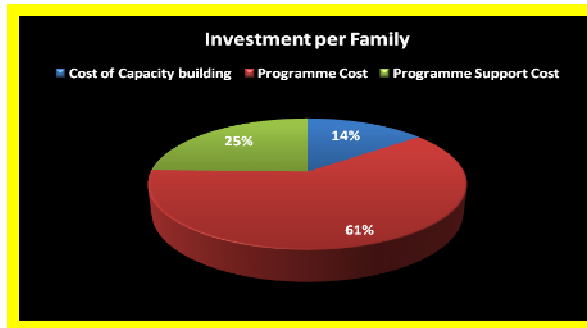
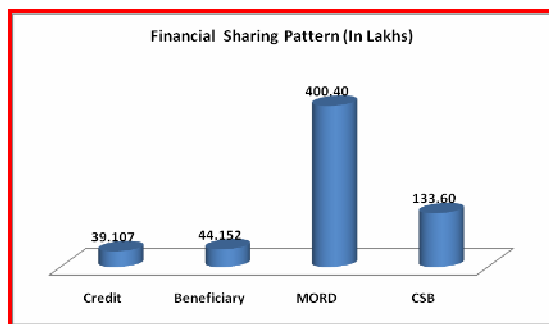


Promotion of Large Scale Tasar Sericulture Based Livelihoods in West Bengal

MKSP project for tasar development in West Bengal is implemented in the district of South Bankura and Paschim Medinipur with a project outlay of **6.173** crores shared by MoRD (Rs.4.004 crores), CSB (Rs.1.336 crores) and credit & beneficiary (0.832 crores). The project covering a total 2654 beneficiaries including 1525 direct, 381 indirect beneficiaries and 748 SHG members who will be involved in various activities of tasar culture. The area is characterized by high tribal population, low population density and high forest cover. The target group would comprise the tribal communities mostly women from belonging to Santal, Oraon, Munda, Bhumij, Kora, Mahali, Lodha/Kheria, Bhutia and Maipahariya of which 3 communities namely Lodha, Birhor and Toto have been declared as Primitive Tribes by the Government of India. Main objective of the project is to augment silkworm seed production in private sector and nurturing Community Resource Persons. Besides, the project envisages promoting integrated activities like improved Agriculture, vegetable cultivation and other best practices. 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. The project also focus on design development & product diversification to increase producer's share locally and disease monitoring to ensure higher productivity to achieve desired income levels. The total project investment is worked out at Rs. 23,260 /- per family and project grants of Rs. 20,123/- per family of which about Rs. 4,016/- is invested in equipments, Rs. 2929/- towards capacity building and Rs. 4,025/- towards cost of common assets for participating families.



Project coverage: Under this project 30 nursery farmers, 40 Nucleus Seed Rearers, 155 Basic Seed Rearers, 39 Private Graineurs and 1236 commercial rearers will be covered. It is also establish one Basic Seed Production Unit and 4 Rearers' Collectives.

Project Output: With this investment, it is proposed to raise 130 ha. of tasar food plants, 805 ha. of natural host flora would be regenerated, 0.50 lakh dfls of basic seed & 4.2500 lakh dfls of commercial seed to be produced which will help in production of 267 lakhs of reeling cocoons during the project period. Finally an estimated 21360 kgs of Tasar Raw silk would be produced under this project. The project will nurture and promote 37 nos. of Community Resource Persons for future expansion programmes.

Tasar sericulture activities under this project will provide an incremental income of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 18,700 to a producer-family (silkworm rearer's, grainage entrepreneur, yarn producers and weavers) from their slack labor and idle assets. Given the economic profile of households, many a times, this level of income contributes to almost 100%

income enhancement of the household. Participating Families would be able to invest their earning from project in debt redemption, recovery of mortgaged lands, buying pump sets, repairing or constructing houses and in educating their children in good schools.

Project monitoring: Central Silk Board is the co-ordinating and fund routing agency and also responsible for providing technological inputs and training of field staff of the Project Implementing Agency, PRADAN through its Field Units in various sectors viz., seed, pre-cocoon and post-cocoon.

State Level monitoring committee (SLMC): 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 is headed by the CEO of SRLM and they constitute the committee at state level.

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/ Commissioner of Department of sericulture. The Director/ Commissioner would constitute the committee at state level.

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 of SRLM as Member Convener. The committee will be constituted by RD secretary at state level and they would monitor and periodically review the project.

Project Management Board: 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 besides review and revision of the project after mid-term evaluation, if required.
