that active participation and involvement of concerned farming community in various stages of development from planning stage leads to sustainable and replicable development model.

BAIF strongly believes in holistic development of the family and predominantly working with the people by designing appropriate and innovative developmental model in consultation with farming community for sustainability of the programme. It



is thus confirmed that the choice of the livelihood for most farming families has been narrowed down considerably and there is a need to widen this base to alleviate the distress situation. Hence efforts have been made to introduce alternate seasonal livelihood activities such as lac, tasar, water chestnut & fish cultivation, rock bee honey harvesting etc. have shown promising results. Tribals involve in farming activity for only 4-6 months in year. After rainy season most of tribals engage in collection of NTFP, hunting and migrate for labour work. It was noticed that, the tribal communities particularly youths have shown keen interest in learning new activities and supplement their agriculture income. Involvement of tribal families in one or more activity during non farming months ensures steady source of income, employment round the year. It also helps conserve forest, prevent migration and improve quality of life.

BAIF initiated tribal development through different livelihood activities involve tribal in plantation of WADI – Mango orchards, construction of water body (Water resources development like farm pond, diverting channels check dams etc, capacity building through training and exposures, importance and economics of tree based farming, management of forest medicinal and economical trees etc. and focused on Vanya sericulture which provided additional income to the tribal family by creating employment to the whole family.

**2.3.1.1. Women Groups/Producers' Groups:** BAIF has been promoting women empowerment as an integral component of the livelihood programmes in Gadchiroli and Gondia districts. Special focus is on health care, sanitation, reduction in hardship, gender sensitization, capacity building, micro credit and income generating activities. In the proposed area, 722 women have been organized into 54 self help groups with collective savings of Rs. 6.36 lacks. 26 groups are linked to banks to avail of additional credit to meet their consumption needs and for promotion of various micro-enterprises. Status of Women SHG in the project area given below

#	State	District	Blocks	SHG	Members	Savings (Rs. Lakh)	SHGs Linked to Bank
1	Maharashtra	Gadchiroli	3	35	385	4.26	12
2	Maharashtra	Gondia	1	19	337	2.10	14
			4	54	1505	6.36	26

**2.3.1.2. NTFP/MAP Based Activities:** Since 5 years NTFP commodities like Lac, Tasar, Honey, etc., are being promoted in project areas of the selected districts. Wadi programme is an agri-horti forestry development programme, spread over the tribal clusters of 9 states including Maharashtra and enabled 1.84 lakhs of deprived families come out of poverty, contributing Rs 100 crores to GDP, while mitigating global warming and environmental sustainability. Apart from cultivation of drought tolerant fruit crops, new initiatives started for diversification of farm income and supply chain development for non timber produce such as lac, tassar, honey, fisheries, gum, wild fruits and vegetables. The tribal families in Gadchiroli and Gondia are very much satisfied with the introduction of these activities. Additional participants have shown keen interest in learning the technical aspects of these activities. The scale of activities is summarized in the table below -

#	State	District	Blocks	Lac	Tasar	Honey
1	Maharashtra	Gadchiroli	3	20	23	5
2	Maharashtra	Gondia	1	6	-	4
			4	26	23	9

Under nontraditional activities, tasar silk production is being promoted in Gadchiroli and Gondia districts with the participation of landless women. Plantation of *Terminalia arjuna* was introduced on bunds under the watershed development programmes besides promotion of lac cultivation and host plantation under NTFP initiatives and cultivation of azolla and fisheries as a part of integrated farming system. Over 80 landless families in Thane, Pune, Gadchiroli districts are earning extra income per year through integrated system of tasar silkworm egg production, Tasar silkworm rearing, processing of raw silk and weaving of silk fabrics. Total 24 NTFP's material has been identified from this region. Introduction of these activities have resulted in income increase to the tune of Rs. 5,000 to 10,000/- per family/per year in addition to their income from agriculture.

**2.3.1.3. Adoption of Best Practices:** In policy analysis a "best" or "smart" practice is a clear and concrete behavior that solves a problem or achieves a goal. Smart practices take "advantage" of an idle opportunity at a low cost and little risk. Best practices adopted by the beneficiaries and activity groups include (i) adoption of 'Criteria for Beneficiary Selection', (ii) adoption of improved 'Package and Practices', (iii) adherence to 'Activity Calendar', (iv) capacity building by way of – trainings, exposure visits, contact sessions with subject experts, on site visits, (v) joint monitoring of disease and pest attack, (vi) experience sharing, peer learning, (vii) monitoring by community resource persons & project staff.

Monthly meeting of activity groups is held at village level. The frequency of the meeting increases during peak seasons particularly during crop period. During these meetings advance planning for the activities is undertaken and responsibilities defined. Exposure visits are conducted within the cluster for enabling peer-to-peer learning. After harvest of crop, experiences are shared within the groups. Similar process is adopted at Cluster/District level where members from the various activity groups in the clusters come together to share experiences. All these processes are facilitated by project staff and subject experts.

**2.3.1.4. Enabling access to credit and markets:** NTFP/MAPs collecting families have been selected and organized into SHGs or would be either from existing SHGs in the proposed area as well as specific commodities activity groups depending on the potential NTFP/MAPs available in the particular location. For instance, families dependent on NTFP/MAPs collection and marketing for their livelihood are organized into Primary Producer Groups, which are the platforms for accessing technology and markets in a more efficient way as their collective bargaining power enabled them to realize increased incomes, protection of gum trees and practicing best practices in value chain management. Women are sensitized, supported and organized into SHGs and linked to banks, line departments and other credit agencies for accessing credit besides promoting thrift and credit activities within the groups.

## **2.3.2. Proposed Plans/Strategies as part of the Project**

**2.3.2.1. Strengthening of community based organizations (CBOs) :** Entire project will be implemented by ensuring active involvement of the communities.

Existing community based organizations viz. Women self help groups (SHGs) and producer groups will be strengthened to consolidate the ongoing activity while new groups will be formed to expand the activity in neighbouring areas. Women SHG will be trained in addressing issues of health and nutrition security through community health trainings, raising perennial kitchen gardens etc. Capacity building of members of livelihood institutions will be undertaken.

All the beneficiaries selected under the project would be either from existing SHGs in the proposed area or in places where there is no SHGs, group's activities will be formed. These beneficiaries will be organized in to activity groups at the hamlet levels that would be federated to producers' collective at block / district.

<b>CBO</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Function</b>
Kosa Ghat	Group Level	5 to 15 members	Selection of potential participant and nominated to Kosa Vikas Samittee
Kosa Vikas Samitee	Village Level	Reares/graineur/Reelers/spinners	Helping to primary group for new participant selection, plot selection for seed crop, commercial crop, nucleus seed crop etc.
Kosa Shikhar Sangha	Cluster Level	Selected members from KVS	Co-ordination between project level structure/ PIA
Kosa Dhaga Nirmiti Sangha	District Level	All Reelers & spinners	Supply of cocoons for reeling and spinning, collection and management of yarn, Financial assistance to reelers and spinners
Kosa Bank Sangha	District Level	Membership will be given from Kosa Maha Sangha and Kosa Dhaga Nirmiti Sangha.	Purchasing cocoon from Kosa Shikhar Sangha/ Kosa rearers or others, arrange cocoon procurement to reelers and spinners, storage and management of cocoons throughout the year
Kosa Maha Sangha	District/ Project level	Nominated members from Kosa Shikhar Sangha will be the member	Operation of Nucleus seed unit, Procurement of inputs, Facilitation of markets, HRD and overall development

**Kosa Ghat (Group Level):** For a smooth implementation of various tasar activities and cocoon production Kosa Ghat or women SHG or mixed SHG will be formed with the membership of 5 to 15 members as per suitability and appropriate to field area. The main function will be the selection of potential participant and nominated to Kosa Vikas Samitee at village level, provide financial support to members if needed. These groups bank account would be depend on that respected group.

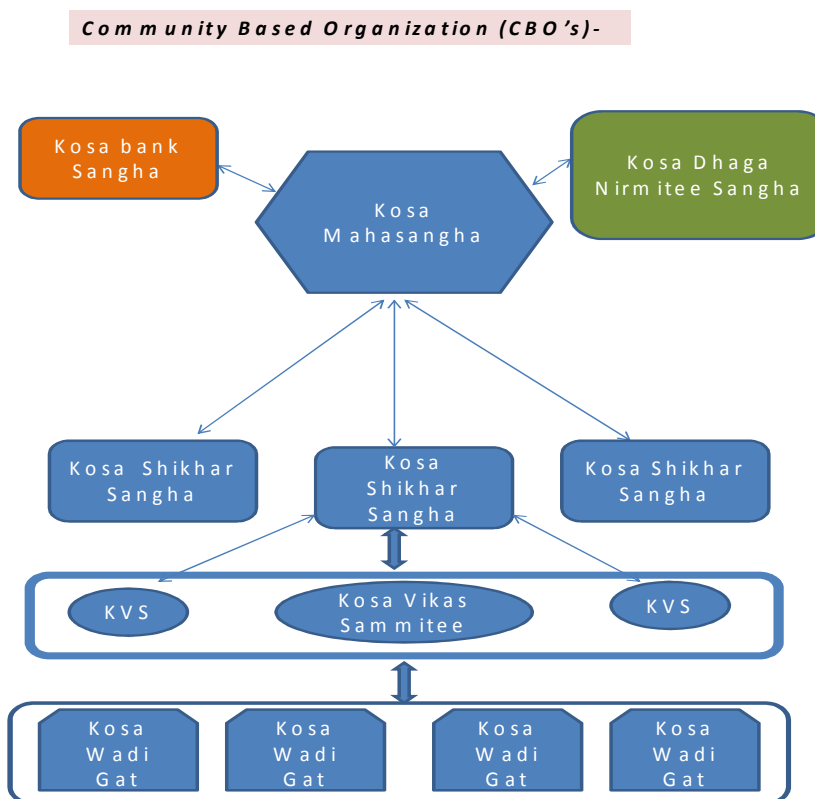
**Kosa Vikas Samitee (Village Level):** Village level Kosa Vikas Samitee (KVS) membership will be given to Reares, Grainures, Reelers/ Spinners, potential farmers/ land holders, and CRPs. Selection of member will be based on following criteria, 1) Shall be Member of SHG/Activity group, 2) Based on her participation in Kosa related activity. The KVS will facilitate for new participant selection, plot selection for seed crop, commercial crop, nucleus seed crop etc., Maintenance of block plantation/ natural plantation, DFL production/ cocoon procurement from grainures

selected by KVS, Quality control for DFL, Nucleus and seed crop rearing, selection of beneficiaries & site selection for block plantation, Selection & facilitation to reelers/spinners, Inputs supply and Technical guidance to participants, Facilitation for market/arranging good price (cocoon/yarn), etc. The KVS will have the bank account in reputed/ nearest suitable bank and structural member body.

**Kosa Shikhar Sangha (Cluster level):** Selected members from KVS will be the members of Kosa Shikhar Sangha, which will work at cluster level. Selection of members is based on her performance/ knowledge in KVS and would be nominated by KVS. Function of Kosa Shikhar Sangha are as follows.

- 1) Coordination between project level structure/ PIA
- 2) Liasoning & Facilitation with stakeholders (Government/ Non-government)
- 3) Facilitation for inputs and Technical issues.

The Kosa Shikhar Sangha will have the bank account in reputed/ nearest suitable bank and structural member body.



**Kosa Dhaga Nirmiti Sangha:** All reelers and spinners will be the members of Kosa Dhaga Nirmiti Sangha. Function of Kosa Dhaga Sangha will include forward and backward linkages, supply of cocoons for reeling and spinning, collection and management of yarn, financial assistance to reelers and spinners etc. The Kosa Dhaga Nirmiti Sangha will be the registered institution by suitable government law and have bank account in reputed nationalized, cooperative bank and Structural member body, executive body/ Management body.

**Kosa Bank Sangha:**The membership will be given from Kosa Maha Sangha and Kosa Dhaga Nirmiti Sangha. Function of Kosa Dhaga Nirmiti Sangha will be purchasing cocoon from Kosa Shikhar Sangha/ Kosa rearers or others, arrange cocoon procurement to reelers and spinners, storage and management of cocoons throughout the year etc.

The Kosa Bank Sangha will be the registered institution by suitable government law and have bank account in reputed nationalized, suitable bank and Structural member body, executive body/ Management body.

**Kosa Maha Sangha:** Nominated members from Kosa Shikhar Sangha will be the member of Kosa mahasangha, who will be either nominated or elected. Role of KMS include -

- 1) Operation of Nucleus seed unit
- 2) Procurements to inputs (Material/Technical) to cluster level committees.
- 3) Liasoning & Facilitation with stakeholders (Government/ Non government)
- 4) Facilitation on legal/ Administrative issues to Kosa Shikhar Sangha.
- 5) Marketing facilitation to Kosa Shikhar Sangha.
- 6) Facilitation in Human Resource Development.
- 7) Finding new opportunities in Tasar development etc.

The Kosa Maha Sangha will be the registered institution under suitable Government law and have bank account in reputed nationalized, suitable bank and structural member body, Executive/ Management body. At primary level, SHG or Kosa Ghat will be involved in tasar cocoon production and Kosa Vikas Samitee (KVS) will work at village level which is the group of selected members from SHG/ Kosa Ghat, grainures, host plant farmers, and CRPs. The KVS will work at village level for fulfilment of primary group's requirement, and among KVS potential participants will select for cluster level institution eg. Kosa Shikhar Sangha (KSS). Kosa Maha Sangha will be formed at project level for coordination between all clusters. Kosa Dhaga Nirmitee Sangha and Kosa Bank Sangha will be the separate entities and will link only to Kosa Maha Sangha.

BAIF would envisage creating relevant institutions with the involvement of the producers and enabling them to exert their control in the long run. This is also relevant in the context of the present plan; as the success of the plan would depend upon the efficiency of technology extension, establishing linkages between different producer groups and facilitating their access to carry out Tasar rearing in the forestlands. Given the time bound nature of the proposed expansion plan, and necessity of large scale mobilization of investment, BAIF proposes to create different organizations as described above.

***2.3.2.1. Proposed strategies to ensure implementation of the project community processes including use of community resource persons and enhancement of their capacities.***

The project sensitizes and supports the community and their collectives (KVSs) to develop and implement community processes for identification of best practicing NTFP/MAPs cultivators in general and tasar in particular as Community Resource Persons. These individuals would be trained as specific theme experts' viz.,

institution building, regeneration, value addition, markets etc. They will also be nurtured as technical & business service providers. Intensive training and capacity building programmes would be organized to enhance and upgrade their knowledge, skills and practices for utilizing their services in the working locations as well as for scaling up the programme.

Participatory resource assessment and business planning involving various levels of supply chain (both at community organisations- KVS, KSS, KMS; and supply chain entities- Private Grainages, Basic Seed Production Unit, CFCs for reeling and spinning) are two essential components of the proposed design for supply chain intervention. The strategy to involve the community in resource planning, implementation of business plans across the tasar value chain to enable the supply chain through community enterprises and community groups and to have community ownership in the process throughout the structure, so that at the time of implementation base is ready to bring in capacity building and enterprise interventions. Assessments at the baseline and then crop-based assessment will be undertaken at various levels and the same will be consolidated. The entire planning will be completely through a bottom-up approach.

As given under the Community Institutions Architecture, at each level of the producer organisations, resource persons will be developed, as follows.

Level	Type of Producer Groups	Resource Persons for Supporting Producer Organisations	
		Type	Ratios/ Nos.
Village	Kosa Vikas Samity (KVS)	Community Resource Persons (CRP)	One CRP for 3-5 KVSs
Cluster	Kosa Shikar Sangha (KSS)	Cluster Coordinator (CC)	At least one CC per KSS
District	Kosa Maha Sangha (KMS)	Manager	One per KMS
		Support Staff	One per KMS

The idea is to develop resource persons at every level and build their capacities so that they continue to support even after the project period. These community resource persons will be capacitated appropriately and be accountable to the community organisations directly. Systems and processes to ensure that they are accountable are given in the next section.

It is essential for the project to create appropriate mechanism for rigorous monitoring, door step delivery of services and enabling the producers to follow strict quality control regime. FIA would create cost-effective and efficient mechanism by involving village based resource persons who would perform the key functions of managing input-output linkages and ensure delivery of inputs and services at the doorstep. These people will manage linkages for seeds, would help the community in procuring inputs such as fertilizers, seedlings, DFLs, establishment of village level nursery for the production of seedlings and also help them in storage and marketing of cocoons under the project. Village level Community Resource Persons will be selected and provided with all relevant training on the implementation and management of the project and delivering different kind of service even after the end of the project. The technical training to the CRP would be provided jointly by DOS and CSB resource persons.

### **2.3.2.3. Systems and checks put in place to ensure that the local resource persons are accountable to / managed by the women institutions.**

CRPs would be sourced and nurtured by the Producers' Collectives and will be placed with Collectives, which would monitor and evaluate their performance. Monthly Action plans and reporting would be done to the concerned Federations who will also regularly review and assess their performance. In this way, they are fully accountable to their institutions. Performance of the CRPs will be reviewed against monthly action plans and graded according to their outputs

- Facilitating a good understanding between CRPs and KVSs on each-others' needs and how they can work together; and periodically updating this message for both sides
- The role and responsibilities of CRPs will be decided and agreed in the joint meeting with KVSs and CRPs and the same is recorded in the minutes.
- CRPs will not be allowed to undertake any financial transactions on behalf of any member of the KVSs without the approval through the resolution of the SHG meetings.
- CRPs will be paid their incentives on a monthly/ quarterly basis on the recommendations of the KVSs
- Periodical assessment of satisfaction of the KVS members with CRPs will be tracked by Project and over a period of time by the Cluster/ District Federations
- Grievance reporting mechanism for the members at the KVS level and federation levels

The CRPs would be nested/ hosted at Primary level organizations such as Kosa Vikas Samiti or Yarn Producers' groups. PIA/FIA would work intensively with the primary groups to enable them to govern the CRPs. From the beginning, the systems of submission of monthly plans by CRPs and review of the same by the primary groups would make the governance process participatory and effective. In medium to longer term, the primary groups would pay the CRPs against the services rendered. This arrangement would demand accountability and performance from the CRPs.

### **2.3.2.4. Plans to enable women institutions to put in place a transparent self monitoring and review mechanism internally for program improvement.**

At the primary level, the producers' groups are small based on a hamlet or a village level. The smaller size of the group (10-20) would help in strengthening group processes chiefly through face-to-face interaction. Such a setting is ideal for promoting an ambiance of openness through proper facilitation. The members learn from each other through experience sharing, setting goals collectively and jointly monitor their movement towards goal attainment. Normally, after every production/ business cycle, the producers share their results and assess performance and take corrective actions.

KVSs, KSSs and their apex bodies would develop self-monitoring and review mechanisms internally for programme improvement by forming sub committees, which would look at specific roles like procurement, marketing, finance etc. They



would visit field areas periodically to see physical and financial parameters and submit visit reports with clear cut observations and recommendations. The Federations/producers' collectives will develop transparent self-monitoring and review mechanisms on theme basis and monitor accordingly.

**2.3.2.5. Briefly elaborate on systems/ and procedures that you propose to put in place for adoption of best practices by the women institutions/ producers' collectives.**

The project would identify and document the best practices and practitioners and present case studies in the meetings, trainings, training manuals, video films/documentaries, workshops, seminars and also through multimedia. The producers' collectives would do regular monitoring on adoption of best practices and share outcomes at regular forums in sharing workshops/meetings/trainings. In addition to presenting the case studies, Best practice models can be developed in selected pockets representing regional specific factors across the project area to demonstrate. The following are the mechanisms in which the Project will ensure that the community groups learn from other groups within the project area and beyond:

- The training that has been planned at the beginning of the project and later during the project implementation will use resource persons from FIA and outside, including experts in NTFP/MAPs. These trainings will be used to share the good practices across the country and across different groups and help in the project KVSs to adopt the same.
- Periodical meetings at the cluster/district level of the group representatives for peer review and learning processes. This will conduct every month and also reflection every six months. Cross exposure visits are also planned as a part of the capacity building.
- The periodical CRPs review and learning processes will also help in sharing good practices and challenges across the groups and finding common solutions. These will be taken back to the groups.
- As given in earlier sections, there will be a strong link between the generic Women SHGs and the producer organisations at the village and cluster levels. These forums will be used to share the progress, achievements and cross support between these organisations across the project areas.

Rigorous training, exposure or field visits, facilitating experience sharing among producers and an internal review mechanism among the producer groups for assessing member performance and CRPs would go a long way towards supporting producers to adopt best practices, set better standards and create space for mutual learning. PIA/FIA would involve the women institutions/ producers' groups at every stage from planning, implementation and review in order to create a strong stake of the villagers. Delegating financial responsibility to the primary groups-including the task of fund handling, record keeping and periodic reporting of progress would be important procedures to build ownership of people in the project.

**2.3.2.6. Building federations at different levels for sustaining collective action**

Three levels of federations are envisaged under this project for building and strengthening community institutions with four fold logic of formation of federation.

**Scale:** As the initiative is about establishing a social enterprise with large numbers of products and people being covered to achieve scale. While large numbers are required, these cannot be reached and governed by a vertical top down structure.

**Delivery efficiency** of the supply chain is about local level supervisory, support and transactions structures. **Decentralised operations** will enable communities govern themselves in smaller numbers, with higher levels being handled through a community representative body. The structure of the federated community based institutions is given below, reflecting levels. The following structure is proposed under the project.

#### **Primary Producer Groups (KVS)**

- Mapping resources, planning procurement, regeneration, regulation
- Facilitating and ensuring collection of produce from the members & payment based on quality & quantity
- Conducting trainings in collaboration with CRP to producers
- Supervising operations of Private Graineurs
- Handling grievances
- Documentation
- Conducting trainings in collaboration with KSS
- Supplying produce to the District Federations

#### **Cluster level federation (KSS)**

- Collection of commercial dfls and cocoons from the KVSs & payment based on quality & Quantity
- Providing support services to KVSs

#### **District level federation (KMS)**

- Procurement of produce from the CFs of the District
- Arranging transportation of produce from the CFs to the District Federation.
- Providing input services to the CFs
- Conducting training on Cooperative Development, conducting specialised skill development & Leadership Development training for CFs' staff & Management Committee members.
- Providing management support to the CFs along with regular supervision of their activities.
- Establish CFCs, BSPUs and linkages amongst these units.
- Market arrangements for cocoons, silk locally besides further value addition
- Decide on the procurement prices of various items

#### **2.3.2.7. Control of CBOs over the fund flow mechanism**

There are four types of funds envisaged in the operations, and these will be handled through different transparent and accountable system in the entire operations:

- **Project funds:** These are funds from MKSP for the implementation of the project. The project accounting system (detailed through the financial manual) will address the accountability of this. The funds are spent by the FIA through the activity groups (KVS, Rearing and Reeling Collectives) except various community investment initiatives funds which will come through PIA and passed

on to the DFs wherever DFs are available. The kind of expenses will include training, etc., and the feedback from community for these processes will be obtained. As far as possible, required equipment would be purchased by constituting a Joint Purchase Committee constituted for the purpose with representation from PIA, FIA, DOS and CSB.

- **Revolving funds**: There is some quantum of funds earmarked for the working capital of the supply chain operations. These will be transferred to the respective KVSs, KSSs and KMS and managed within those, with full control of the community. As far as possible, these funds will be placed in high interest earning deposits during lean period so that the capital will be non-readable CIF and also will grow over a period of time.
- **Transaction funds**: These are funds generated out of the tasar supply chain transactions at cluster district level and these will be collected by the federations and accounted in their books of accounts. The entire control of these transactions will be with community, but ably facilitated by FIA.
- **Savings and capital funds**: These are funds generated by the producers through their savings at various levels and these are kept within their organisations/ levels and fully controlled by the members for up scaling/ taking up innovative activities, from time to time.
- **Convergence funds**: These are funds generated out of the convergence support (MGNREGS, RKVY, CSB, DOS, Tribal Welfare etc.) at various levels and these will be received by the producer organisations at various levels and accounted in their books of accounts. The entire control of these transactions will be with community, but ably facilitated by FIA.

## Chapter 3: Detailed Project Components

### 3.1. Details of the Proposed Action

This project proposes to build on the foundations of a) large scale social mobilization of women facilitated by BAIF for nearly three decades in Maharashtra and b) an array of livelihood propositions for the marginalized, based on Tasar sericulture that have been made standardized through decades of meticulous efforts by other NGO's in other states with support from the Central Silk Board (CSB).

As mentioned earlier, the mainstay of livelihood interventions would be around Tasar Sericulture, a forest based activity, traditionally undertaken by communities living in forest villages. The proposed project would exploit the benefits of recent advancements in the sector to extend the livelihood opportunities to newer clusters, covering families with no prior experience to facilitate adoption of improved technologies of Tasar sericulture and enabling them to access mainstream markets and sustain economic gains.

This project is designed to capitalize on the revival and growth attained in Tasar sericulture in recent years in Bihar & Jharkhand through intensive efforts of PRADAN in collaboration with Central Silk Board to implement a Special SGSY Project for development of Tasar Sericulture. The idea here is to broad base the best practices of the above-mentioned project within Maharashtra to benefit a large number of poorer households.

This chapter details out the **project components** under each of the key strategies adopted. While detailing out these, the key principles of MKSP/NRLM have been explained in the text in appropriate portions (such as plans for promoting food security, sustainable practices, drudgery reduction, value chain development, access to credit). At the end of this section, it captures these in a consolidated form.

FIA would select Project participants through a Gram Sabha involving Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRI), field level operational staff of the State Sericulture Departments wherever possible. Beneficiaries will be mostly from the below poverty line (BPL) families of rural poor mostly belonging to the weaker sections of the society like scheduled caste and tribe, more emphasis will be given to those traditionally involved in tasar culture with special encouragement for women to take active role in the project. As the community mobilisation in to SHGs has been completed under Wadi project, the members of SHGs who are aware of community mobilisation processes would be organized into homogenous Activity groups of manageable size (of around 10-20 per group). A progressive & proactive member would lead each group. Efforts will be made by the FIA concerned to establish backward and forward linkages from plantation to cocoon marketing with cluster-based approach with the assistance available from the project funds in all facets. As far as possible, emphasis would be laid on cluster approach facilitating effective monitoring. Relevant proven rural management tool like Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) will be employed by FIAs in selection of beneficiaries under various components and also organizing them in to CBOs like Self Help Groups (SHG), Activity Groups, Women groups, rearers groups etc. The FIA will develop overall operational and implementation strategy and federate them at different levels such as Block/Taluka, District etc.

Emphasis will be given on selection of beneficiaries, organizing Activity groups for various activities, signing of agreement with beneficiaries, training of personnel associated with project implementation and monitoring, mobilization and deployment of project personnel, finalization of modalities for development of infrastructure etc during the early period of the project. To get maximum project output and keep the tribals interested in tasar culture, utilization of the existing tasar food plants in the forest areas/ raised under other schemes will be front loaded besides utilising available infrastructure with DOS by the community. Skill up-gradation through human resource development initiatives, handholding support to beneficiaries in creation of activity groups and engaging Community Resource Persons (CRP), disease monitoring, technological support, creation of rearers' collective to increase holding capacity of cocoon to avoid distress sale and producers' collective for rural institutional building, market promotion by design development & dissemination etc are built in the project.

Proposed project components and its benefits will be shared among groups of tribal stakeholders preferably in hamlets which includes opportunity cost analysis of the component vis-à-vis other avocations available in the area. Exposure visits and interaction with activity groups will be organized to the clusters nearby to understand the economic returns and the various other connected factors viz., their contribution and gestation period. Given the time bound nature of the proposed expansion plan, and necessity of large scale mobilization of investment, it is proposed to create different organizations as described below:

**Primary Level Organization:** The producers would be organised in an informal group at village level. The village level organization will comprise of 10 to 20 rearers and/or grainage owners who already exist in the village/ hamlet. The primary level organization will comprise producers, depending on the size of the village / hamlet. Keeping such a small group will help members of the organization to interact with each other effectively. Primary level organization's (called "KVS") main concern will be selection of rearers, selection of proper rearing site, maintenance of host plants, promotion of new plantations, monitoring of quality standard of DFLs and helping rearers to access services for rearing and marketing of cocoons.

**Secondary Level Organizations:** The secondary level organization will be formed at cluster level as an aggregation of village level organizations ie., KVSs will be organized into a "Kosa Sikhar Sangha (KSS)". Here, all the members of cluster level organization will be an independent member of district level Federation. The district level collective will be registered in the respective state. The major role of the collective would be following:

- Quality and price regulation for DFLs
- Seed cocoon preservation and basic seed production
- Promoting improved Silkworm rearing practices
- Surplus and deficit management of DFLs
- Accessing distant markets for cocoon sales
- Establishing linkages with resource and research institutions for facilitating Innovations
- Mobilizing finance from financial institutions
- Collaborating with Forest Department to improve the Tasar host stock

It is proposed that the formation, grooming and nurturing of Producers (Rearers) collective, which will be formed for every 200-250 families based on the geographical spread. The President of the Institution would get various training in all the relevant fields and exposure on the institution building in a well established Producers' Institution outside the project area, with the help of an expert resource person. Membership building of the institution is also an important part for its effective functioning on long run. The process would continue till the end of the project so that the institution would function on a sustainable basis even after the project period without any financial support.

The critical areas for development of tasar culture in the proposed project are assured supply of commercial tasar silkworm seed, eco-friendly activities like raising of arjuna/ asan plantation with intercropping and its maintenance for utilizing the same to create seed production clusters, economic upliftment of rural poor with special emphasis on women development & empowerment, organizing SHGs, creation of infrastructural facilities etc have been addressed. As the plantation raised in the first year would be productive in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of plantation, to provide regular employment and increase earnings from unit area, intercropping is planned. The BSM&TCs of Central Silk Board located in the state will meet the entire requirement of nucleus seed under the Project. The PIA/FIA shall enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with CSB for supply of nucleus seed and shall submit the detailed indent well in advance.

The Adopted Seed Rearers (ASRs) shall be from the progressive tasar rearers with a capacity to rear 200 dfis per crop. Till the block plantation becomes productive nucleus rearing will be conducted on selected natural tasar host flora. The FIA in consultation with the concerned BSM&TC shall make the selection of ASRs. The BSM&TC and FIA shall jointly supervise the seed rearings for quality seed cocoon production. It is the FIA who shall establish backward and forward linkages for the supply of nucleus seed dfis to ASRs and procurement of seed cocoons for production of basic seed dfis by the designated BSM&TC or BSPU in private sector. The rejected cocoons can only be given to the spinners for yarn production.

The Seed Rearers (SRs) will also be selected from the progressive tasar rearers with a capacity to rear 200 dfis per crop. Till the block plantation becomes productive nucleus rearing will be conducted on natural tasar host flora. The PIA/FIA in consultation with the concerned BSM&TC shall make the selection of SRs. It is the FIA who shall establish backward and forward linkages for the supply of basic seed dfis to SRs and sale of seed cocoons to the Private Graineurs and rejected cocoons to spinners and play the role of facilitator.

The FIA shall carefully select the Private Graineurs and their location taking into consideration of the requirement of Commercial Rearers (CRs). The FIA shall closely monitor the functioning of these Private grainages in association with the CSB units functioning in the area (such as BSMTTC, RTRS, REC etc.). The backward and forward linkages with SRs and CRs are very important for the success of the Grainages and FIA shall assist in establishing these linkages, among the Project beneficiaries. Commercial rearers will be supported by the Rearers' Collectives which can be used by them for storage of critical inputs before crop season and for stifling and storage of cocoons after crop harvest to avoid distress sale immediately on harvest. Value addition through reeling and spinning of cocoons through women

groups on pilot scale is planned under the project, which will be up scaled in future. Producers' Collectives and Community Resource Persons would help to build rural institutions which will address the sustenance issues. Besides for effective monitoring of the project activities, facilitation of various activity groups and documentation of the impact, separate provisions are made under the project. Skill up gradation would be undertaken by imparting training to the beneficiaries / entrepreneurs on proven technologies. Project personnel would also be trained on different technical and managerial aspects, project implementation, monitoring, reporting etc.

**Capacity Building:** Success of the project and sustainable development of the industry largely depend on the well-equipped human resources in the state especially in the project area. Exposure to the industry to study the practices adopted in the other traditional states where tasar culture is being practiced, motivation and training of all the project personnel involved in the implementation of the project in all aspects including technical & management aspects, healthy work practices, adoption of improved technologies and extension methods would pay rich dividends in overall development of the industry and successful implementation of the Project. It is proposed that all the front-line workers of FIA would be trained through management and competency development programmes, which in turn would design and conduct training programmes for the beneficiaries in their respective activities and also on the community related aspects. Thus, under the project, the Capacity Building is envisaged as below.

- i. ***Technical Training Programme***
- ii. ***Trainers training programme***
- iii. ***Beneficiary training programme***
  - Nucleus seed rearers
  - Basic seed rearers
  - Private Graineurs
  - Commercial rearers
  - Community Resource Person
- iv. ***Study tour/ exposure visits***

#### **Handholding support to beneficiaries:**

**Formation of Activity Groups:** To groom tribal women and youth to SHGs of various activities to make them in to mature SHG members, knowledgeable and skilled human resources, these women need different trainings like membership training of SHG, technical training on various activities, entrepreneurial training, membership of people's institution, etc. For every aspect of interventions, there will be a strong focus on building required skills and capacities among the beneficiaries in order to enable them manage their livelihoods in the long run. Training would be provided to all categories of beneficiaries to help them acquire technical skills.

Additionally, PIA may propose Entrepreneurial Motivational Training (EMT) for the beneficiaries to promote self-reliance among producers in their business. It is proposed to form and nurture various activity groups under the project (about 20 members in a group).

**Community Resource Persons:** It is essential for the project to create appropriate mechanism for rigorous monitoring, door step delivery of services and enabling the producers to follow strict quality control regime. PIA/FIA would create cost-effective and efficient mechanism by involving village based resource persons who would perform the key functions of managing input-output linkages and ensure delivery of inputs and services at the doorstep. These people will manage linkages for seeds, would help the community in procuring inputs such as fertilizers, seedlings, Dfls, establishment of village level nursery for the production of seedlings and also help them in storage and marketing of cocoons under the project village level Community Resource Persons will be selected and provided with all related training on the implementation and management of the project and delivering different kind of service even after the end of the project. The technical training to the CRP would be provided by CSB resource person.

**Institution Building of Producer Groups:** To bring in the sustainability provisions are made for institution building of Producer Groups.

**Publicity & Extension:** Publicity and extension programmes like conducting Seminars, Workshops, Farmers days, Vichar ghoshties etc. play a very important role in popularizing the latest technologies and increasing the awareness about adoption of profitable practices among the beneficiaries.

***Besides the above, the project has provisions towards Design Development & Product Diversification, Disease Monitoring, documentation, consultancy & advocacy, which are detailed in budget components.***

**Project facilitation and documentation:** Besides the above arrangements for project management and monitoring, in view of large number of families to be covered and various field implementing agencies being involved besides grass root level implementation through Community Based Organizations (CBOs), decentralized systems of planning review and monitoring is proposed to ensure quality of implementation through a Resource and Project Facilitation Unit is proposed with following key roles.

Enable partners to achieve desired quality standards through timely and critical handholding/ technical support.

- Incorporate capacity building strategy and roll out with all stakeholders at level of implementing team and participating households.
- Strengthen the extension mechanism through building capacity and providing end to end support to a cadre of community resource persons. The unit would identify and effectively deploy these resource persons, while building local resources over a period of time.
- Setting up system to bring feedback for learning and improved quality through multi level robust planning and review systems, data management services to support meeting compliances.
- Set up system for knowledge building, sharing and dissemination through focused knowledge products relevant to project
- Provide a forum for widen & strengthen stakeholder base in collaboration with CSB for sectoral advancement



Strategy to be adopted includes, facilitating implementation with quality and innovations, Capacity Building at various levels, developing a Cadre of Community Resource Persons, Knowledge Management and Communication products, Programme Management support, Programme planning and review, Data integration and creation of a Forum for Strengthening Stakeholder Base. *This initiative would help to plan and monitor future projects for tasar development in the state of Maharashtra with minimum inputs and support. This unit will be spearheaded by the Resource Organisation, BAIF in collaboration with CSB. PIA/FIA may plan activities viz., finalising modalities for utilising CIF under various components, training modules, exposure visits, exchange of CRPs for adoption of best practices, linking for supply of tasar silkworm seed, organisation of CFCs for cocoon conversion, functioning of cocoon bank, publicity & extension models, capacity building protocols etc.*

**Self monitoring and review mechanism:** Monitoring is the key to effective program implementation, as it helps to identify and reflect on the various expected and unexpected processes and outputs of the program. For this it is critical to have in place the expected outputs that will eventually contribute to the larger outcome of the program. Monitoring of the program implementation and its outputs is a learning experience and will be regularly undertaken at BAIF level. An external viewpoint on the performance also adds to the program. Self monitoring of the project will be done with involvement of members of CBOs.

**System and Procedure for adoption of best practices:** Monthly meeting of activity groups will be held at village level. The frequency of these meetings will increase during peak activity period. Advance planning for the activity will be done and responsibilities defined at each level. Field demonstrations and trainings will be organized for the participants from time to time. The details of the best practices will be communicated to the participants through these field demonstrations. Exposure visits will be conducted within the cluster for peer-to-peer learning. Experiences of lead producers will be shared within the groups. All these processes will be facilitated by project staff and subject experts.

**3.1.1. Plans for promoting and enhancing food and nutritional security for women farmers:** The Project aims at addressing the food and nutritional security of the tribal women, children and their households in the following ways:

- Increases in incomes through better management of tasar silk value chain, giving more returns and incomes to households from tasar culture. Increases in income will contribute to better food availability to the entire family. Additional Incomes will help the households in arranging them to buy food and reduce the number of hungry days.
- The project also has a supporting component of promoting relevant Model of possible improved agriculture practices with modern technologies will lead to availability of more food grains and diversity of food for the households, particularly women and children.
- The members will be provided knowledge/ support for home herbal gardens which can provide primary cure locally thereby reducing their overall health status.

**3.1.2. Strategies addressing sustainable/evergreen/regenerative NTFP practices:** Research Institutes of the Central Silk Board have come out with many technologies in seed, pre-cocoon and post-cocoon sectors, which were tried and fine tuned adding the indigenous knowledge of the tribal's who are practicing Tasar culture as tradition. The proposed project interventions would help in increasing green cover through rejuvenating and safe guarding Tasar host flora in the fringe forest areas and also taking up block plantations in private waste lands. The Project aims at addressing the food and nutritional security of the tribal women, children and their households in the following ways:

*Pre harvest, harvest and post harvest protocols development:* Community protocols will be developed by integrating traditional and scientific knowledge in regeneration, maintenance and rearing management techniques based on best practices adopted elsewhere with required modification according to the local condition. The project will train the project participants in various activities of tasar culture on best practices and provide improved rearing, grainage equipment and cocoon reeling machines to them.

*Use of indigenous knowledge:* The project will make use of rich indigenous knowledge and technologies in tasar host plant regeneration, tasar silkworm dfl incubation, and seed production etc for sustainable use of resources for enhancement of tribal livelihoods.

*Suitability of technology to the local agro-ecology:* The existing practices and technologies will be studied, validated and community consultation will be facilitated to assess the suitability of technology for adoption before introducing.

*Resilience to climate change – Integrated Natural Resource Management:* The project is also encouraging NTFP/MAPs for additional income. The project is also promoting agro forestry models by developing land and water resource development so as make it integrated natural resource management. All these initiatives will have reasonable resilience to climate change factor.

**3.1.3. Targeting - Approach and Details on tribal families as project participants:** All the targeted families will be mostly tribals who are small and marginal farmers, lagging behind in all the development indicators. The target group would comprise of rearer's, private graineurs, reeler's and spinners. The farmers who have one or more hectares of forest plantation or who have been allotted 0.7 hectare of Tasar plantation or who have 0.7 ha waste land and are willing to take up Tasar culture as subsidiary occupation would be the project beneficiaries in pre-cocoon sector. Unemployed youth or interested local entrepreneurs would be encouraged to raise Kisan nurseries for raising seedlings of Tasar food plants and/or to organize grainage activity.

**3.1.4. Phasing - Progress of implementation over time to be worked out:** The project will adopt a phasing in strategy to reach the intended numbers, building on its scale up plans. While the presence of the project will be there from day 1 in terms of the teams and community engagement, the plans for introduction of all the elements will be in phases. As can be seen in the budget later, the grass-root level presence and the project organisational structure will be in place in all the locations from the first month onwards.

The phasing of all the project components, i.e. starting up the procurement, setting up CBOs etc. will happen in steps, and is planned based on these parameters:

- **Accelerate the work in locations where there is already a strong presence** of FIA/PIA besides DOS local offices, with its communities and organisations. A quick stock taking and starting of work will be done within the first quarter. In these locations, all components will be initiated
- **Intensifying the existing areas** – within the existing Talukas and Districts - here too, work will start in the first quarter, but will accelerate at the end of first quarter. First quarter work is about rapport building, baseline and institutional development process. End of first quarter all components can be initiated.
- **Expanding to nearby Talukas, and new Districts** – Here too, work will be initiated in the first quarter, with rapport building, baseline and institutional development process. End of first quarter all components can be initiated.

Apart from the village level work, the KSSs will be formed during 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter with at least half of the KVSs being federated. The rest of the federations will be formed in the subsequent quarters. By the end of the first year, all district level federations will be in operation, so that sufficient time is available for the project to build and strengthen their capacities in the supply chain.

In view of the available natural host flora the CFCs for cocoon conversion would be front loaded in the available infrastructure to achieve the set outputs. It is expected that by the end of the 6th quarter, all the institutional formation processes are completed and the strengthening and transactions take place for the rest of the period. ***Detailed physical and financial phasing is depicted in annexures.***

**3.1.5. Scalability:** Relevance, cost and administrative feasibility are the key parameters of scalability. The project villages represent the typical features of the backward and tribal region Maharashtra. Endemic poverty, high concentration of Scheduled Tribes, undulating terrain, high dependence on forest-based livelihoods are the key features of this region. All the districts are predominantly rural and depict abject poverty. Extreme leftist forces are active in all the selected districts. The livelihoods include a portfolio of farm and forest activities that helps in diversifying economic risks at the household level. Most of the forests in this region have a rich reserve of natural Tasar host flora and some of the tribal communities have the traditional knowledge and skills to rear Tasar silkworm. The region is the host of an estimated 3,000 traditional Tasar rearers with scope to at least increase by 4 times. The project being proposed here thus has vast scope for replication.

Further, the market demand for Tasar has been growing at an annual compounded rate of over 12% (as estimated by Working Group for XI Five Year Plan). This growth in demand itself would create atleast 10,000 additional livelihoods in Tasar sector in the Plan Period. Clearly then, there is vast scope to enhance livelihood security and reduce poverty in the selected districts by ways of adoption of better technologies and facilitating market-led growth processes. Project will also explore for strong partnerships with organizations with similar vision and programme content for scaling up its outreach and depth.

**3.1.6. Plans for Drudgery Reduction of Women:** The technology inputs and small equipment in Tasar host plant raising, Grainage and silkworm rearing are women friendly and help them to carry out the activity without drudgery. The project is integrated with package of practices in scientific lines along with improved tools so as to have better quality produce/products and reduced drudgery for the families involved in various activities across the tasar value chain beside other alternative livelihoods. Simple women friendly yarn reeling and spinning machine which are both power (electricity/solar power) and pedal operated are bound to reduce the drudgery on tribal women who otherwise were using primitive machines. Many other farm implements for pruning, disinfection etc. would also bring down the drudgery to tasar rearers and seed producers. The decentralized supply chain design proposed in the project will ensure significant amount of decrease in present level of drudgery

**3.1.7. Plans for Awareness Generation with regard to NTFP Collectors' Rights and Entitlements:** Tasar for time immemorial is considered to be male domain, even in many places females are not allowed in the rearing sites with a belief that they will bring bad omen. However, with the introduction of Tasar block Plantations, engagement with SHG's, continuity of focus on women has somehow eased the penetration of women in the activity. But still the development of a major portion of the human resource is completely neglected. Having recognized this acute imbalance against the women, the project plan and processes would address the inequities in the following manner-

- ❖ To ensure almost 100% participation of women in all programs and schemes though males would also be one of the participants in decision making and training events
- ❖ Sensitization of stakeholders on the issue of Gender discrimination in SHG, KVS and gram sabha meetings
- ❖ Increase role of women in decision making and income through various initiatives
- ❖ To bring the services at the farmers doorstep and technical support at village level to ensure women participation.
- ❖ Introduction of drudgery reduction tools and equipments and with different women friendly techniques
- ❖ Technical support and extension services to be provided at the level of Self Help Groups - market information, credit facilities.

**3.1.8. Plans to Intervene in Value Chains:** The core strategy of the project is about value chain intervention in NTFP/MAP produce, addressing issues across the value chain from production, procurement, processing, marketing and also regeneration. The entire operations under this will be guided through a business plan with a view to establish a community-led social enterprise. In the core area of tasar sector, all the activities starting from nursery to yarn reeling and spinning are taken up under the project. Even besides the yarn conversion it is proposed to have onward integration with production houses like M/s Eco- Tasar etc beside project investments in design development and product diversification to work with local weavers.

**3.1.9. Strategies for Dissemination Knowledge:** Women are the back bone of the tribal community. Women plays significant role in both household and economic activities, still they are having socially lower status. For every aspect of interventions,

there will be a strong focus on building required skills and capacities among the beneficiaries in order to enable them manage their livelihoods in the long run. Training would be provided to all categories of beneficiaries to help them acquire technical skills. Organizing women into SHGs and building capacity through training would make them driving force of the village. Training and capacity building would very important component of the project. PIA team would require exposure visit to different organization for learning best practices and new technologies relevant to the project. The success of this project will depend on the ability to share knowledge efficiently and communicate throughout the entire structure quickly and effectively. A clear strategy on communication and a formalized method for the conveyance of information will help to ensure that. The details of this are presented under 'Capacity Building' where in various training programmes and exposure visits are planned. Various publicity & extension activities including involving Digital Green is being proposed besides coverage under 'Integrate Skill Development Scheme- ISDS' of the Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India will be utilised as per field requirement.

Besides this all the members of SGH would be provided with membership training, leadership training, book keeping and livelihood visioning. Promoting and nurturing these organizations around SHGs of this area would be meaningful and facilitate pro development processes. Additionally, Entrepreneurial Motivational aspects for the beneficiaries to promote self-reliance among producers in their business would be included.

**3.1.10. Plans for Increasing Access to Credit:** The project targets to mobilize all the women into Women SHGs and their federations and efforts will be made to provide inputs to streamline systems and procedures to improve their governance, transparency and accountability. All these groups linked to MMSs, banks, MFIs, for accessing credit for their consumption and productive needs fulfilment. Concentrated efforts will be made to enhance operational and financial self sufficiency level of SHGs Federations. Apart from this, the Project is also envisaging leveraging loans for working capital requirement in seed production and yarn conversion are built in the project through mainstreamed institutions such as NABARD, SIDBI, SFAC, etc.

**3.1.11. Direct Incremental Income to Farmers:** It is expected that results of the project will lead to benefits from different angles.

- Income from improvement of the supply chain at the household level – due to additional margins, higher scales of production of tasar silkworm seed, cocoons and silk besides collection of NTFP/MAP
- Income from wages for local community, direct incomes, in processing
- Income Opportunity in form of freight/internal transport
- Reduction in Health expenditure

The incremental income should be sustainable. Proposal may include cash flow projections to indicate changes at the level of project participant, the cash flows will include savings through reduction in costs - e.g. low external inputs use sustainable technology, regeneration.

Prior to the similar initiatives in Bihar and Jharkhand through SGSY Projects, most of the traditional Tasar farmers were rearing occasionally that to as part of their tradition and not on commercial scale. While models of seed production are absent in the proposed project area, average income from Tasar is in the range of Rs. 4000

to Rs. 5000/-. The present initiative can build all the required linkages so as to make available critical inputs and services available at the door steps, would ensure taking up Tasar silkworm rearing on a regular basis and following the technologies for assured higher incomes.

Plantations raised and rejuvenated would take care of the Tasar silkworm rearing for over four decades with initial project support for raising and maintaining them. While the initial costs are quite high will be mobilized from project assistance, for the later years system is built in to keep aside fund required for minimal maintenance costs, from the cocoon sales. Due to well knit linkages between basic seed Grainage, seed rearer's and private Grainage within the cluster would sustain beyond the project period.

With the proposed interventions while commercial rearer's can get an estimated incremental annual income of over Rs 10,000/- per crop. Additional income through private Grainage would be around Rs. 18,700/- and through that of Basic Seed Production would be around Rs. 68,000/- for the group. In case of intercropping in block plantation, an additional income of about Rs 4,000 to 5,000/- would be generated, which will enable the farmers to maintain the systematic plantation during the gestation period. Except the income through intercropping, incremental incomes through other activities do not only sustain would definitely increase due to capacity utilization, improvement in quality due to increased skill levels. Further, the costs of production would come down and earnings would increase due to technology intervention and capacity building. Also due to linkages amongst the activity groups dependency on others will come down which reduce the incidental expenditure to take up various activities.

**Details of activity-wise income per activity cycle of tasar culture are indicated in the annexures.**

**3.1.12. Plans for Community Contribution if any:** The project will ensure contributions from communities in terms of efforts, cash and in kind. These are expected at various levels. For the entire process of institutional development and management of project processes at community level, the efforts will be made by communities. In-kind contributions in terms of land and building for their processing units, storage spaces, and also in regeneration plantation processes are expected. Each of the convergence components for other livelihood components, the community contribution through labour will be a major component. In total, about 10% of the project investment would be contributed by the community itself.

### **3.2. Convergence with NREGA and other Line Departments**

The total project cost will be raised from three sources respectively MoRD, CSB, contribution from Beneficiaries and credit, other than that convergence from any other sources are not considered during conceptualizing the project. MoRD and CSB will provide the total grant of 86.5% having individual share of 63.13% & 21.04% respectively, the remaining 15.83% will be contributed by the project families either from their own contribution or by arranging loan. One of the key strategies of the project is to converge with various institutions and schemes to ensure that the producers' institutions are provided appropriate support and also they establish a long-term engagement with these institutions. The following convergence matrix captures the schemes and agencies that will be linked up for various supports. This

is indicative list and more will get added during the mapping of these schemes and agencies as the project progresses.

No	Title/ Name of Program	With the Agency	Type of Services/ Support	Level at which this can be accessed
1	NREGA	Gram Panchayat	Plantation and maintenance of tasar host plants	Individuals, KVSs, Women SHGs
2	NABARD-Bank Credit Linkage	Local lead banks and with NABARD	Credit - Capital, Working Capital	Women SHGs, KVS and its apex bodies
3	Commercial and Rural Banks	Various Banks in the districts - lead banks and others	Loans - long-term, working capital for the producer organisations	Private graineurs, KVS and its apex bodies
4	NABFINS	NABFINS	Loans - long-term, working capital for the producer organisations	Private graineurs, KVS and its apex bodies
5	Tribal Welfare- Various Programmes	Tribal Welfare Department	Welfare programmes; and enterprise promotion related to tasar seed and post-cocoon	Women SHGs, KVS and its apex bodies
6	TRIFED - Various programmes	TRIFED	Capital, Capacity Building, Advocacy	Women SHGs, KVS and its apex bodies
7	Government Departments and Schemes	Dept. of Sericulture, Govt. of Maharashtra	Production incentive, MoU with the CBOs for utilisation of DOS infrastructure for front loading the project	Women SHGs, TVS and its apex bodies and at project level
8	Schemes and Support for Tasar Silk	Central Silk Board	Capacity building, technical support, funding, consultancy	Project Level

For each of the households, their eligibility to various schemes will be collected at their respective KVSs and those will be consolidated at the village, cluster and district levels. The CRPs will periodically facilitate this process and review the level of access to these schemes. Periodical mapping of new schemes, their eligibility and processes for facilitation will be undertaken and updated to the CRPs and the SHGs. This will be shared among members in their monthly meetings and followed up for support.

### 3.3. Training and Capacity Building of Communities

Success of the project and sustainable development of the industry largely depend on the well-equipped human resources in the state. Exposure to the industry to study the practices adopted in the other traditional states or the project areas where Tasar culture is being practiced would pay rich dividends in overall development. It is proposed that all the beneficiaries would be trained in their respective activities and also on the community related aspects. Tasar sericulture may be an entirely new vocation for the families to be selected. Thus for every aspect of interventions, there will be a strong focus on building required skills and capacities among the beneficiaries in order to enable them manage their livelihoods in the long run. Continuous capacity building is necessary at all levels to ensure effective implementation of the project and ensure impact and sustainability. The overall philosophy driving this is to ensure that communities are capacitated to address their own governance, management and technical needs.

At the community level, the capacity building will be undertaken at three levels:

- (a) **At the generic Women SHGs groups** – on group management, savings, credit, documentation, conflict management, etc. – the standard Women SHG level training from PIA will be used
- (b) **At the KVS level** – on various methods, techniques, production processes, etc. and in marketing, quality assurance
- (c) **At the KSS/KMS Level** – on basics of the tasar value chain, operations, the organisational development processes, etc. This will be done at KVS, KSS, KMS levels.

It is important to state here that the capacity building is not restricted only to training. The methodologies to be used will include handholding support by CRPs at various levels, exposure visits, helping the organisations to take up two to three cycles of operations and get a sense of market and trade, etc. Participatory and community-friendly methods will be used.

The training will be mainly done through a ‘Training of Trainers’ approach with the resource persons being the community resource persons at each level (CRP, CC, Field Coordinator). To train the TOTs, FIA will engage with various agencies that provide training in technical, market, finance and management areas.

The following are some of the training at various levels. Detailed training needs analysis during baseline study will be conducted and that will be updated periodically. This will guide the capacity building at various points in time.

*KVSs:*

1. Training on Group formation
2. Training on Business skill development
3. Training on Technical skill development [sustainable harvesting & management of tasar activities]
4. Exposure to good cultivation and harvesting practices

*Private Grainages & Rearers’ Collectives:*

1. Training on mechanisms and standards of procurement, storage and supply
2. Business counseling and service provision

*Basic Seed Production Unit & CFCs:*

1. Training on Community Enterprise Management
2. Training on Technical skill development
3. Training on business skills development
4. Exposure to processing, grading, marketing etc.

*KMS:*

1. The capacities of KSS and KMS will be built by organizing series of entrepreneurship development programmes and exposure to successful business models. The overall object of the programmes will be development of high level skills for community enterprise management.
2. Training on developing market linkages: marketing training will be provided to the MACSs or the Producer Company as the case may be.



The training will include identifying opportunities; product development marketing strategies (backward and forward linkages; assessing markets; making linkages to credit, technology and infrastructure support) etc.

### **3.4. Training and Capacity Building of Community Professionals**

Here too, continuous capacity building is a must as the agenda taken up is large requiring CRPs to operate out of their standard sphere of operations, such as working with products, trade, business approaches, dealing with marketers, legal regulations, etc. The training for CRPs will be done through professional training organisations/ institutes and FIA will engage with them to provide training in technical, market, finance and management areas. The methodologies to be used here will be largely skill based and exposure oriented, and as much possible on the job. It is important that the CRPs face the challenges and learn from these. The following are some of the training at various levels. Detailed training needs analysis during baseline study will be conducted and periodically updated. This will guide the capacity building at various points in time.

#### *CRPs (Community Resource Person):*

1. Training on leadership and community mobilization
2. Training on business service provisioning & counseling
3. Orientation and training in tasar activities
4. Training on traditional health care service delivery
5. ToT on SHGs management
6. Training on forest and agriculture extension services
7. Training on liaison with Line department
8. Exposure to improved agriculture practices
9. Technical and refresher trainings

#### *CCs (Cluster Coordinators):*

1. Advance training on business service provisioning
2. Advance Training on business counseling
3. Training on community enterprise management
4. Training on forest and agriculture extension services
5. Advanced training in traditional health care service delivery
6. Exposure to best practices in cultivation of tasar host plants, tasar silkworm seed production & silkworm rearing and processing
7. Exposure to improved agriculture practices

For the resource persons in the supply chain too, Private Grainage, Basic Seed Production Unit, Rearers' and Reelers' Collective, training will be conducted on the procurement, quality assurance, marketing, establishing linkages, costing and pricing, etc. Similarly, the operators in BSPU, CFCs, Yarn Bank etc., will be trained on respective technologies.

## Chapter 4: Implementation Arrangements

The project would be organized around the existing structure of operations of BAIF, the team model. The project would be implemented by BAIF at project level and by MITTRA at field level with their existing teams based at District level and headed by a Project Coordinator and anchor the project implementation. The team would set up a Field Implementation Units (FIU) at Block level that would spearhead grassroots action. The FIU would comprise Professionals, Subject Matter specials and assistant.

At village level where there is a potential of sericulture, all the women would be organized in to SHGs and after conducting a baseline survey the tasar producers would be organized in to an activity group called “Kosa Vikas Samity” (KVS) out of SHGs comprise plantation farmers, rearers, graineurs, reelers and spinner. The KVS would further form a small group out KVS as Project Execution Committee” (PEC) to implement the project. PEC at Cluster level would take care of various provisions under CIF.

The implementation structure will create space for the individual activities and will be supported by well stated processes to guide the implementation structure. At first, village level planning will be done by the activity group (KVS) where individual families will express their interest, resource base etc. and based on the physical plan, KVS will place their requisition for the transfer of fund in to KVS account specially dedicated for the project implementation. The requisition will be further verified by the concerned FIA professional and will be submitted to FIA. Based on the requisition FIA team at District level, FIA would transfer the fund in to KVS accounts.

The individual families with the help of PEC and the CRP will implement the activities and the bills/ Master rolls of the works will be raised on weekly basis and payments will be made as per the bills/ Master rolls of the works produced. The bills against the grants will be submitted to FIA after verification by the representative of FIA along with representatives from PEC and the CRP. Here the role of monitoring will be undertaken by the PEC & FIA. Individual families will carry out the activity under the handholding support of CRP and the representative of FIA. KVS will submit the entire bill to FIA at the end of every month and after settling all the accounts fresh requisition will be placed based on the plan along with the physical and financial report.

The project implementation plan will be developed and the detailing of the plan will be done by conducting a specific KVS meeting for the planning process and proper minutes will be kept. The members of PEC will also be trained by FIA around the processes, financial management, monitoring etc.

Keeping such a small group will help members of the KVS to interact with each other effectively, maintain the regimentation of the activity. These Primary level organization's (called `Kosa Vikas Samity') main concern will be selection of rearer's, selection of proper rearing site, maintenance of host plants, promotion of new plantations, monitoring of quality standard of DFLs and helping rearer's to access services for rearing and marketing of cocoons. These activity groups will further

share their plan and action taken report in the PEC meeting and will help the KVS in actualizing the plans.

Trainings and capacity building at different levels will further ensure the participation of the individual families and will help the families to express their interest in a logical manner. To ensure the objective of participation, different training events would be organized for community, PEC members, CRPs apart from planning events which themselves an element of capacity building processes.

1) For every aspect of interventions, there will be a strong focus on building required skills and capacities among the beneficiaries in order to enable them manage their livelihoods in the long run. Training would be provided to all categories of beneficiaries to help them acquire technical skills. These trainings will help them to plan in a better way.

2) The KVS and PEC being the spearhead to roll out the project will be trained in different aspects of documentation and book keeping. They will also be trained around the activities and exposure visits around the activities will be done to broaden their perspective and to make a better implementation plan.

3) It is essential for the project to create appropriate mechanism for rigorous monitoring, door step delivery of services and enabling the producers to follow strict quality control regime. FIA would create cost-effective and efficient mechanism by involving village based resource persons/ service providers, who would perform the key functions of managing input-output linkages and ensure delivery of inputs and services at the doorstep. These people will give handholding supports in Tasar, Improved agriculture, Vegetable cultivation and SHG formation. They will manage linkages for seeds, would help the community in procuring inputs such as fertilizers, seedlings, DFLs, establishment of village level nursery for the production of seedlings and also help them in storage and marketing of cocoons. Under the project village level Community Resource Persons will be selected and provided with all kinds of training on the implementation and management of the project and delivering different kind of service even after the end of the project.

4) All the beneficiaries selected under the project would be from existing SHGs in the proposed area. Places where SHGs do not exist, the FIA would form SHGs to initiate community mobilization. The beneficiaries will be organized in to activity groups at the hamlet levels that would be federated to producers' collective at block / district.

5) Rigorous training, exposure, facilitating experience sharing among producers and an internal review mechanism among the producer groups for assessing member performance and CRPs would go a long way towards supporting individual families/ producers to adopt best practices, set better standards and create space for mutual learning. The PIAs would involve the women institutions / producers' groups at every stage from planning, implementation and review in order to create a strong stake of the villagers. Delegating financial responsibility to the primary groups-including the task of fund handling, record keeping and periodic reporting of progress would be important procedures to build ownership of people in the project.

## 4.1. Implementation Plan

Major tasks under the project and its implementation Plan are furnished hereunder in the order of sequence, which may vary from time to time.

<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Plan</b>
<b>Recruitment of project Staff</b>	Recruitment of staffs will be done at different levels for implementation at the village level to staffs that will monitor at block, district, state and at project level. Staffs that will provide support in maintenance of accounts and information.
<b>Preparation of Project Implementation Plan &amp; Flow</b>	FIA/PIA teams at the district level would anchor the implementation of the project. The teams would make plan (as part of the Annual plan of the Team) and set up Field Implementation Units (FIU) that would spearhead grassroots action. The field implementation units would be based at Block level and would be comprise of Professionals, Subject Matter specials and assistant. The FIU would work in the existing SHG clusters and would directly engage with the producers to form primary groups, train producers and CRPs, provide support in planning and implementation and create mechanisms for sustenance.
<b>Orientation &amp; training of staff on MKSP</b>	Training of staffs on Tasar sericulture, agriculture, SHG promotion and activity group promotion will be important to build understanding around MKSP
<b>Training &amp; exposure visits of members of generic and livelihood community based organizations</b>	Existing community based organizations viz. Women self help groups (SHGs) and producer groups will be strengthened to consolidate the ongoing activity while new groups will be formed to expand the activity in neighbouring areas.
<b>Finalization and Identification of potential village/cluster</b>	Cluster/Villages which have potentiality to undertake Tasar Sericulture as an activity based on availability of host plant or potentiality to raise host plant will be mapped out. It would start after orientation.
<b>Baseline Survey</b>	A baseline data on Tasar sericulture practices, farmers Knowledge around the activity, status of SHG and agriculture shall be done in the identified project villages.
<b>Project Inception Workshop</b>	This workshop will be organsied at State level and all the stakeholders will be invited to understand the project and roles of the stakeholders.
<b>SHG saturation in the selected area</b>	Formation of SHGs in the project villages will be done in a saturation mode
<b>Introductory discussion in SHG and at village level</b>	Discussion on implementation with role clarity of various actors; Family and village level planning steps; PEC (Project Execution Committee) formation, CRP selection
<b>Identification of SHG members</b>	This process will go on simultaneously during village selection in consultation with SHG members.
<b>Formation &amp; training of KVS &amp; PEC</b>	All the families under the selected village would be covered under SHGs and an activity group would be formed out SHGs called KosaVikas samity (KVS) to take up the activities. Selected members of the KVS will form Project Execution committee (PEC) at the village level. PEC is the executing body at village level and would be trained before implementation. It would be responsible for execution of project.

<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Plan</b>
<b>Livelihood planning with families</b>	In the identified villages, detailed household level livelihood planning would be organized. The details around the livelihood aspects will be mapped out.
<b>Resource Mapping</b>	The different resources of the village will be put down on the cadastral map to build a common understanding of the implementation team and the community
<b>Designing of training modules and training calendar</b>	The training modules around different activities and their sub activities will be made to build understanding, issues, deliverables and ways to tackle the problems in the activities, will be done
<b>Formation of activity groups</b>	Activity groups around livelihood prototypes identified, during the plan will be formed to take care of the implementation strategy in detail i.e. KVS (KosaVikas Samiti)
<b>Introducing systems of accounts and formation</b>	System of accounting, managing different books for maintaining cash, stock and assets created will be introduced at the PEC level.
<b>Monthly Work schedule and prepare budget</b>	Based on the above, the PEC would accordingly prepare a monthly work schedule and fund requirement
<b>Activity Group training</b>	The activity group shall be provided training for the activities like raising plantation, building infrastructure and about the details of the activity
<b>Supporting producers</b>	The producers at and around different activities will be trained in detail about the activity
<b>Indent by KVS to FIA</b>	The KVS would send the indent for the above plan to FIA
<b>Work Initiation</b>	The work would be initiated on the ground by PEC at this stage
<b>Fund transfer and payment</b>	FIA would help the KVS to open a bank account in the nearest branch and transfer funds in the KVS bank account as per indent
<b>Periodic self and internal review</b>	Review will be done periodically for the smooth functioning at field, team and state level.
<b>Review at implementation level</b>	KVS would meet on weekly basis to monitor its work and it shall prepare the progress report – physical & financial and submit to FIA on monthly basis.
<b>Periodic internal and external monitoring</b>	The project will be monitored periodically through field visits by the team and central unit members
<b>Data capturing, analysis and reporting</b>	The KVS shall submit the report to FIA on monthly basis along with next month plan and indent

Physical phasing of project activities for 3 years, which will be implemented with advance planning. Any modification of the targets and re-phasing of the project activities will be considered only with approval of SLMC.

**4.1.1. Elements of the Implementation Process:** The implementation would be centered on activity group and its collectives. The proposed project would be anchored at the village node, with forming an implementation body among the rearers themselves of the respective villages. A CRP would be assisting these members of activity group and working under them. For smooth implementation this group with CRP would meet weekly for planning & monitoring and supervising during the week. All the members would sit together reviewing the performance in monthly meetings.

**Grassroots mobilization:**

- Identification of potential cluster
- SHG saturation in the selected area,
- Formation of activity groups

**Engaging with producers for livelihood promotion:**

- Livelihood planning with families,
- Training of families with focus on skill development of women,
- Introducing systems of accounts keeping in the activity groups and fund transfer to groups,
- Supporting activity groups (Primary Level Groups) to raise plantations, build infrastructure,
- Supporting producers to carry out production,
- Facilitating product aggregation and marketing,
- Facilitating experience sharing in producers' groups,

**Engaging with external stakeholders:**

- Building linkages with banks and sharing credit plan,
- Connecting producers' groups with input suppliers,
- Market promotion and Establishing contacts with buyers,
- Disseminating project experience among wider stakeholder groups.

**Programme Monitoring and Reporting:**

- Data capturing and collation
- Periodic field visits by the Team and central unit members
- Quarterly review meetings with project staff
- Joint field visit involving CSB and DOS
- Submission of QPR for physical and financial progress,
- Annual Audit report

FIA/PIA's role would be more towards capacity building of the participant family from implementation to management, and build simple systems and processes to implement and monitor the program smoothly. The involvement directly in the field for implementation with the activity group & CRPs would be an integral role, and focus would be to build capacities of the women.

Major elements of the implementation process shall also include the setting up of project offices by FIA/PIA, recruiting project staff, developing management system, project launch workshop followed by Trainers' Training Programme which will be the responsibility of CSB where the project components, norms, technical issues etc., will be covered to bring awareness amongst the project implementing personnel from FIA, PIA, DOS and local CSB units. All these stakeholders will decide on the Knowledge Management issues so as to decide on data base formats, Action research projects, development of directories and news letters, supply chain study on all primary produces under the project etc. This would also help to develop detailed plans and clarify roles and responsibilities. Undertaking baseline survey to identify project participants and assess the situation at project launch so as to make impact evaluation at various stages of project implementation. The survey would provide inputs on which specific intervention areas need to be addresses, to establish functional linkages with infrastructure, human and financial resources, for which information on all schemes and entitlements, mapping out processes, key

systems will be collected. Base line survey outcome will also be utilised to structure the training and exposure visits to the areas where best practices are adopted.

**4.1.2. Project Implementation Plan & Flow:** FIA/PIA teams at the district level would anchor the implementation of the project. The teams would make plan (as part of the Annual plan of the Team) and set up village level and cluster level field Implementation Units that would spearhead grassroots action. These units would be based at village, mandal/ cluster and district level. The FIA would work in the existing SHG clusters and would directly engage with the producers to form primary groups, train producers and CRPs, provide support in planning and implementation and create mechanisms for sustenance.

The thematic and overall programme support to the teams would be provided by a central Unit, which would be responsible for the implementation of Tasar sericulture projects in multiple states. The Central Unit (Project Facilitation and Resource Cell) would be constituted of domain experts who would be responsible for mobilizing HR, training of staff and CRP, offering support for technology, finance management, programme monitoring, documentation and networking with stakeholders. Fund required for setting up of this unit would be pooled from all the states/ projects for tasar sector.

**4.1.2.1. Internal structure for implementation:** The project would be organized around the existing structure of operations of PIA/FIA team model. The Project coordinators would be responsible for implementation of the proposed project at village level with the based institutions. The capacity building, field level guidance and handholding of the institutions and leaders would be their responsibility. Importantly, these people would work to bring in transformative changes among the participating families. Review of the programmes would be done in monthly team meetings. FIA would also bring in its implementation plans at field level which would be finalised during the first quarter of year-1 in coordination with CSB.

**4.1.2.2. Role of CRP- Knowledge dissemination, monitoring and scaling up:** There is pressing need to engage with the community to build their skills, making them aware about new scientific practices of doing in the field of tasar Sericulture and building their vision and understanding around collectives. So there is a high need to create a sector specialist cadre who works with a belief that engagement at cutting edge will bring the theory of change and one of our major strategies will be to create such a pool. CSB sanctioned ISDS (Integrated Skill Development Scheme) project to tasar sericulture areas for Skill Development for the existing producers of special SGSY projects in Bihar and Jharkhand. The training will be provided jointly by NGO and CSB and skilled person would be utilized in the field for the implementation of such projects. Emphasis will be given on selection of beneficiaries, organizing Self Help Groups (SHGs) for various activities, signing of agreement with beneficiaries, development of infrastructure etc during the early period of the project, to get maximum project output and keep the tribal's interested in Tasar culture, utilization of the existing Tasar food plants in the forest areas/ raised under other schemes, Skill up-gradation, handholding support to beneficiaries in creation of activity groups are the primary activities which will be achieved by engaging Community Resource Persons (CRP). Disease monitoring, technological support etc will also be looked after by these groups of resource person's. Development of pool of Community Resource Persons will be a prime focus of the

project. A large number of village based resource persons would be trained under the project. This resource person would be part of a rigorous follow-up mechanism to offer handholding support to the beneficiaries of the project.

**4.1.2.3. Role of project staff and community professionals:** The sector in the present context where states are reducing its size, there is high need of young and energetic people to rejuvenate it. The professional influx will help to anchor a multi-stakeholder in complex socio-cultural region of the country to deliver the mandate of establishing and spreading Tasar sector. This will strengthen the human resource systems for direct work, inclusion of new areas by influencing other actors, especially by strengthening capabilities of other civil society actors. BAIF will also use the services of Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) to provide technical support to the beneficiaries at different stages of growth period. There will be multiple numbers of trainings to cater the knowledge deficits of professionals, SMS; trainings around extension services, handholding support to communities, improved agriculture, Vegetable cultivation, Institution buildings of Producer Collectives and Nurturing of SHG's will remain the prime focus. The HR development is a year round programme and therefore will continue throughout the year or seasonal if the activities are seasonal in nature. The engagements of trainings are elaborately mentioned in the Gantt chart. Detailed functional responsibilities of various agencies viz., CSB, BAIF and DOS are indicated under the Chapter 7.2. PIA will submit the details of the project staff and community professionals within the first quarter of the Year-1.

**4.1.2.4. Geography and Yearly Distribution:** Though four districts are proposed to be covered under the project, focus would be on Gadchiroli and Gondia for seed augmentation and other main activities, followed by Chandrapur and Yavatmal, where mostly commercial seed production and rearings will be taken up utilising the existing host flora. Activity-wise, district-wise and year-wise work plans indicating physical targets under various activities will be worked out by the FIA in consultation with PIA, CSB and DOS keeping in view the available infrastructure including host flora and possible linkages for value addition.

**4.1.3. Schedule of Activities:** While the all the project components and activities are depicted in the Gantt chart, the key activities under tasar sector and their scheduling is indicate below.

**Activity Chart for raising Kisan nursery of Tasar host plants**

ACTIVITY/ Month & Fortnight	APRIL		MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUG	
	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II
Preparation of land for nursery	■									
Collection of arjuna seeds	▨	▨								
Making cattle proof trench	▩									
Procurement of inputs		▨								
Filling up of poly bags			▨							
Soaking, heap formation & germination of seeds			▩	▩						
Placing germinated seed in poly bags				▩						
Maintenance of seedlings				▩	▩	▩	▩	▩	▩	▩
Supply of seedlings									▩	▩



### Activity Chart for raising Block & Chawki Plantation of Tasar host plants

ACTIVITY/ Month & Fortnight	APRIL		MAY		AUG		SEPT		NOV		DEC	
	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II
Land husbandry		■	■									
Making cattle proof trench		■	■									
Digging of pits & filling with rooting media		■	■	■								
Procurement of seedlings					■	■						
Transplantation of seedlings					■	■						
Maintenance of plantation												
Basin formation							■	■				
Application of vermicompost/ organic manure									■	■	■	■

### Activity Schedule for Hoeing operation in Tasar host plantation

Age of the plant	Hoeing Sequence	Hoeing Schedule	Radius of the hoeing circle
2 months after transplantation	1 <sup>st</sup> . hoeing	Sept. - Oct.	1 ft. from the plant base
1 Year after Transplantation	1 <sup>st</sup> . Hoeing	June -July	1.5 ft from the plant base
	2 <sup>nd</sup> . Hoeing	Sept.-Oct	
2 years after transplantation	1 <sup>st</sup> . Hoeing	June -July	2 ft. from the plant base
	2 <sup>nd</sup> . Hoeing	Sept.-Oct	
3 Years after transplantation	1 <sup>st</sup> . Hoeing	June -July	2.5 ft. from the plant base
	2 <sup>nd</sup> . Hoeing	Sept.-Oct	

### Activity Schedule for Tasar Silkworm Rearing

#### Crop Season – Bivoltine

I crop – Seed

II crop – Commercial

#### Crop Season – Triivoltine

I crop - TV Seed

II crop - TV Seed

III crop - TV Commercial

#### Season

July-August

Sept-October

July-August

Sept-October

Nov.-January

### Activity Chart for Nucleus Seed and Commercial Rearing

ACTIVITY/ Month & Fortnight	JUN		JUL		AUG		SEP		OCT		NOV	
	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II
Application of inputs for maintenance of plantation		■	■		■	■						
Supply of tasar silkworm seed							■					
Crop & Rearers' insurance					■	■	■	■	■	■		
Conducting silkworm rearing							■	■	■	■	■	■
Harvesting of seed cocoons											■	■
Disposal of seed cocoons												■

**Note: First set is of BV and second set is for TV**

### Activity Chart for Basic Seed Rearing

ACTIVITY/ Month & Fortnight	JUNE		JULY		AUGUST		SEPT.		OCT.	
	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II
Supply of inputs for maint. of block plantation		■	■		■	■				
Supply of Basic seed to BSRs			■							
Crop & Rearers' insurance	■									
Conducting silkworm rearing			■	■	■	■	■	■		
Harvesting of seed cocoons					■	■			■	■
Disposal of seed cocoons					■	■		■	■	

**Note: First set is of BV and second set is for TV**

### Activity chart for Commercial Seed Production

ACTIVITY/Month & Fortnight	APR		MAY		JUN		JUL		AUG		SEPT.		OCT		NOV	
	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II
Construction of grainage	■	■														
Procurement of grainage equipment			■	■												
Procurement of consumables						■	■									
Procurement of seed									■				■			
Processing of seed cocoons									■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Prodn of commercial DFLs										■	■	■	■	■	■	
Sale/supply of pierced												■	■			■

**Note: First set is of BV and second set is for TV**

**4.1.4. Social Audit:** In order to measure and improve the social performance of the project interventions, social audit will be taken up from the empanelled resource organisation of NRLM. Proposed social audit attempts to assess the tribal's interest, priorities and perceptions to make the implementation process open and accountable to them. Socio-economic impact studies would also be entrusted to professional organisations well versed in the subject in collaboration with the Coordinating Agency, to assess the project benefits accrued from the society's angle.

**4.1.5. Development Communication Strategy:** In order to replicate the proven best practices across the tasar silk value chain and also other income generating activities with suitable modifications, various publicity and extension strategies would be employed. Some of them include training programmes, language neutral materials on do's and don'ts, video films etc., through Digital Green.

**4.1.6. Forward Linkage Initiatives:** Though project is being proposed with funding from MoRD and CSB, dovetailing with other schemes like MGNREGS for plantation, RKVY and others for post-cocoon, value addition and infrastructure, State Plan schemes of DOS for farm mechanisation and productivity incentive etc., will be considered in order to increase the coverage by utilising savings from MoRD share for other relevant and innovative activities and also for upscaling. **Available assistance from the DOS would also be extended to the project area so that the project size can be upscaled besides planning for new activities for better integration and value addition.**

#### **4.1.7. Plans for Post-project Sustainability and Scaling-up strategies**

Tasar culture is an age old practice in the project area of the rural poor specially the Scheduled Tribes. The assured availability of quality commercial seed, improved technologies and the means for its adoption provided under the project, increase in the food plant population by maintaining Tasar host flora in natural forests/ private waste lands and chawkie garden leads not only to the increased production and productivity but also to sustain the project beyond the project period.

Organization of beneficiaries and different stakeholders into manageable groups, SHGs, KVS, and integrating them into KSS/ KMS would strengthen the development of the industry. Establishment of required infrastructure within the project area, capacity building through training programmes and study tours, establishment of credit linkages with financial institutions helps in sustainability of the project. The increased earning capacity of the beneficiaries with increased productivity and quality, development of viable rural enterprises such as Private Grainage, Seed rearing, reeling, spinning, etc would take the project beyond simple sustenance to a viable commercial activity.

The project empowers rural poor in general and the women in particular economically with the introduction of the activities through technologies, which are women friendly, child unfriendly, hygienic and superior in terms of both quality and quantity production. This would along with introduction of improved machinery and technologies, establishment of backward and forward linkages between various groups would definitely result in self-sustainability of different activities.

The present Project is formulated based on the experience and lessons learnt during the earlier developmental Projects with an emphasis on formation of groups and producers' collective with establishment of effective forward and backward linkages. The biodiversity conservation is another important issue that is being effectively addressed through raising of plantations and scientific utilization of the forest trees. These measures on adoption by the existing Tasar rearer's as well as by those who take up the new rural micro enterprises like the private grainage by the middle level educated unemployed, contributes to the sustainability of the project beyond the project period. The economics of various activities like private grainage, seed and commercial rearing besides yarn production activities indicates that the Project components rightly contributes towards poverty reduction, gender equity and has all the potentialities of a sustainable rural model for socio-economic development.

Project output would be compared with the following indicators.

- ❖ The entire requirement of dfis in the commercial crop would be met through village based private Grainage to be established under this project.
- ❖ Gestation period for newly raised plantations would be limited to 3 years by adopting recommended technologies.
- ❖ By the end of third year, the producer's institution would attain self-reliance to sustain targeted standards of production.
- ❖ Producers' collective will be self sustainable in operation.

#### **4.1.8. Marketing Arrangement:**

In the past three decades, the demand for Silk in the domestic market has increased at the rate of 5% per year on real terms. However, the production of Tasar silk during the same period has increased significantly in the last five years, gone up from 428 MT in 2007-08 to 1585 MT in 2011-12 (source: Annual Report, CSB). The overall demand for Tasar silk far exceeds its supply from within India. Hence India has to import nearly 6,000 MT (the raw silk import of 2010-11 is 5,820 MT) of raw silk from China and Korea to meet its demand. The total value of Tasar fabric trade in India is estimated to be nearly Rs.450 crore. The domestic market accounts for nearly 60% of the total trade and the export market contributes the remaining.

As sericulture is a state subject under the Constitution of India, respective State Governments have the responsibility to take steps to formulate and implement schemes for sericulture development. However, allocations for the development of the industry are made on the basis of annual plans approved by the Planning Commission. Central Silk Board (CSB), under the Union Ministry of Textiles is the nodal agency of the Central Government that co-ordinates the development of the sericulture industry in various states and advises the Central Government on all matters relating to the development of sericulture. Besides the Central and State Government sericulture establishments, there are other important actors who contribute to the overall growth and development of the sericulture industry. These actors do take care of the marketing system by different means, some of the key actors and their role in marketing is as follows.

#### **Central Silk Board (CSB)**

The CSB has its headquarters in Bangalore. As the apex sericulture promotion institution in the country, the CSB is directly responsible for organizing sericulture research, training, basic seed production and also in sustaining a fair price mechanism for Tasar cocoons through its subsidiary organization called RMB (Raw Material Bank)

#### **Raw Material Bank (RMB)**

The RMB offers support prices for Tasar cocoons. They buy cocoons directly from rearer's through cocoon haats (markets). The RMB support price is fixed by a designated Price Fixation Committee, which is composed of representatives from rearer's, weavers, NGOs, khadi institutions, State Sericulture establishments and nominated CSB officials. The RMB is headquartered in Chaibasa, Jharkhand.

#### **State Sericulture Departments (DoS)**

The Departments of Sericulture (DoS) in states such as Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh offers market supports for Tasar cocoons by operating cocoon banks. Odisha on the other hand has been the only State where the Government had made systematic efforts to promote Tasar Producers' Cooperative as a means to strengthen the livelihoods of producers across the value chain. This initiative was undertaken in the late '70s and early '80s with a focus to bring all the producers within the folds of collectives. The Cooperatives took responsibilities of organizing DFL supply, offered extension services and bought bulk of the cocoons from the rearer's at fair prices.

## Chapter 5: Implementation Schedule

The implementation schedule has been broken down into steps and schedule for year-1 is illustrated on a Gantt chart below, which would be repeated more or less depending on various project components.

### A. Activity Schedule :

ACTIVITIES	M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12
Month→	(Nov)	(Dec)	(Jan)	(Feb)	(Mar)	(Apr)	(May)	(Jun)	(July)	(Aug)	(Sep)	(Oct)
Year→	2013			2014								
<b>PLANNING</b>												
Staff deployment												
Staff orientation/ Training												
Finalization of villages												
Identification of SHG members												
PEC formation, training												
Community exposure												
Family/Village level Planning												
<b>ACTIVITY</b>												
<b>Raising of Block Plantation</b>												
<b>Raising of Kisan Nursery</b>												
Selection of private entrepreneurs/SHGs												
Preparation of land for nursery												
Collection of Arjuna seeds												
Making cattle proof trench												
Procurement of FYM, Poly Bags etc.												
Filling up of poly bags												
Soaking of seed, Heap formation & germination of seeds												
Placing germinated seed into poly bags												
Maintenance of seedlings												
Supply of seedlings												
<b>Raising of Plantation</b>												
Survey & selection of villages & Govt./ private land/waste land etc												
Selection of beneficiaries												
Formation of Self Help Groups												
Allotment of land to beneficiaries/SHGs												
Land husbandry												
Making cattle proof trench												
Digging of pits & filling with rooting media												
Procurement of seedlings												
Transplantation of seedlings												
Maintenance of plantation												
<b>Assistance to Nucleus Seed Rearer's</b>												
Selection of Nucleus Seed Rearer's (NSR)												
Signing of agreement with NSR												
Supply of inputs for maintenance of plantation												
Supply of Nucleus seed to NSR												
Crop & Rearer's' insurance												

ACTIVITIES	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Month→	(Nov)	(Dec)	(Jan)	(Feb)	(Mar)	(Apr)	(May)	(Jun)	(July)	(Aug)	(Sep)	(Oct)
Year→	2013			2014								
Conducting silkworm rearing												
Silkworm Rearing assistance to NSR												
<b>Assistance to Basic Seed Rearer's</b>												
Selection of seed farmers												
Signing of agreement with BSRs												
Supply of inputs for maint. of block plantation												
Supply of Basic seed to BSRs												
Crop & Rearer's' insurance												
Conducting silkworm rearing												
Harvesting of seed cocoons												
Disposal of seed cocoons												
<b>Assistance to Private Graineurs</b>												
Identification of private graineurs												
Construction of Grainage building												
Procurement & supply of grainage equipment												
Supply consumables												
Procurement of seed cocoons by graineurs												
Processing of seed cocoons												
Production of commercial DFLs												
Sale/supply of pierced cocoons												
<b>Assistance to Commercial Rearer's</b>												
Identify Commercial Rearer's (CR)												
Establish linkages												
Supply inputs for rearing												
Supply rearing equipment												
Provide insurance cover to com. crops & rearer's												
Procurement of commercial DFLs												
Silkworm Rearing assistance to CR												
<b>Creation of Infrastructure facilities under the project</b>												
Assistance to Basic Seed Production Units												
Assistance to Rearer's' Collectives												
Establishment of Cocoon Bank												
Establishment of Tasar Yarn Bank												
<b>HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT</b>												
<b>Trainers Training Programme</b>												
Technical training of project personnel												
<b>Technical training for Households for implementation of sericulture activities</b>												
Nursery farmers												
Nucleus Seed Rearer's												
Basic Seed Rearer's												
Private Graineurs												
Commercial Rearer's												
Study tour/ Exposure visit												
<b>Technical training for sectoral activities</b>												
Improved Agriculture												
vegetable cultivation												

ACTIVITIES	M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12
Month→	(Nov)	(Dec)	(Jan)	(Feb)	(Mar)	(Apr)	(May)	(Jun)	(July)	(Aug)	(Sep)	(Oct)
Year→	2013		2014									
Exposure of beneficiaries to improved practices												
<b>Training of Community Resource Persons (CRPs) for extension of activities</b>												
Orientation and training on Tasar												
Exposure to improved practices												
Technical and Refresher Training												
<b>On-field training / handholding provided by CRPs to the Project Families</b>												
Tasar Silkworm Rearing												
Tasar Seed Production												
Est. of Community Arjuna Nursery												
Improved agriculture												
Vegetable cultivation												
<b>Institution building of Producer Collectives</b>												
Membership training												
Leadership/ Governance Training												
Exposure of Board members & staff												
<b>Nurturing of New Self-Help-Groups (SHGs)</b>												
Membership training												
Leadership Training												
Book keeping Training												
Exposure of Cluster & Federation Members												
Livelihood Visioning												
<b>Trainers Training programme</b>												
<b>PUBLICITY AND EXTENSION</b>												
Workshop/seminar												
Printing passbook/pamphlets												
Krishi mela												
<b>DISEASE MONITORING</b>												
<b>DOCUMENTATION AND EVALUATION</b>												
<b>CONSULTANCY AND ADVOCACY</b>												
<b>PROJECT ADMINISTRATION</b>												
<b>PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION</b>												
<b>PROJECT MONITORING</b>												

## Chapter 6: Results Framework

### Project: Promotion of Large Scale Tasar Sericulture Based Livelihoods in Maharashtra

<p><b>Goal: The Goal of the project is to eliminate abject poverty of 60% of the project families by income enhancement of Rs. 10,000 - Rs. 18,000 per annum per household on a sustainable basis</b></p>		
<p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building capacities of all participating families in adopting skills to effectively and profitably engage in livelihood activities based on Tasar sericulture</li> <li>• Introduction of improved technologies and practices to push the productivity frontiers for accelerated growth in Tasar Sector</li> <li>• Strengthening seed sector to eliminate the key supply constraint in Tasar sericulture</li> <li>• Investment to create alternative market mechanisms to ensure fair prices for cocoons</li> <li>• Promote Producers' collective to provide sustainable systems of services to producers</li> <li>• Design development and dissemination</li> </ul>		
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Silkworm rearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 3066 families would be involved as silkworm rearer's</li> <li>➤ Each family will be provided with rearing equipments.</li> <li>➤ Each family would produce 10,000 to 12,000 commercial grade cocoons.</li> <li>➤ Number of Rearer's Collectives –5 would help in storage of cocoons to avoid distress sale</li> <li>➤ No. of producers' collective formed- 4</li> <li>➤ 200 ha of plantation will be raised and 1750 Ha of natural forest will be rejuvenated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Participating families profitably engage in livelihood activities based on Tasar sericulture: Cocoon Productivity: 32 seed cocoons per dfl in the Seed crop and 40 Cocoons per dfl's in the commercial crop.</li> <li>➤ Plantation raised &amp; rejuvenated</li> <li>➤ Assistance to nucleus seed graineurs would help produce 3, 20000 quality cocoons, which would help earn Rs. 25,652 per household per season.</li> <li>➤ Commercial rearer's would earn Rs 14,020 per season/- per household</li> </ul>
Tasar seed production (Grainage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Total number of Grainage: <b>60</b></li> <li>➤ Each Grainage entrepreneur would be provided with grainage hall and required equipments.</li> <li>➤ Grainage would be an individual enterprise at village level</li> <li>➤ Each Grainage entrepreneur would produce 5,000 to 6,000 DFLs/ cycle</li> <li>➤ Individual Graineurs would serve the requirement of 25-30 rearer's/ cycle.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The entire requirement of dfl's in the commercial crop would be met through village based Grainage</li> <li>➤ Availability of quality dfl's at village level</li> <li>➤ Graineurs would earn Rs 18,668/- per season/per household</li> </ul>
Basic seed production unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Total number of basic seed production unit: <b>1</b></li> <li>➤ Each basic seed production unit would be provided with one Grainage hall along with processing unit and required grainage equipment.</li> <li>➤ Basic seed production unit would be owned by the collective.</li> <li>➤ Each unit would produce 25,000 to 30, 000 basic seed</li> <li>➤ Individual basic seed production unit would serve the requirement of 50 - 60 Grainage entrepreneurs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Availability of quality DFLs in field locations</li> <li>➤ Strengthening of the value chain</li> <li>➤ Dependency on government departments to self sufficiency</li> </ul>



<p><b>Goal: The Goal of the project is to eliminate abject poverty of 60% of the project families by income enhancement of Rs. 10,000 - Rs. 18,000 per annum per household on a sustainable basis</b></p>		
<p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building capacities of all participating families in adopting skills to effectively and profitably engage in livelihood activities based on Tasar sericulture</li> <li>• Introduction of improved technologies and practices to push the productivity frontiers for accelerated growth in Tasar Sector</li> <li>• Strengthening seed sector to eliminate the key supply constraint in Tasar sericulture</li> <li>• Investment to create alternative market mechanisms to ensure fair prices for cocoons</li> <li>• Promote Producers' collective to provide sustainable systems of services to producers</li> <li>• Design development and dissemination</li> </ul>		
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Building capacities of all participating families ,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Hamlet level visioning / planning exercises,</li> <li>➤ Technical training for productivity enhancement,</li> <li>➤ Handholding support by Community Resource Persons (CRPs), on a day-to-day basis,</li> <li>➤ Exposures for adopting improved practices,</li> <li>➤ Selection and extensive training of CRPs. Reviewing effectiveness and providing and on-field support.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A cadre of CRPs provide on-field support to the rearing families and help them in credit and market linkages</li> <li>➤ 82 trained community resource persons providing technical support to 4157 households on Tasar activities of which 60 farmers trained on nursery raising, 40 trained nucleus seeds rearer's, 240 trained basic seed rearer's, 60 trained private graineurs and 2785 trained commercial rearer's, 100 reelers and 40 spinners</li> <li>➤ 3266 Households in Improved agriculture and 653 Households in Vegetable cultivation will be trained</li> </ul>
Promoting and nurturing Producer Institutions to ensure sustained availability of linkages and services for the participating families,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of producers' collective: <b>4</b></li> <li>➤ Awareness building around the need to collectivize,</li> <li>➤ Membership training to build a sense of ownership and to understand the accountability as a member,</li> <li>➤ Exposure and training of the governing board members,</li> <li>➤ Training and support to staff to effectively deliver the goods and services mandated by the organization.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The self sustained District / Block level aggregations of the primary groups enable the producers to sustain their targeted standards of production.</li> <li>➤ Interdependency</li> </ul>
Market Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Design development in Tasar weaving clusters and its promotion</li> <li>➤ Design competition among weavers</li> <li>➤ Design competition among design student/ institutes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fair price to the silkworm rearer's against their produce</li> <li>➤ Stabilization of yarn prices and create alternative marketing mechanisms</li> </ul>

The major outputs of the project after 3<sup>rd</sup> Year (on attaining full capacity) would be:

- a. Annual production of 0.25 lakh basic seed & 3.0 lakh dfls of commercial seed
- b. Production of 2.12 crore pieces of Tasar cocoons annually
- c. Annual production of 16.94 MT of Raw Silk

In addition to above, there will be a total increase of paddy production and also vegetable cultivation for prolonged period of food security among the 5790 project households. The above outputs would lead to an additional income for all the households in addition to prolonging period of food security by at least 4 months. Using the logical framework as the tool, the project will work through a result-based management approach. The indicators specified in the Log Frame will be taken into the baseline and end line impact evaluation studies, and also in the monitoring, evaluation and learning system that is proposed for the project. This will ensure that all the required indicators to achieve the outputs and objective of the project will be monitored closely. The project will ensure training for the teams on the Result Based Management Principles (including log frame) so that these are used effectively in practice and in decision making.

## Chapter 7: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Monitoring, evaluation and learning proposed under the project is based on the requirements stipulated for MKSP Project with an objective to ensure **efficient usage of resources, effective achievement of outcomes and maximized impact**. The overall objective of the M&E system would be four-fold:

- (i) Understanding **Performance** (inputs, activities, results, process quality) and **Effectiveness** (outcomes and impact)
- (ii) Being **Accountable** (upward and downward)
- (iii) Extract Key **Learning** – What works well and what not? and why, etc. and
- (iv) Feeding back the Learning to Action – **Planning and Action**.

The focus is on all the four key areas, rather than just stopping at capturing information for reporting. The components of the monitoring, evaluation and learning framework are:

- (i) input-activity monitoring (human, money and material) to track progress on utilization of resources by the way of plan vs actual, quality of inputs and timely supply;
- (ii) process monitoring, to improve the quality of implementation of key activities;
- (iii) output monitoring, to track achievement of results and analyze reasons for under-achievements, if any and improve;
- (iv) outputs to purpose reviews to measure the project's progress towards purpose and contribution by each outputs;
- (v) impact monitoring to track the visible and emerging changes among the target communities, external environment and the value for money.
- (vi) In addition, the system will also keep track on cross-cutting issues and risks/assumptions made in the project at periodical intervals.
- (vii) To address the downward accountability, a community-led system of social audit will be planned.
- (viii) For addressing public disclosure, the project will develop a policy and system for the same.

The M&E system with its tools, protocols will be developed during first quarter of the project. This will be linked to web-based monitoring system.

### 7.1. Web-based MIS and Real Time Input-Output Monitoring at Various Levels

Based on the finalised M&E framework for the Project, the information will be collected at various levels – members, KVS, Cluster, District and overall for the Project level; also at the processing unit levels – Primary and Secondary. Software wherein the information pertaining to various levels could be automated and updated on the web-based MIS is proposed to be developed for all the MKSP Tasar Projects by pooling funds together for the purpose.

- Profile of the Village, KVS, Resource Mapping of NTFP, MAP and Maharashtra
- Inputs and activities undertaken by the project – in terms of number of training, meetings, etc.
- Outputs delivered by the Project as per the logical framework

During the first quarter of the project, software development will take place which will be based on the web-based information sharing system. Quarterly update of information for the Project will be undertaken and will be available for sharing as required.

## 7.2. Review Mechanisms

The review mechanisms to be used by the Project will be built on the existing system at Central Silk Board and BAIF besides meeting the requirements under MKSP. The following will be the mechanisms to be used by PIA/FIA at various levels to ensure complete review and learning process.

Sl. No.	Level	Forums/ Review Mechanism	Frequency	People	Responsibility for Conducting & documentn	Purpose
1	Village	KVS Meeting	Fortnightly/ Monthly	KVS Members, CRP, mainly; CC from cluster may join for few meetings	CRPs	To check the progress on activities planned; to review the production and practices related, procurement, pricing, quality considerations, marketing, credit, entitlements, etc.
2	Cluster	Project Staff Meeting	Monthly	CRPs, CC mainly, District staff may join for few meetings	CC	Review the project activities and project deliverables. Also the review of product transactions, linkages, etc. as a part of the supply chain
3	Cluster	KSS Meeting	Monthly	KVS Reps, CRPs, CC mainly; District staff may join for few meetings	CC	Review the procurement, processing, pricing, quality considerations, marketing, credit, etc. + Institutional strength
4	District	KMS Meeting	Monthly	CC from clusters, District Manager, and CBO reps mainly; Project Coordinator could join in few meetings	DM	Review the project activities and project deliverables. Also the review of product transactions, linkages, etc. as a part of the supply chain
5	District	Reflection Meeting	Six Monthly/ Annual - Planning and Review	CC from clusters, District Manager, and CBO reps and Project Coordinator	DM	Review the procurement, processing, pricing, quality considerations, marketing, credit, etc. – with representatives of the CFs and other CBOs and Project staff

Sl. No.	Level	Forums/ Review Mechanism	Frequency	People	Responsibility for Conducting & documentn	Purpose
5	District	KMS Meeting	Six Monthly/ Annual - Planning and Review	KVS reps, CRPs, CC plus District staff	DM	Review the procurement, processing, pricing, quality considerations, marketing, credit, etc. + Institutional strength
6	Project Level	Project Staff Meeting	Quarterly	DMs, select CO, Project level teams - Programme, Finance	PM	Review the project activities and project deliverables – with Project staff from various districts at the project level
7	Project Level	Reflection Meeting	Annual - Planning and Review	DMs, select CO, Project level teams - Programme, Finance	PM	Annual review, reflection and planning; learning, SWOT
8	Project Level	State Level CBO Meeting	Annual - Planning and Review	MACS Reps, DMs and select members from KVS, CBOs, CC and CRP	PM	Annual review, reflection and planning; learning, SWOT

*Note: Reference documents for the above meetings would be the minutes/ reports*

Besides the above review mechanism by the FIA, following are the review systems proposed to be followed under the project by PIA and the Co-ordinating Agency for effective implementation of the project. FIA and PIA will decide on the CBOs at various levels on the lines of other NTFPs/MAPs/AP with focus on tasar related products.

**7.2.1. Project Implementation:** The Project will be implemented by BAIF involving the Field Implementing Agency, MITTRA. FIA will have its field office preferably in Gachiroli or Gondia district with district level project implementation teams. Cluster/ District level review of the project implementation and progress on field level implementation modalities will be discussed at the district level involving the project representatives of BAIF and District Officers of DOS besides the Project Officer, representative of CSB, just before the crop season (to plan for the crop) and after the crop season (to review the performance), with active participation of the CBOs, FIA etc. **Only selected clusters will be covered with saturation approach in all the districts, with due care not to duplicate.** The FIA through its field offices and units located in the project area shall implement the project as per the Annual work plans approved by **State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC)**. The strategy for implementation may be drawn in association with the Project Coordinator well in advance. The FIA shall keep the PIA informed of all the matters connected with the project. It will also meet all the requirements prescribed by MoRD for MKSP-NTFP projects in submission of physical and financial progress, utilisation certificates, placing indents etc. FIA/PIA shall design monitoring and learning systems to facilitate learning and feedback to help community improve and to ensure quality and quantum of work against the plans.

**7.2.2. Project Monitoring:** The CEO, MSRLM will be the **Chairman, State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC)** and the nominated officer of MSRLM or his representative would be the **Member Convener** of the SLMC, as per the

convenience, who will coordinate and assist the CEO in closely monitoring the activities under the Project.

The SLMC would closely monitor the implementation of the project by reviewing the overall physical and financial progress every quarter and suggest necessary actions for successful implementation of the Project, as per yearly work plans. The SLMC shall submit periodical reports on the monitoring of the project activities with its critical comments and suggestions to MoRD and CSB every quarter. The proposed constitution of the SLMC is as follows:

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 1) The CEO, MSRLM, Mumbai  | Chairman        |
| 2) Scientist In-charge & Project Coordinator, CSB  | Member          |
| 3) Nodal Officer, CSB (BTSSO)/ Incharge, RO, CSB   | Member          |
| 4) Project Coordinator, BAIF/ MITTRA   | Member          |
| 5) In-charge Officer of Local DoS Office located<br>in the project area and connected with the project | Member          |
| 6) In-charge officers of CSB field units in the project area   | Member          |
| 7) Representatives of beneficiaries from all the categories  | Member          |
| 8) Representative of Financial institution/Lead Bank<br>Connected with the Project                     | Member          |
| 9) Representative of Insurance Company<br>connected with the project.                                  | Member          |
| 10) Representative of Forest/ other Line Departments/Tribal welfare<br>connected with the project.     | Member          |
| 11) Officer nominated by CEO, MSRLM  | Member Convener |

The State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC) shall meet every half year or more often depending on the project requirement and review of the progress. Detailed ToR will be finalised and communicated by the Chairman, SLMC.

**7.2.3. State Level Technical Project Support Group:** As the proposed projects intend to transfer the proven technologies evolved by research institutes in seed, pre-cocoon and post-cocoon sector, to address any technical issues raised during implementation of the projects, a State Level Technical Project Support Group is proposed under the project, which will be chaired by the Director of Sericulture, Govt. of Maharashtra with the Project Officer, CSB as Member Convener. Representatives of PIA, FIA and CSB would be members of the said committee, whose ToR will be finalised by CSB for all MKSP projects together. This Group would also be involved in constituting sub-groups for beneficiary selection, joint field visits, establishing functional linkages with respect to key inputs etc. The Group would also discuss on dovetailing/ converging other schemes to upscale and also to improve income augmenting efforts besides suggesting revisions if any to PMB.

As far as possible, the Group's meeting should coincide with PMC under CDP or SLSCC, so that it would facilitate other members to be present in the meeting and a holistic review can take place. Based on the requirement, Nodal Officers from CSB (BTSSO) field units propose to hold such meetings together for all the project states, which may be held together with the PMB. Also Nodal Officers shall report to the Project Coordinator on the research gaps, if any observed during the implementation so that the same can be posed to the research institutes concerned. A forum will

also be created to discuss the research gaps and innovative ideas, if any coming out from the field, which will be reviewed by the PMB or Project Resource and Facilitation Unit, which is proposed to be set up for all the MKSP Tasar Projects. Representative of Project Resource and Facilitation Unit will be a special invitee at PMB, SLMC, District level monitoring and also Technical Committee meetings as per the specific need.

**7.2.4. Project Review Committee:** A Project Review Committee is constituted at State level with the Secretary (Rural Development) of the state as the Chairman and the CEO, MSRLM as Member Convener with participation from CSB and DOS of the concerned state and other line departments, which would monitor and periodically review the project. CEO, MSRLM would finalise the constitution and ToR of the said Committee.

**7.2.5. Project Co-ordination & Management:** The Member Secretary of CSB would be the Chairperson of the Project Management Board (PMB) with the Scientist in-charge of the projects, Central Silk Board and the Project Coordinator as Member Convener of the PMB. The PMB would take care of linkages amongst the MKSP Projects in tasar sector in other states for supply of critical inputs viz., nucleus & basic seed, avail services of CRPs etc., besides review and revision of the project after mid-term evaluation, if required. PMB may be held together for all the project states or separately for each project state, when only members pertaining to that state would be invited. Proposed composition of the PMB is as follows:

1. The Member Secretary, Central Silk Board	Chairman
2. Representative of Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, New Delhi	Member
3. The Directors of Sericulture of all the Project States	Member
4. The Director, CTR&TI, Ranchi	Member
5. The Director, CSTRI, Bangalore	Member
6. The Director, BTSSO, Bilaspur	Member
7. The Executive Director, PRADAN, New Delhi	Member
8. In-Charge, Project Implementation, PRADAN, Deoghar	Member
9. In-Charge, Project Implementation, BAIF, Maharashtra	Member
10. In-Charge, Project Implementation, SERP, Andhra Pradesh	Member
11. Scientist In charge, CSB, Bangalore and Project Coordinator	Member Convener

The Project Monitoring Board shall meet once in a year, or more often depending on the project requirement and review of the progress of all the projects together or separately for each or some of the states depending on the convenience. The CEOs/ Mission Directors of the SRLMs, In charges of Regional Offices, CSB of Project states, Nodal Officers & Project Officers, CSB and officers from any other line departments may also be invited depending on the specific issues pertaining to any of the project state.

#### **7.2.6. Role of the organizations involved**

**7.2.6.1. Central Silk Board (CSB):** Being the Coordinating Agency, shall coordinate with MORD in fund release, monitoring, mid-term review and mid-course corrections, if required. CSB also ensures timely fund release of both MoRD and CSB share to PIA besides extending required technical support in training personnel involved in