



## Best Practices of Loka Kalyan Parishad



**Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana, DAY-NRLM  
&  
P&RDD, Govt. of West Bengal**

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## Loka Kalyan Parishad

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A resource centre for collaborative action initiatives with local self government institutions



Loka Kalyan Parishad has been engaged in its developmental work in a people institution framework at the grassroots emphasizing on peoples participation in development process preferably on the basis of DNRM through their associated tiers. It has gained considerable experience and expertise while working with poor and vulnerable people especially women SHGs in 5 backward districts of west Bengal promoting SA practice based livelihoods and developed some best practices.

It is a set of adopted activities under MKSP which has proven record to enhance the sustainability of the livelihood status of the Mahila Kisans, particularly for the landless and agricultural labourers. Practices are found to be gainful, locally acceptable and state wide considered to be replicable that ensures sustainable development through strong women led institutions in collaboration with PRI where LKP plays a catalytic role in the process with its CRPs.

Loka Kalyan Parishad (LKP) having sound domain knowledge and relevant experience in rural livelihood development was awarded the project as Project Implementing Agency in 5 backward districts in the state of West Bengal. In order to successfully accomplish the project, LKP intensively utilized its best practices for the benefit of the poorest of the poor women farmers. A large number of promising best practices have emerged under MKSP which have immense potential to be replicated across the country. For this purpose a '**Compendium of Agro Ecological Best Practices under MKSP**' was developed and published by the MoRD with 11 best practices picked up from participating organizations that included many practices of Lok Kalyan Parishad implemented under MKSP in the district of Birbhum, West Bengal.

An effort has been made to present here in brief, the major best practices that was followed bottom up planning process, use of land through partnership mode, home, community and school nutrition garden, utilization of common property resources by the poor, group based grain and seed banks, integrated farming etc.

We trust and believe that best practices that developed require a continuous fine tuning and working on it to maximize the returns through a pool of sound CRPs following an action reflection cycle. In the whole process, LKP can support any organization/ Mission in grooming these resource persons to contextualize the models for replication.

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**Major best practices of Loka Kalyan Parishad introduced in course of the implementation of the MKSP project have been briefly presented here as below: Strategies followed:**

The key strategies followed by LKP while grounding the above interventions in course of implementation of the MKSP project as following:

- Strengthening the relationship of SHGs and the community with PRIs.
- Ensuring convergence with the bottom-up planning process.
- Triggering convergence for landless community to get leased land.
- Designing interventions that the community can do easily with available local resources.
- Nesting of local para-professionals and CRPs at the grassroots..
- Intensive training of SHG members by the local para-professionals and CRPs around interventions.
- Convergence with the state departments and the local self governance bringing the SHGs and PRIs on a single platform

**1. Inclusion of women in Bottom Up Planning: Participatory Governance:** Participatory approach being the core value of LKP for project implementation, preparation of bottom up plans by the Self Help Groups (SHGs) was a must in which demand and needs of the women farmers are to be integrated from the house hold level .The SHGs play the primary role in this participatory democracy to enhance women participation that ensures their rights and entitlements to be made available for them. Under MKSP, the SHGs (5900) have been federated at village level in 655 Village Level Federations (VLF), 50 GP Level Federations and 5 Block Level Federations.

The member of MKSHG prepare need based livelihood plan where the need and demand of each individual is recorded. This is done for all the seasons in a year. The plans prepared by MKSHGs is consolidated at village level/ sub cluster level, locally called as 'Upasangha' The consolidated plans are discussed in their federations at the GP level and subsequently raised in the Gram Sensed Sabha for its approval. The approved plans are taken for incorporation into annual GP plan of the GP for execution.



**Village level planning being prepared by the SHGs**



**Plans being consolidated at the Cluster level**



**Bottom up plan being passed in Gram Sabha**

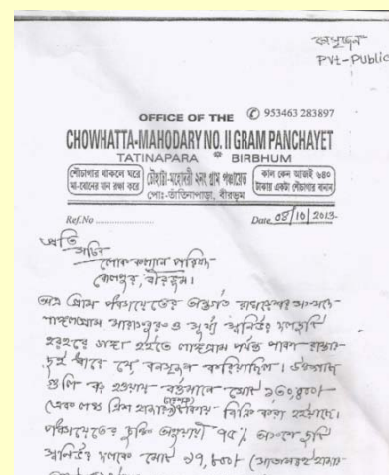


| Participation, Submission and Incorporation in GP Plan under MKSP |             |              |               |                    |            |               |                    |
|---|-------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 2013-14   | 2018-19     | 2013-14      |               |                    | 2018-19    |               |                    |
| Participation of MKs  |             | No. of Plans |               |                    |            |               |                    |
|   |             | Submission   | Incorporation | % of incorporation | Submission | Incorporation | % of incorporation |
| 19733(65%)  | 46389 (76%) | 12244        | 7569          | 61.82              | 33940      | 27511         | 81.06              |

The table shows that 76 percent of the Mahila Kisans participated in the planning process and submitted 33940 plans out of which 81.06 percent were incorporated in Annual GP plan in 2018-19 . In 2013-14, participation of the Mahila Kisan was 65 percent and rate of incorporation was 61.82. The highest number of plans incorporated in the district of Dakshin Dinajpur (85.86 Percent) followed by Birbhum (85.56 Percent), Uttar Dinajpur(75Percent), Alipurduar (81.02 Percent) and Purulia(68.42 Percent). These have been possible due to a close relationship that prevailed between the SHGs and the PRIs that ensured signifying insight into the ways they could enhance their status of livelihood through convergence. Inputs and materials received from the line departments through Panchayat route has been described in detail below in model no. 10 in this document.

## 2. Partnership by the landless (Pub-Pvt, Pvt-Pvt) :

This is one good old practices of LKP to overcome the constraint of landlessness for the landless and marginalized people. In this process, fallow (permanent and seasonal) land are taken on lease for cultivation on the basis of sharing in between two seasons. The private land which remains fallow after harvesting of Aman rice are utilized to produce some crops for a short period. This is called **Pvt-Pvt Partnership**. The considerable part of these un irrigated plots turns into an opportunity for the landless MKs to grow Rabi pulses, oil seeds etc. and if life saving irrigation is available, they opt for wheat cultivation also. Similarly, on the plots of common property resources (CPR) **Pub-Pvt partnership mode is adopted by the landless SHGs** for agro forestry plantation that provides fruit, fodder, fuel , fertilizer and timber. Pond and other water bodies are also taken on lease (**Pub-Pvt & Pvt-Pvt**) for integrated farming.



**Copy of agreement between Gram Panchayet & SHG**



LKP under MKSP, applied an innovative practice in the mechanism of access of additional land through partnership mode. In case of Public - Private Partnership, an agreement used to be made between the local Panchayat and the SHGs on the basis of sharing as agreed to by both parties to utilize untapped land and water bodies. The land was utilized mainly for plantation of agro forestry trees like fruit- fodder- fertilizer- fuel-timber. This is a group based



activities done in collaboration with PRIs that are popular amongst the poorest of the poor women. Such as canal side, river side land to grow agro forestry plantation. Water bodies like pond, canal etc owned by the government may also be utilised for this purpose through this kind of partnership.

| Access of Land through Partnership at a glance (A +B) under MKSP |                                |             |         |             |                                 |             |         |             |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| Particulars  | Private_Private Partnership(A) |             |         |             | Public -Private Partnership (B) |             |         |             |
|  | 2013-14                        |             | 2018-19 |             | 2013-14                         |             | 2018-19 |             |
|  | MK                             | Land (acre) | MK      | Land (acre) | MK                              | Land (acre) | MK      | Land (acre) |
| MK participated  | 5832                           | 989         | 23392   | 10816       | 1529                            | 113         | 12372   | 1395        |
| MK covered   | 30145                          |             | 61109   |             | 30145                           |             | 61109   |             |
| %  | 19.34                          |             | 38.28   |             | 5.00                            |             | 20.0    |             |

The table depicts that there was a considerable change in participation that took place by MKs (5832) in 2013-14 with 989 acres of land, while the figures jumped into 23392 MKs possessing 10816 acres of land in 2018-19 through Private- Private partnership. Similarly, In case of Public - Private partnership, only 1529 MKs procured 113 acre of land in 2013-14 that was enhanced to 1395 acres of land by 12372 MKs in 2018-19. Calculation on total





access of land by different mode of partnership finds out 12211 acres of land was accessed as additional land by 35764 MKs (58.52 percent) under MKSP.

### **3. Home Nutrition Garden:**

**To Build up a Support System For Gaining Food and Nutrition to the Poorest of the Poor Rural households under MKSP Project Implemented by Loka Kalyan Parishad, West Bengal**

Malnutrition is prevalent among the Poorest of the Poor especially among the women and children in a family, LKP facilitates for preparation of multi layered nutrition garden for production of healthy and nutritious food through sustainable agriculture to ensure food and nutrition security at household level and community level. It is used to produce seasonal vegetables (root and tuber based, leafy vegetables) along with fruit and herbal medicinal plants. No chemical fertilizer and pesticides were used in the nutrition gardens as a mandate. If the households do not possess required amount of land for home nutrition garden, they might be mobilized into Community Garden through partnership on a leased land. It is imperative to note that children with severe malnutrition is a major burden in developing countries including India and special needs to be taken to address the deficiencies in consumption of energy and/or nutrients in children due to abject poverty.

Most of the families in the intervening villages under MKSP have adopted the nutrition garden model in small plots of about 2-10 decimals as per the availability of land near their houses. Crops are grown throughout the year. Nutritious fruit plants like drumsticks, papaya, citrus, guava, etc. are also an integral part of the kitchen garden, which ensures the availability of chemical-free and nutritious food to the families round the year. The women are enthusiastic about the activity and their gardens are being promoted in an integrated manner by using available local resources. Low cost and eco friendly sustainable agricultural techniques (Preservation and use of traditional seeds, seed treatment, vermi-compost, Azolla and Nadeb) are adopted in nutrition garden which are easily managed by them. There are three types of nutrition garden in our intervention area which addressed food and nutrition security to the households under MKSP:

- **Home nutrition garden:** Individual members doing it in available own homestead land
- **Community nutrition garden:** SHGs who have not sufficient land of their own doing it in leased land on partnership with individual or Gram Panchayat on the basis of sharing through formal agreement between the SHGs and GPs. It may be developed around small farm ponds along with fish farming.
- **School nutrition garden:** SHGs are promoting nutrition gardens in schools, which help children in getting chemical-free nutritious mid-day meals. School authorities are motivated to allow a suitable patch of land within the boundary of the school to the SHGs who are engaged for cooking the mid-day meal over there



A model home nutrition garden developed and implemented by Loka Kalyan Parishad under Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) under DAY-NRLM will produce seasonal vegetables of various kinds in order to make vegetables available throughout the year. It has following components:

- A structured garden having plots for seasonal crop rotation and various fruit plants.
- The plot will be divided into a few sub plots of different sizes. The ideal size of the garden is 36'X36' Square ft
- The plots will be utilized to produce seasonal vegetables with crop rotation in the subplots.
- Sustainable Agricultural practices will be followed resorting to non chemical way of farming. Seed treatment and preservation of quality seeds, soil health and nutrition management, soil moisture management, bio pesticides, etc.
- Pit for Vermi compost, NADEP compost, Azolla for soil health improvement have to be made available in the garden
- For plant nutrition Jeevamrita,(Ghana & Draba), Panchagabya, Amrit Jal, Sanjeevani, Uddipak etc will be used, MK households have been properly trained to produce these materials by themselves.
- Pitcher Irrigation, Drip Irrigation system, Bio mulching etc. are made available for soil moisture conservation
- Organic pest management (Sanharak, Agneyastra, Brambhastra etc.) are made available to prevent pest attack.
- Trees to be planted in such a way in the plots so that sunrays are available freely according to the heights of the plants.
- Fruit trees like banana, drum stick, papaya, guava, mango are few plants that may be planted for food and nutrition. A Jackfruit tree may also provide with fodder for the goat rearing families.
- Green fencing i.e creepers including leafy vegetables may be planted on the fence of the garden and for production of other vegetables like pumpkin, bitter gourd, ash gourd, snake gourd. Trellis will also be used for this for the purpose (especially in the north and west side).
- In the north side of the garden, long trees like papya, banana, drumstick etc. will be planted
- Some medicinal herbs (Tulsi, Sarpagandha , Neem, Basak etc.)will be planted in the garden for regular use.
- Small dykes may be utilized for cultivating carrot, radish or any leafy vegetables.









## Case study on Home Nutrition Garden

### Profile of Mahila Kisan:

Name- Firoza Bibi , Name of SHG: Desh Sahib ,Vill-Dakshin Durgapur GP- Indus, Block-Labpur, District: Birbhum

### Land utilized for Home Nutrition Garden: 0.1 acre

**Access to other resources:** Grain bank, seed bank, pond, bank savings, agro forestry

**Description of intervention planned and process under taken:** Being in the fold of SHG-group activities- optimum utilization of available land, vegetable cultivation- training on vermi compost, bio compost, etc

**Training imparted :** Group activities, home nutrition garden, preparation of organic manure, various agro ecological techniques, non pest management, crop rotation, grain bank, multi layer cropping, liquid manure, bio pesticides, grain bank,seed bank,soil conservation,using domestic wastes and water, green fencing, management of backyard poultry etc.



### **Adoption of technical protocol:**

LKP technical protocols(1-15)

### **Cost benefit analysis of Home Nutrition Garden (2019-20)**

| Income(Rs.)                                     |             | Expenditure(Rs.) |            |
|---|-------------|------------------|------------|
| Production of vegetables (800 kgs) in 3 seasons | 20000.00    | Seed             | 400.00     |
|   |             | Manure           | 200.00     |
|   |             | Labour           | 800.00     |
|   |             | Water            | 400.00     |
| Total   | 20000.00(A) | Total            | 1800.00(B) |
| Net income (A-B)                                | Rs.18200.00 |                  |            |

### **Benefit Accrued**

- Production and the productivity level enhanced
- Availability of year long vegetables
- Chemical free vegetables consumed



**4. Community Nutrition Garden:** Agragami SHG group of Illambazar had opted for community nutrition garden on Pvt-Pvt lease land partnership due to lack of sufficient land for nutrition garden; they ensured a net income of Rs. 33000.00 from the vegetables and fruits cultivation in a year. Under MKSP, 2725 nos. of such gardens have been developed by 22144 MKs belonging to 3043 SHGs. These are group based activities that immensely contributed to mitigate food security for them.

|   |   |                 |                   |  |  |
|---|---|-----------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Community Nutrition Garden on leased land (0.08 acre)   |   |                 |                   | Name of MKSHG: Agragami Swanirbhar Dal |  |
| Vill: Brahmandihi, PS: Parui, Birbhum in a one year period  |   |                 |                   |  |  |
| Crop  | Production(Qtl)   | Investment(Rs.) | Gross Income(Rs.) |  |  |
| Vegetables(3 seasons)   | 12  | 3000.00         | 36000.00          |  |  |
| Net income  | 33000.00  |                 |                   |  |  |
| Benefits accrued  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Availability of vegetables throughout the year</li><li>• Chemical less food in the families</li><li>• Confidence in group based activity</li><li>• Reduction of production cost</li></ul> |                 |                   |  |  |
| Note: Sustainable agricultural practices have been followed as in case of Home Nutrition Garden mentioned above |   |                 |                   |  |  |



Community Nutrition Garden, Dakshin Dinajpur



Sharing of vegetables, Birbhum





## 5. School Nutrition Garden:

**This is also an innovative programme initiated by LKP**

School authorities are motivated to allow a suitable patch of land within the boundary of the school to the SHGs who are engaged for cooking the mid-day meal over there. 3056 MKs from 1118 SHGs have engaged in maintaining 235 school nutrition gardens and prepare chemical free mid day meal for the children.



**Produce from School Nutrition Garden used in Mid day Meal**

Vegetables produced in their own home gardens are also used for cooking the mid day the Mahila Kisans adding some more income for them.

## 6. Common Property Resource Management: Bio Diversity Management

Biodiversity has always been a local commonly owned and utilized or to be utilized resource of indigenous community. That kind of resource has a good potential to turn into common property after building up the social system that exist to use it on the principle of justice and sustainability. This involves a combination of forces like local community i.e, SHGs, local governance, the common people and the land owners, be it private or public. LKP ventured it under MKSP project to add some innovative practices in the mechanism of implementing it with rights and responsibilities of the stakeholders through the partnership mode.

Unutilized natural resources owned by the government which include cultivable fallows, unutilized road side, canal side, river side lands etc and water bodies are to the landless

people. These untapped land and water bodies could bring a good return through decentralized natural resource management on the basis of [sharing through formal agreement](#) between the parties. Through this activity, the community



Md.Bazar, Birbhum

**Roadside Agro forestry plantation of landless groups in Public-Pvt. partnership.**



people exercise their right on common property as well as nurture and use them in sustainable way. The beneficiaries are involved mainly in agro forestry plantation for production of Fruit- Fodder- Fuel- Fertilizer – Timber trees. This activity also pertains to not only practice of climate resilient technology in order to preserve biodiversity but also reduce drudgery for the women in particular to have an access of fodder and fuel for domestic use. These group based activities in collaboration with PRIs are gaining momentum amongst poor women groups in the area. Total land used under MKSP using Common Property Resources, by 12372 MKs in 1395 acre of fallow and untapped land owned by the government through partnership programme.



**Common Property Resource Management**





### 7. Group based Grain Bank

People in groups save small amount of grains in the grain bank and utilize these in their difficult times. The amount taken as loan has to be returned with 1.5 times more than that she had taken. In recent times, it is found that many MKs have already attained food security and started entrepreneurship



Group based Grain Bank

by selling grains when market price was high. It enhanced their economic status in turn. LKP has developed 830 grain banks maintained by 10942 MKs under 878 SHGs under MKSP .

### 8. Group based Seed Bank:

Preservation of seed is of paramount importance to attain the seed sovereignty and maintaining bio diversity. During the project period, 13948 MKs from 1248 SHGs formed 4904 nos. Group based Seed Bank. LKP has facilitated to produce certified seeds under the project to have quality seeds in their own hand.



Group based Seed Bank, Birbhum





## 9. LKP Model of Integrated Farming: Choice of technology by the MKs:

The **main objective** of the project is empowerment of the women farmers through creation of sustainable livelihood opportunities to address food and nutrition security at the household level based on sound farming system to lead a life of economic prosperity. The core principle of agro – ecology in the principle include recycling nutrients and energy on

| Participation in Land based Integrated Farming |            |                    |           |            |                     |
|--|------------|--------------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|
|  | 2013-14    |                    | 2018-19   |            |                     |
| MKs( No.)                                      | Land (acr) | Av. Land/MK( acre) | MKs (No.) | Land (acr) | Av. Land /MK (acre) |
| 6183   | 1336.33    | 1.45               | 39627     | 13611.34   | 1.89                |

the farm without application of chemical inputs, integrating crops and livestock, focusing on ecological relationship within man, animal and plants in the ecosystem. LKP introduced a few potential livelihood prototypes/models on **Integrated Farming** such as Land based Integration, Pond based Integration , Small animal based Integration and also Integration of these said systems to strengthen the livelihood of the MKs in 5 districts of West Bengal in various agro climatic zones.

**9.i: Land based Integrated Farming(Land + Livestock):** Optimum and judicious utilization of natural resources and production of multiple crops in different seasons and also in single season from the same land along with rearing of small ruminants is integral part of [land based integrated farming](#).

| Case study: Land based Integrated farming(land, livestock,, non farm & off farm)  |                 |             |  |
|---|-----------------|-------------|--|
| Sumita Murmu hailing from Lohadda village, Adibashipara para, Indus GP, Labpur block of Birbhum district. She owned 0.4 acre homestead land and possessed 0.3 acre of additional land on lease. Having cultivated cereals and vegetables in 3 seasons. Along with rearing of animals like hen, duck, cow and goat She earned Rs.78650.00 in a year. |                 |             |  |
| Content   | Investment(Rs.) | Return(Rs.) |  |
| Agriculture in 0.7 acre(3 seasons)  | 8450.00         | 46350.00    |  |
| Livestock   | 7100.00         | 42850.00    |  |
| Vermi compost   | 0.00            | 4400.00     |  |
| Non farm  | 0.00            | 600.00      |  |
| <b>Net income(Return- Investment)</b>   |                 | 78650.00    |  |
| <b>Benefits accrued:</b>  |                 |             |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Production cost reduced</b></li> <li>• <b>Soil health improved</b></li> <li>• <b>Income level enhanced through multiple source of livelihoods</b></li> <li>• <b>Organic nutritious food available in the family</b></li> </ul>  |                 |             |  |



The number of MKs practicing land based integrated farming is increased to 1.89 times in 2018-19 than that of it was in 2013-14. Simultaneously, land per MK has been raised by 10.48 times in i.e , 13611 acre in 2018-19.



#### Land based Integration

Elements of Integration To build up strong and resilient Integrated farming System are as follows:

- With primacy to dung based inoculants livestock, dairy, poultry, small ruminants will get integrated with crop husbandry. (All kinds of farming system)
- Fishes may re appear in paddy field in absence of chemical pesticides
- Seed banks for seed sovereignty (Grain bank, Seed Bank)
- Access to Foundation seed chain by the communities to produce quality seeds got certified ( LKP best practice under MKSP )
- Use Azolla for nitrogen fixation in soil, as a feed to poultry birds to give more eggs and grow in pond for fish feeding. (Used in all kinds of farming system)
- Mulching (earth worm returns)



- Biodiversity management on CPR : Tree based income generation Food, Fodder, Fertilizer and Timber plants grown through partnership with GP, Fodder for animals also available, (Land and Livestock) LKP Best Practice

### Components of the Model:

1. Judicious use of **land** to produce cereals and vegetable (Owned and leased in) (.5 acre)/36\*36 models
2. For **land** less MKs, Use community leased land and cultivate on sharing basis in Partnership mode (LKP Best Practice)
3. Access to **finance** for crop planning for all seasons
4. Identify major crops to grow
5. Adoption of Agro ecology blending with modern **technology**
6. Technology transfer through **CRP strategy**
7. **Integration of natural resources with animal resources** (returning crop residues to soil through animal route or directly, use of cow dung, Neem cake application, bio pesticides)
8. Calculate cost of Investment vis a vis Income
9. Check profitability and modify

Model was acceptable by the women farmers to adopt and found viable through consistent field centric applications that resulted in well diversified farming system with reduction of production cost and enhancement of production and productivity generating more income into their livelihood basket. Our Kisi Sakhi and Pashu Sakhi models were very successful in convergence with the concerned state departments were able to create sustainable livelihood opportunities.

### 9.ii. Pond based Integration with Fish and Ducks, Poultry and Cultivation of Vegetables:

The households having no sufficient land for cultivation, but can manage access to a pond or any suitable water body may opt for this kind of integration. This can be done in both PVT – PVT as well as Public – PVT modes. Fish cultivation and ducks in the pond, poultry birds on the embankment with feed available there make this integration highly remunerative for the community cultivation along with vegetable cultivation throughout the year.. During 2018-19, 5723 MKs have been practicing pond based integrated farming which is 4.5 times of number of MKs practiced in 2013-14. At the same time the area of water body is also increased by more than 5 times in totality. Birbhum is in highest position both in access of water body and participation of MKs.





| Pond based Integrated Farming |            |                   |            |            |                    |  |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|--|
| 2013-14                       |            |                   | 2018-19    |            |                    |  |
| No. of MKs                    | Land (acr) | Av. Land/MK(acre) | No. of MKs | Land (acr) | Av. Land /MK(acre) |  |
| 1267                          | 236.44     | 1.02              | 5723       | 1184.64    | 1.78               |  |

| <b>Case study on Pond based Integrated Farming</b><br><b>Name of SHG: Ma Chanchala Mahila Samity</b><br><b>No. of Members:11</b><br><b>Address: vill: Bundia Hirr, Block : Jhalda II, Purulia district</b> |  |                  |             |
|--|--|------------------|-------------|
| No. of animal /Qty of land owned   | Expenditure  | Investment((Rs.) | Return(Rs.) |
| Pond with water area 4 bigha and embankment 1 bigha  | Fish feed, leveling of land, cleaning of pond  | 9600.00          | 55000.00    |
| Agriculture(Paddy in 0.01 acre)  | Organic manure, pesticides   | 2100.00          | 19500.00    |
| Duck(90)   | Feed, shelter etc.   | 5900.00          | 26000.00    |
| TotalRs.)  |  | 17600.00         | 100500.00   |
| Net Income (Rs.)   | 82900.00   |                  |             |
| Income per member (Rs.)  | 7536.00  |                  |             |
| Benefits accrued   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of nutritious food, vegetables , fresh fish and eggs through out the year.</li> <li>• Reduction of cost</li> <li>• Enhancement of status in the society</li> </ul> |                  |             |



### Pond based integration



**9.iii: Small Animal-based Integration in combination of other activities (CPR management, Non farm activities) for acute landless farmers:** LKP is working with the people belonging to ultra-poor households. These households have little access of land and dependent on wage earning as agricultural laborers with no or less irrigation facility. During post monsoon season, the MKs remain unemployed and also there is lack of scope for wage earning. To address food security as well as sustenance for this kind of landless community, this model has been developed .

Livestock rearing, specially the small ruminants, has played an important role in the livelihood in this model. Newer variety of goats, chicks, ducks, pigs like for chicks- Banaraj, Rhode Island Red , for ducks- Khaki Cambel, for goats- Black Bengal, for pigs- Ghunghroo etc, have been introduced in this model. Indigenous practices like hatching of ducks by the country hens, ethno botanical practices in disease management and vaccination through convergence with line department together boost up a reasonable income for these beneficiaries. The whole programme of integrated livestock management is conducted in close collaboration of the concerned state departments. Besides, they engage themselves in



some off farm and non-farm activities like production of vermi compost and kantha stitch material especially by the minority women members for sale.

| <b>Case study: Small Animal based Integration in combination of other activities</b><br><b>Name of SHG: Abhijan swanirvar Dal, Village- Fatepur, P.O – Baragram</b><br><b>Block – Harirampur, D/ Dinajpur</b><br><b>No. of Members:11</b> |  |                  |                 |
|---|--|------------------|-----------------|
| No. of animal /Qty of land owned  | Particulars of expenditure   | Investment (Rs.) | Return(Rs.)     |
| Cow(7), goat(12), duck(22) & chick (50)   | Feed, medicine etc.  | 206800.00        | 41000.00        |
| CPR Mgt   |  | 10300.00         | 3000.00         |
| Non farm activities   |  | 4600.00          | 800.00          |
| <b>Total income(Rs.)</b>  |  | <b>221700.00</b> | <b>44800.00</b> |
| <b>Net Income (Rs.)</b>   | <b>176900.00</b>   |                  |                 |
| <b>Income per MK (Rs.)</b>  | <b>16081.00</b>  |                  |                 |
| <b>Benefits accrued</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of vegetables along with milk, meat and eggs</li> <li>• Reduction of cost</li> </ul> |                  |                 |

The public land (road side, canal side, untapped land etc) in Public -Private partnership mode is adopted by the landless SHGs to take up agro forestry plantation for fruit, fodder, fuel, fertilizer and timber (FFFFT). Ponds and other water bodies are taken on lease for integrated farming with agro forestry and livestock. Gram Panchayat authorities played an important role.

#### **Approach to landless issue in the model:**

In this kind of integration an important issue of landlessness is addressed by LKP very successfully through partnership approach (Private- Private & Public – Private). The private land that remain fallow in between two seasons is taken on lease basis in Private-Pvt mode of partnership for a short period. The public land(road side, canal side, untapped land etc) the Public -Private partnership mode is adopted by the landless SHGs to take up agro forestry plantation for fruit, fodder, fuel, fertilizer and timber(FFFFT). Ponds and other water bodies are taken on lease for integrated farming with land and livestock) LKP Best Practice.





Effort has been made to develop the models to bring back the chain of interdependence through agro ecology to work in harmony with society.



#### Small Animal based Integration in combination of other activities

**10. Convergence with Line Departments and MGNREGA: Convergence framework:** This is a convergence model of LKP for the Landless poor recognized by the MoRD under MKSP. As one of our best practices, LKP always give emphasis on convergence of the programmes of the PRIs and other line departments of the state government for developing synergies directly with the community institutions of the poor under MKSP. Strong institutions, so developed, were able to create a demand driven accountability and pressure for access to various legal entitlements from the Government in general, and to various inputs in agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry etc. to the grassroots at the level of Mahila Kisans. LKP played an important role to establish linkages with PRIs for regular consultations between Community based Organizations (CBOs) particularly at the Gram Panchayat (GP) level for exchange of mutual advice, support and sharing of resources. MKSP, though primarily a livelihood development programme could not be successful if implemented on stand-alone basis. Funds from other programmes of the government departments was essential to leverage that was highly beneficial to the MKs. Individual Benefit Scheme under MGNREGA, came out very useful for individual asset creation that was availed by MK households including land leveling, nursery raising, plantation in barren land, development of water harvesting structure, poultry animal shelters, rural housing etc. Support from department of Agriculture for soil health card, soil testing, seeds and agriculture tools and



expertise was provided. Vaccinations, de-worming, medicines, improved feed and technology from Dept. of Animal Resource Development (ARD) were ensured. Through a well designed convergence mechanism, the poorest of the poor were served more efficiently. The whole livestock intervention was being done purely through convergence. The strategy of LKP was very successful in terms of leveraging opportunities of training from various departments which was worth adopting. A collaborative atmosphere was created for the women farmers participated in that influenced bringing the interventions successful.

| Benefits from Line Departments |              |                            |                           |              |                            |                           |            |
|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Department                     | 2013-14(Rs.) |                            |                           | 2018-19(Rs.) |                            |                           | Remarks    |
|                                | MK(No.)      | Benefit<br>(Rs.in<br>Lakh) | Benefit<br>per<br>MK(Rs.) | MK(No.)      | Benefit<br>(Rs.in<br>Lakh) | Benefit<br>per<br>MK(Rs.) |            |
| <b>Agriculture</b>             | 8841         | 33.63                      | 380.43                    | 38072        | 503.7                      | 1323.12                   | 5.7times   |
| <b>Horticulture</b>            | 4836         | 10.12                      | 209.38                    | 9191         | 106.3                      | 1156.62                   | 5.5 times  |
| <b>WBCADC</b>                  | 1612         | 17.78                      | 1103.24                   | 18478        | 266.05                     | 1439.85                   | 1.3 times  |
| <b>Fishery</b>                 | 3041         | 3.14                       | 103.28                    | 8056         | 100.53                     | 1247.93                   | 12 times   |
| <b>ARD</b>                     | 7871         | 15.8                       | 200.67                    | 50259        | 150.31                     | 299.08                    | 1.5 times  |
| <b>MGNREGA</b>                 | 8643         | 540.7                      | 6256                      | 29872        | 3920.67                    | 12943                     | 2.06 times |
| <b>Others</b>                  | 1141         | 0.65                       | 56.79                     | 6318         | 147                        | 232.526                   | 4 times    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                   |              | <b>621.82</b>              |                           |              | <b>5194.56</b>             |                           |            |

As a result of systematic and timely planning and their incorporation in the Panchayat Plans it was possible to achieve significant convergence of activities in the field on a regular basis. The above table depicts the scenario of convergence that leveraged during 2013-14, as well as in 2018-19 from the various departments, organizations, schemes like agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Resource Husbandry departments, WBCADC and MGNREGA.

It may be observed that maximum number of the MKs were benefitted (50,259) from ARD department followed by MGNREGS (29872), Agriculture (38072), WBCADC (18478), Horticulture (9131) and Fishery (8056) during the project period. It is interesting to note that financial benefit from MGNREGS only in 2013-14 amounting Rs.6256.00 per household got enhanced more than double i.e Rs.12943 in 2018-19. It may also be noted that the



amount of convergence activities amounting Rs. 621.82 Lakh that took place in 2013-14 turned out to be Rs. **5194.56** lakh at the end of the project.

**Apart from these, the MKs also availed benefit from many other government programmes (health, PDS etc.). The schemes under related to Janani Suraksha Yojana, Rastriya Swastha Bima Yojana etc. and under Public Distribution System (PDS) it includes figures on Antodyoy Anna Yojana, KhadyaSathi, Annapurna Yojana etc.**

| Particulars                  | Health  |            | PDS     |          |
|------------------------------|---------|------------|---------|----------|
|                              | 2013-14 | 2018-19    | 2013-14 | 2018-19  |
| <b>MKs participated(No.)</b> | 12728   | 38996      | 13223   | 60253    |
| <b>Enhancement</b>           |         | 3.06 times |         | 4.5times |

The table shows that, the number of MKs availed different benefits from health (38996) and PDS(60253) in 2018-19 that are 3 and 4.31 times respectively more than that was availed in 2013-14.



**Bose Institute: Small animal shelter**



**Bose Institute: Innovative water conservation**



**MGNREGA: Seedlings Preparation For Social forestry**



**Dept. of Agriculture: Distribution of new variety paddy seeds**

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**Farmyard manures**



**Vermi compost pit using tires at home**



**Deep compost**



**NADEP compost**



**Preparation of Nimastra for their own use**



**The Unbeatable**





Women farmers transplanting paddy plants



Pond based integrated farming



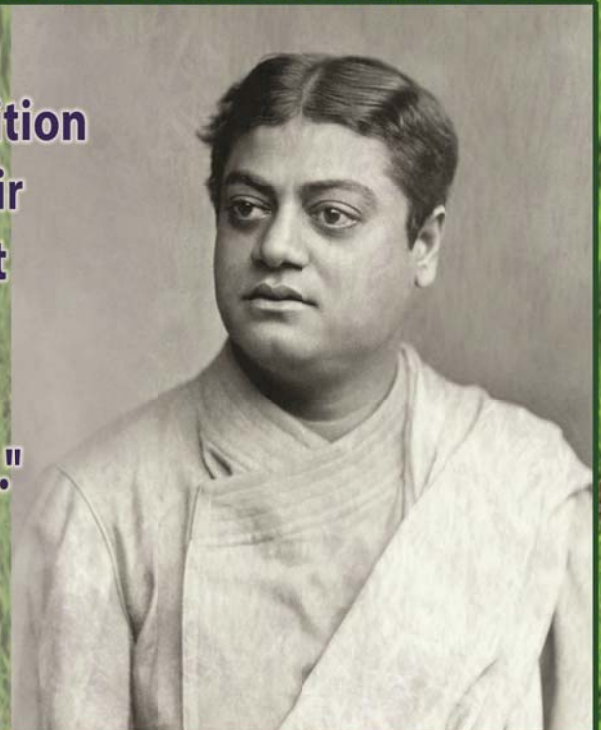


**"If we could free even one village from the shackles of helplessness and ignorance, an ideal for the whole of India would be established... Let a few villages be rebuilt in this way, and I shall say they are my India. This is the way to discover the true India."**

*— Rabindranath Tagore*

**"Women must be put in a position to solve their problems in their own way. No one can or ought to do this for them. Our Indian women are capable of doing it as any in the world."**

*— Swami Vivekananda*



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