

KUDUMBASHREE NRO PRI-CBO CONVERGENCE PROJECT



Aajeevika
 National Rural Livelihoods Mission
 Government of India



Kudumbashree
 Kerala State Poverty Eradication Mission
 Government of Kerala

PROCESS

Establishing Partnership



- Introducing the project activities and objectives to the CBO network to identify women to work as local cadre
- Identification of Local Resource Group (LRG) members
- Orientation and capacity building of LRGs
- Regular support to LRGs

- Exposure visits to partner states for formulating the extent and scope of the project
- Signing of MoU with partner state
- Field Level Assessment for understanding systems of community organisation, local governance, structures and processes.
- Mapping of social security schemes and entitlements
- Strategy setting for the state

Identification of Local Resource Group (LRG)



Capacity building of the SHG network



- Mobilisation of women for Gram Sabha
- Consultative meetings with PRI and Line Departments
- Placing of demands by the CBO in Gram Sabha
- Ensuring that Gram Sabha fulfils its objectives as a platform for democratic decision making

- Equipping the women with information to access their entitlements and rights
- Creating awareness about the structure and importance of Panchayats
- Facilitating involvement of the women in participatory planning process

Mobilisation for Gram Sabha



Capacity building of PRI and Line Departments



- Training of LRG members on conduct of PAE
- Activity oriented capacity building 'ribbon exercise' on schemes and creation of a baseline data on access to entitlements at SHG level
- Consolidation of the data at Village Organisation and Gram Panchayat level
- Presentation of PAE data to the elected representatives and officials of the Panchayat

- Orientation to PRI and Line Departments on the importance of participatory planning
- Creating awareness on the structure and the importance of women's collectives
- Introducing ways in which PRI can use the social capital offered by the CBO
- Engaging PRI and Line Departments for better implementation of schemes and improving service delivery

Participatory Access to Entitlements (PAE)



Entitlement Access Plan (EAP)



- Preparation of comprehensive participatory plans at SHG level that include:
 - Entitlements
 - Livelihoods
 - Basic Infrastructure demands
- Resource development plans
- Social Inclusion and Social Development
- Submitting it to GP for integrating in GPDP

- Preparation of a target plan by VO to address the gaps in the access to entitlements

Village Poverty Reduction Plan Preparation (VPRP)



Creation of Convergence Platforms



- Selection and Training of LRGs to work as Internal Mentors in scale up blocks

- Formation of Village Organisation Coordination Committee (VOCC), which is a confederation, of village organisations for better engagement with the Gram Panchayat representatives
- Formation of Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee (GPCC) to initiate participatory planning and joint monitoring of convergence activities

Identification of resource cadre for expansion



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Kudumbashree NRO

Launched in 2012, Kudumbashree was designated as a National Resource Organization (NRO) by the MoRD under NRLM. As a NRO, it primarily focuses on empowering women community network to contribute towards strengthening local governance and creating opportunities for them to achieve positive livelihood outcomes.

Rationale

Convergence of the SHG network with Panchayati Raj Institutions has been central to Kerala's Kudumbashree experience. As a National Resource Organisation, the work is towards helping the partner states implement and materialize Convergence between Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) and Community Based Organizations (CBO). The focus has primarily been to democratize decision-making processes by strengthening institutional systems for local governance.

Context

Panchayati Raj Institutions were given constitutional mandate through the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1993. Self Help Groups of women started evolving around the same time as institutional collectives of the rural poor. SHG network offers an unparalleled potential to help the Panchayats in ensuring social justice and economic development as social capital. In turn, Panchayats are institutions that render a bottom-up design to the process of governance. The idea of a functional synergy between these two institutions provided a robust set of opportunities for an organic and sustainable system for an inclusive socio-economic development. Hence the NRLM framework was amended by MoRD to bring about a formal relationship between the PRI and the CBO, as the two bastions of realizing the intent of poverty alleviation.



PRI-CBO CONVERGENCE PROJECT

The Convergence Project is premised on the belief that creating a space for democratic dialogue between the community and their elected representatives would be an effective way to achieve the primary objective of democratic decentralization. Recognizing the fact that women are one of the most important yet ignored stake holders in the decision-making processes; various strategies and adaptive tools are designed to use the CBO as a collective to achieve their inclusion on social, economic as well as political fronts. By leveraging the knowledge that women have of their milieu, the project aims at ensuring that the planning process includes the needs and demands of the community. The model functions by equipping local communities, fostering collaboration between the citizens and their administration, enabling public participation of marginalized groups and correcting information asymmetries.

KEY COMPONENTS UNDER CONVERGENCE PROJECT



Community cadre trained on aspects of local governance, strengths of community institutions and development schemes
LRGs and Internal Mentors



Tools of Participatory Planning to assess, plan and monitor outreach of various schemes and civic amenities
PAE, EAP, GP2RP



Convergence platforms created for better coordination between PRI & CBO
GPCC and VOCC



Improved participatory planning and better implementation of schemes leading to an effective public service delivery system

OBJECTIVES

- Increasing the efficiency and reach of poor-centric programmes
- Better participatory planning by panchayats together with the community organization network
- Increased capability of CBOs to demand entitlements through improving the awareness of SHG network
- Democratically conscious community to help strengthen and sustain local government institutions
- Creating institutional platforms for continuous dialogue between the women's collective and the local governance institutions and the line departments

OUTLINE OF THE PROJECT



Community Planning and Monitoring

Democratic Planning



Active Institutions of Local Self Governance and Efficient Line Departments



Capacity Building of multiple stakeholders
Catalysts: Local Resources
Tools: PAE, EAP & VPRP
Convergence Platforms: VOCC, GPCC
Constitutional rights: Gram Sabha



Better Implementation of Schemes and Improved Public Service Delivery



Participatory Local Governments

Democratic Planning



Active Community Participation