

PAVING THE WAY

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19



Our aim is to stimulate and enhance the sense of agency of poor communities, especially women's collectives, who being at the bottom of the cross section of class, caste and gender, are the most vulnerable.



PAVING THE WAY

contents

- SHRISTI AT A GLANCE
- OUR APPROACH
- AREA OF OPERATIONS
- LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE
- WOMEN-AGENTS OF CHANGE
- EMBRACING THE UNREACHED
- RECOGNISING WOMEN AS FARMERS
- COLLABORATIONS WITH NABARD
- ASSOCIATION WITH DMF
- SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH ATAL PROJECT
- PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION CLUSTERS
- MISSION 2020: CREATING LAKHPATI KISAN & BUILDING SMART VILLAGES
- AUDITED BALANCE SHEET
- SHRISTI OFFICES

SHRISTI AT A GLANCE

SHRISTI (Society for Harmonious Renaissance of Ideas through Simple Technological Initiatives) is a Civil Society organisation working in Odisha for over 18 years, focusing on holistic rural development by forming sustainable and self-reliant community institutions. We do this through well-planned and comprehensive programmes in livelihood, community mobilization, integrated natural resource management, integrated watershed development, Plantation & Skill Development. Our overall goal is the empowerment of women from poor and marginalised communities, leading to improvement in their lives and livelihoods.

In the Financial Year 2018-19, SHRISTI directly reached out 14143 families through 8 Projects across four districts, covering more than 352 villages



OUR APPROACH

- SHRISTI Strives to improve the quality of life of the rural poor by strengthening their existing livelihood programs, initiate new activities to diversify and increase their income, in the tribal areas.
- Women self Help group along with farmer club have been the base for all interventions inside the village which leads the backward poor towards main stream of development process.
- All the interventions are done considering both the land holders as well as the landless households.
- Develop self reliant and self owned community institutions to sustain the livelihood activities.
- Develop cadre of well trained and capable local service providers to provide hand holding support to the members during their need.
- Develop community based models for Natural Resource Management in order to protect and use the resources sustainably.
- Work in collaboration with Govt and other stakeholders.



OUR MISSION

To provide hand holding support towards establishment of community organisations by enhancing their capabilities for resolving their problems collectively through awareness and training in the field of Agriculture, Natural Resource Management, Credit and income generation activities and Liaison to make them economically stable encouraging thrift ,so that they develop approaches for improving their life and livelihood.

AREA OF OPERATIONS

SHRISTI has organised its grassroots operations into four rural districts of Odisha. Each district has smaller teams of professionals dedicated to it who are supported by SHRISTI's core circle at all levels.

Presently, the operational area of SHRISTI is spread over 13 blocks in four districts namely Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Dhenkanal and Bhadrak of Odisha.



1 STATE
4 DISTRICTS
13 BLOCKS
352 VILLAGES

LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

SHRISTI is here to transform the lives of people in the villages we are working to end poverty and discrimination in the poorest and most marginalised regions of the state. The transformation in the communities must be driven by the communities themselves, for which strengthening of community institutions is essential.

Therefore our well trained professionals work in villages with women led collectives and their networks to elicit development.

To make self reliant community institutions we facilitate confidence and competence building processes for them.

We make this happen by recruiting professionals who are dedicated to bring change in the rural community by engaging themselves directly with the communities at the grassroots. Our constant efforts bring out the spark and potential people have to persuade their own revamping journey.

Constructively, this year we reorganised our work to ensure multifaceted development, facilitating integration and convergence of different aspects of the women's lives by acknowledging their interconnectedness.

We want to place women at the center of social mobilisation, livelihood development, and community participation in governance and grassroots democracy.

To create a just and equitable society, we partner with various stakeholders and influence development plans, programs and practices.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE

SHRISTI in its mission to create self dependent communities has been able to facilitate true community institutions in line with the approach of state and national government. Most of the community institutions comprise ultra poor women belonging to schedule tribe and schedule caste families. The leaders of these community institutions are now not only building their own community institution and its members prosperity through various rural livelihoods but are also helping other under developed communities in their locations.

Our work on community institution building and access to irrigation and various schemes of government and nationalized banks has taken a better shape and recognition due to our partnership with the Tata Trusts Mumbai, BRLF New Delhi, NABARD Bhubaneswar, E&Y Bangalore, Central Silk Board New Delhi, District Mineral Foundation Keonjhar.

SHRISTI believes in community development by employing young, educated and experienced development professionals. This year has been very difficult to train and retain quality staffs due to low human resource cost by various donors and projects. Most of the community institution women members have now a say in their family affairs, a shared dream, aspirations for own family development with dignity.

Besides implementing various agricultural livelihood projects, SHRISTI encourages all its community institutions and its members for better water sanitation, hygiene, soil and water conservation, large scale plantation and financial inclusion.

Training and capacity building of all women members has been a key thrust area during the whole year. Master trainers have been trained to provide further training and orientation in their own hamlet and villages. The community institutions are employing these master trainers as CRPs, ERPs, and GSPs. Even some of these masters' trainers are now working in an entrepreneurship mode.

Our works in various project locations are getting appreciation by the state government and central government, Indian donors, Banks, and educational institutions. This has been possible due to the hard work of all staffs and guidance from trustee members.

RANJAN MAHAPATRA

Executive Director



WOMEN AGENTS OF CHANGE



Our perception of a just and equitable society depends on women and their collectives having an reinforced "sense of agency". Sense of agency is the ability to take action, make choices and influence one's own life; it arises from understanding the significance of self, and the belief that "I matter". In our work, we engage with women's community institutions on issues of self identity, decision making, governance etc. Empowering the rural women means strengthening their role in the decision making process and creating an opportunity towards economic development. With this objective to promote the livelihood of the women community and to help them towards self reliance, SHRISTI has been facilitating women empowerment programmes since 18 years.



This year SHRISTI has successfully linked 311 SHGs with Bank under the direct linkage of finance. To make them aware on various Govt. schemes, rights based issues and activities, various training programmes have been organised along with other capacity building programmes. The members of these institutions collectively take steps for Community Development; improve their Income Generation and also, Social work. They are involving in the social sector and actively participating in entrepreneurship activity.



Embracing the unreached



By making slight alterations in our approach of working at the grassroots, we have:

- Stepped back from playing the role of change makers and have, instead, taken up the responsibility to groom women themselves to lead the change.
- Reduced the number of paid community resource persons (CRPs) involved in inclusion and strengthening the SHG network. This was to let people's own initiative and sense of responsibility towards their community come forth.
- Begun building and strengthening associate SHG tiers at various levels like VO/Cluster, GPLF/CLF etc.
- Groomed the Members of Village Organisations (VOs) for bringing all eligible families into SHG network.
- To spread the concept of SHG to new areas multiple opportunities were created for non-SHG members to see and experience the dynamic of SHGs in action.



Mahila Milan Divas 2019

Mahila Milan Divas, 2019

Mahila Milan Divas, the annual congregation of women's own collectives, brought all women in the SHG network together, to celebrate their journey and achievements.

Mahila Milan Divas 2019 had gatherings of upto 5000 SHG members belonging to 49 VO's/CLF.



Annual General Body Meeting of Budhakhaman Gram Panchayat Stariya Sangha, 2019

By getting inspired from Mahila Milan Divas, the members of Budhakhaman Gram Panchayat Stariya Sangha (GPLF) conducted their First Annual General Body Meeting this year where around 850 SHG members from 81 SHGs from 9 Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) came forward to celebrate their journey of togetherness and strength. Many designated guests from OLM, Bank, NABARD and government officials attended this meeting and made this occasion a memorable one.



Recognizing Women as Farmers

Despite their active engagement in agricultural activities, women are rarely regarded as farmers in their own right; they are treated more as farm laborers. Helping women explore and practice roles beyond conventionally defined boundaries is one of SHRISTI's primary mandates.

In the sphere of farm based activities, women expressed interest in developing skills and technical know-how to reinforce their position as decision makers in crop planning, implementation and marketing.

In response, basic training modules that encouraged reflection and strengthened their confidence as trainers and progressive farmers were developed. These not only contributed to a shift in perception of their own 'selves' but also helped them extend themselves to impart knowledge and provide services to other local farmers.



Women Into Other Major Livelihoods Interventions



Tasar Rearing



Goat Rearing



Apiculture



Backyard Poultry

Collaborations With NABARD

WADI Model of Sustainable Livelihood Development for Poor Tribal Families of Harichandanpur Block, Keonjhar, Odisha

This project aims to facilitate creation of 486 acres of self managed mini orchards or "Wadi" for 516 tribal families and to generate empowerment and capacity building for tribal farmers and women groups in 9 villages through different trainings for income generation. Two or more fruit crops are selected in the "Wadi" model to minimize the climatic, biological and marketing risks. Wadi programme is introduced as the strategy to improve horticulture development. Tribal families having less than 5 acres patta land is given 1 acre Wadi each for raising 60 fruit plants suitable to local area. Other development interventions in the Wadi areas are soil conservation, water resource development, agriculture development; women development, income generation for landless etc are woven around the Wadi. Convergence is also an integral part of the Wadi programme where convergence through departmental wise schemes related to irrigation facilities, drinking water facilities, land development, fencing etc can be explored further.

The advantages of Wadi programme can be stated as follows:

- Sustainable income from orchard every year.
- Till plants starts fruiting, inter cropping can provide earlier return to family.
- Due to assured irrigation, farmer can take 2-3 crops in a year.
- Intensive agronomical practices, which can produce more yield and more income to the family.
- Year-round food security to the family.
- Collective marketing and processing of all produce due to more quantity available for sale.



Micro Watershed

SHRISTI has successfully completed the Full Implementing Phase of Watershed in Rohi Village during this year. Capacity Building Phase in 5 new Micro Watershed has also been completed and feasibility study report has been submitted to NABARD as per guidelines. The project has considered the sustainability aspects since its inception. Several institutions are formed in watershed project like VWC, SHG, VO etc. These community based organizations are trained and capacitated to run the programme even after the project period. Now they are doing their work of the project which ensures sustainability of the project.

Utilising the funds of Micro Watershed, structures like field bonding, Drop Structure, Gabions, Dugwell, farm ponds and DBI has been done. Expenditure in various livelihood interventions has been done to promote SRI Paddy, improved vegetable cultivation, Mushroom cultivation etc.

There are several programmes that has shown interesting result in changing the lives of the people in the project area:

- Ground water recharge in the project area through various structures
- Crop diversification
- Adoption of less water required crops like Maize instead of paddy
- Taken up commercial vegetable cultivation
- Diversion Based Irrigation as well as drinking purpose
- The land less families also taken up poultry, duckery and goatery as alternative livelihood for them. These successful IGP initiatives can also be replicable else where.

During the watershed period the VWC has developed linkages with govt. department & other resource organizations for taking up different developmental activities and knowledge. The govt. line departments are coming forward for demonstration and extension programme in the area.

The village scenario has been changed and now a wage labourer village has turned into a farmer village. Through NABARD's watershed project all the members of community institutions are doing livelihood planning and when required they are doing different interventions in group also.



ASSOCIATION WITH DISTRICT MINERAL FOUNDATION (DMF)

WADI

With a focus on improving lives of people in mining affected areas of Keonjhar through 'WADI Model', a Memorandum of Agreement (“MoA”) was made and entered on June 2018 between SHRISTI and District Mineral Foundation (DMF), Keonjhar, represented by the Deputy Director Horticulture , Keonjhar.

Objectives of WADI Project will be as follows:

- To promote sustainable, participatory livelihood development in the mining affected areas of Keonjhar through the “Wadi” model
- To improve the standard of living of project families leading to reduction in poverty induced migration
- To rejuvenate the local natural environment in an integrated and comprehensive manner
- To build and strengthen local institutions which would enable the communities to be partners in programme execution and bring improvement in their social and economic status.

This year we have submitted DPR for 100 acres Wadi plantation at Asanpat, Jhumpura. Community mobilisation has been done and 5 Farmers club have been formed. These farmers clubs have further come together to form Maa Ranjeisuni Village Development Committee. This body actually “owns” the project and is responsible for the planning, implementation, monitoring and maintenance of the project with guidance from SHRISTI. DDH, Keonjhar is the conveynor of the project. The material and HR component of the project is funded by DMF where as the entire labour component was converged from MGNREGS.

- 97.4 acre covered under wadi with Cashew and Mango plantation.
- 122 HHs brought under community institutions (FC & VDC)
- 14 Borewell dug to ensure irrigation
- 97.4 acre covered under concrete fencing.
- More than 40% area covered under intercropping
- 97.4 acre covered under DRIP Irrigation.



TASAR HOST TREE PLANTATION

SHRISTI has signed an MOA with Sericulture department and District Mineral Foundation to implement a project named "Livelihood enhancement of people in mining affected areas of Keonjhar District through Plantation of Tasar Host Trees, Asan and Arjun".

The objectives of this Project will be as follows:

- To promote sustainable, participatory livelihood development in the mining affected areas of Keonjhar through plantation of Tasar host trees
- To create dependable plantation asset base for Tasar rearer in a cluster approach in the Tasar growing areas of the district
- To improve the standard of living of beneficiaries families by enhancing access to natural resources leading to reduction in poverty
- To increase plantation cover in the district by utilizing revenue wasteland
- To rejuvenate the local natural environment in an integrated and comprehensive manner
- To build and strengthen local institutions which would enable the communities to be partners in programme execution and bringing improvement in their social and economic status



SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH "ATAL PROJECT"

SHRISTI has partnered with Gram Tarang, a social entrepreneurial outreach of Centurion University of Technology & Management, a NAAC A Grade accredited State University & government notified Skills University of Odisha. Incorporated in 2010 as one of the first ever partners of National Skill Development Corporation, Gram Tarang & CUTM have established a widely acclaimed & recognized model in skill development in various centers across 12 states of India. The FRIST PART has recently been awarded a project for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) with Bridge Training of farmers through Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), a flagship scheme of National Skill Development Corporation, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India. Titled as "Project Atal", this initiative envisions upskilling of 1,00,000 farmers across Odisha in 19 select job roles or trades as part of a larger overall vision of doubling farmer income through on farm & off farm income enhancing activities. The overall approach is to treat farms as enterprises and farmer as an entrepreneur and help upskill & handhold the farmers through creation of a cadre of Agriculture Business Development Service Providers or Krishi Udyog Sahayaks (KUSs) at grassroot level across 200 blocks of Odisha who will impart the training to the farmers.

The purpose of this agreement is to formalize a training partnership between SHRISTI and Gram Tarang to help in implementation of Project Atal and clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of each other as they come together to create a platform for farmers for building their skills through hands on, practical training in various job roles.

In the year 2018-19 SHRISTI has facilitated Skill Development Training to 450 participants through "Project ATAL" in 20 villages of 6 blocks of 4 districts of Odisha.



Promotion of Agriculture Production Clusters(APCs) in tribal regions of Odisha

This is a special programme where Government of Odisha and Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF) have come together to benefit around one lakh farmers from 40 tribal dominated blocks in 12 districts of Odisha by facilitating them to practice market-linked production of horticulture crops.

17 CSOs including SHRISTI have entered into this partnership, PRADAN being the nodal organisation, to implement this project. SHRISTI will be working in three blocks: Harichandanpur block of Keonjhar, Khunta block of, Mayurbhanj & Kankadahad block of Dhenkanal

This is a project of Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment in collaboration with Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department, Govt. of Odisha titled as 'Promotion of Agriculture Production Clusters (APCs) in Tribal Regions of Odisha'. This will trigger growth in the farm sector with an objective to double the income of one lakh small and marginal farmers, especially women farmers, by establishing agriculture production clusters.

Under this programme, schemes available with the horticulture directorate, Odisha Livelihood Mission, Odisha Agro Industries Corporation, Agricultural Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha Limited, Odisha Lift Irrigation Corporation, and other departments will be converged for the creation of the livelihood infrastructures for farmers in the highland regions.

Around 150 Farmers will be organized into one Producer Group (PG) who would be facilitated to practice synchronized market linked production of identified horticultural crops covering around 40 acres in a contiguous manner. Similarly such 20-25 PGs having 3000 to 5000 farmers will be aggregated to form the Agriculture Production Cluster/ Producers Company (PC) at an appropriate level. Total 30 such Producers companies (PC) will be promoted in 40 Blocks involving around 650 Producer groups covering 1,00,000 farmers.

MISSION 2020

Creating "Lakhpati Kisans" and Building "Smart Villages"

SHRISTI in partnership with CINI has been implementing a five year mission programme "Lakhpati Kisan – Smart Villages" since April 2015 at Harichandanpur block of Keonjhar district. This programme aims at making 'farmers 'lakhpati' in an irreversible and sustainable manner with improved quality of life and life choices.

For enhancing incomes, a layering approach is adopted in which we work with each family/household on a minimum of two livelihood activities which provides them an incremental income of Rs. 1,20,000 or more compared with their baseline earnings of around Rs. 35,000. Under our focused livelihood interventions, we are working on enhancing income at the household-level through interventions in agricultural production, livestock development, promoting non-timber forest products (NTFP) and water resources development. All of this is being promoted through community-institutions at the centre which are being emboldened to spearhead their own development.

KEY PRINCIPLES OF MISSION 2020 PROGRAM

1. Building Vibrant Community Institutions to spearhead development actions taken in community.
2. Market – oriented interventions drive the income enhancing programs.
3. Demand- led interventions are undertaken for the promotion of livelihood prototypes.
4. Innovations, not stereotype interventions are introduced to strengthen programs.
5. Convergent multi-sectoral plans are implemented which substantiate income enhancing programs with quality of life improvement efforts.

Impacts

INSTITUTION BUILDING

5115 HHs under institution structure
467 Women Self Help Groups (WSHGs) Promoted
42 Village Organisations(VO) / Clusters

AGRICULTURE BASED LIVELIHOOD

1934 HHs implemented Improved paddy
2633 HHs under vegetable cultivation
517 HHs under horticulture (wadi)
537 HHs under Tasar Rearing

WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

1184 HHs benefitted from Irrigation structures created like borewell, dugwell, Water Harvesting Tanks and Farm ponds and total irrigated area under completed structures is 355 acres.

LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

2426 HHs under goatery rearing
430 Goat sheds created

AUDITED BALANCE SHEET

SHRISTI
B-205, KRISHNA TOWER, NAYAPALLI,
BHUBANESWAR-751012
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31/03/2019

LIABILITIES	(Amount in Rs.)	ASSETS	(Amount in Rs.)
Corpus Fund:	3,000	Fixed Assets:	
General Fund:		Computer	1,377
Opening Balance	-84,503	Add: Addition	0
Add: Excess of Expenditure over income	- 16,10,084	Less: Depreciation	826
			551
		Furniture & Fixtures	19,533
		Add: Addition	0
		Less: Depreciation	1,957
Funds Received in Advance:			15,180
FC Account	1,51,061	Vehicle:	
NON-FC Account -		Add: Addition	18,030
Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation Grant (BRLF GRANT)	4,07,192	Less: Depreciated	0
Implementation of Integrated Total Development Programme in Marchandapur block of Kamalgarh district, Odisha - WADK Building Marchandapur block, Kamalgarh District in Odisha as a driver for regional growth while maintaining quality of life of 2,800 households under the Central India-Eastern & Young Foundation Grant initiatives	21,64,752	Less: Depreciated	1,803
Promotion of Large Scale Tamar Agriculture based Livelihoods in Odisha under Mahila Kisan Samikshaman Periyasa (MKSPP-NDPP) Central SIB Board	2,61,591	Current Assets, Loans & Advances:	
		Loans & Advances	1,67,096
	1,56,517	Cash in hand	1
Recognition Of Prior Learning (ATAL)	28,103	Cash at Bank	11,11,150
Current Liabilities:		Reimbursement receivable	1,575
As per Schedule-I	41,81,466	Investment in FD	23,00,000
		Grant In Aid receivable	20,328
			75,01,740
TOTAL	76,52,098	TOTAL	76,52,098

Place: Bhubaneswar
Date: 04/08/2019

SHRISTI
Ranjan Kumar Mahapatra
Executive Director
Executive Director

The Pary Sur & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm: 304877
CA N.P. SUREKA
Partner
M. No. 210536



SHRISTI OFFICES

Registered Office : SHRISTI , B-205, Krishna Tower, In front of Iskon Temple,Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751 012, Odisha, India

Field Office, Harichandanpur, Keonjhar : SHRISTI, C/o: B.Patra, Akhupal, Harichandanpur- 758028, Odisha

Field Office, Mayurbhanja : Shristi, C/o- Anjan Kumar Behera, At-Badakhunta, Po- Khunta, Dist-Mayurbhanj- 757019, Odisha

Field Office, Dhenkanal : C/O- Block Horticulture Office, Kankadahad, Dhenkanal,- 759028, Odisha

Field Office, Bhadrak :SHRISTI, At. /P.O: Akhuapada, Bhadrak - 756 122, Odisha

Regional Research Resource and Training Centre and Head office: SHRISTI ,Plot No. 827, (First Floor), Sampur Mauza, Bhubaneswar, Odisha