

CLUSTER APPROACH – A PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

(A case study on Sun Flower Cultivation)

Background:

Many a times, it has been experienced that a good act with collective inputs leads to yet another mileage of self-respect, dignity and exemplary like platform which mean a lot to cherish. Positive thoughts with qualitative inputs paves way forward to lead a way of sustenance with varied experiences and options to follow.



Kapaguda, a PVTG village with 79 HHs under Batelima GP of Lanjigarh block wherein Kutia Kandha community who are still a preserver of their culture & lead lives with limited access to modern practices with traditional ethos.

Being dependant on the nearby forest with a small land holding, they are exposed to cultivate paddy, maize, pulses etc. lying lands fallow for other seasons.

Intervention:

After implementation of OPELIP in this village, people were mobilized through mass meeting by the team members of Janasahaja (FNGO) through Kutia Kandha Development Agency (KKDA), Lanjigarh with the support from IFAD to take up agricultural activities without lying land fallow & by using the surplus wastage water into lands. In addition to this, VDC of this village proposed to go for Sun Flower cultivation in two (02) Hac. of land covering 20 intending progressive farmers (list attached) with a cluster approach in a structured manner thereby linking all side by agricultural fields.

Support provided by OPELIP:

Keeping in view the interest of farmers and recommendation by VDC, farmers were provided with 20 Kg. of Sun Flower seeds (Maruti variety), Manure 10 qtl. and bio-fertiliser 20 kg. to for sunflower cultivation in a cluster. With an estimated project cost of Rs.8000/- (Expenditure Rs.7200/- & Rs.800/- beneficiary contribution), this cultivation was undertaken with farmers involvement in water management from the existing field channel of irrigation source. Input cost like Seed, manure, fertiliser, seed treatment etc. is being borne from the OELIP.

Cost of Cultivation (Per Acre excluding project cost):

1.	Sowing Cost	1200.00
2.	Weeding	1500.00
3.	Ploughing	4000.00
4.	Manuring & treatment	1000.00
5.	Harvesting cost	1200.00
6.	Miscellaneous	600.00
7.	Transportation	1500.00
	Total (Rs.)	11000.00



With all-out effort and decision taken by farmers, the defunct farm pond established earlier was re-excavated by them with cleaning facilities & irrigation canal made thereof to log water into the sunflower field. Due to regular watch and ward by concerned farmers, sunflower cultivation was very good with a return of 6 quintal per acre production.

Profit out of cultivation:

In this cluster farmers kept around 10 quintal of seed from the production for HH consumption and rest being sold out. After oil extraction, farmers sold 300 litre sunflower oil @Rs120 per litre to nearby village trader and got Rs.1.8 Lakh. they have spent total Rs.55,000 in that cluster.



Hence, from 5 acres of sunflower cultivation, farmers got net income of Rs.1.25 lakh and per member income is Rs.6,250/- as mentioned below:

#	Particulars	1 Acr.	5 Acr.
1.	Cost of cultivation	11000.00	55000.00
2.	Gross income out of oil extraction (@120/- x 300 Ltr.)	36000.00	180000.00
3.	Net Income (Gross Income – Cost of cultivation)	25000.00	125000.00
4.	Beneficiary wise income (Net Income ÷ number of farmers i.e. 125000.00 ÷20)		6250.00

Outcome:

Sun Flower Cultivation with a cluster has put great consensus among farmers of the locality who are planning do more crop in the coming season. Assured irrigation will definitely be helpful in providing more confidence and make more land usable without lying fallow and to grow crops round the year.

Inter-cropping inside the crop has also been practiced by the farmers which supplements household consumptions with enriched nutrient values in food intake.



Now, they are hopeful to grow more crops with the technical know-how received from OPELIP team & requesting for installation of oil extraction unit. Their strong endeavour to go for a holistic collective effort will definitely show better days to come.

LIST OF FARMERS IN SUNFLOWER CULUSTER-KAPAGUDA		
#	Name of the Farmers	Area (In Rs.)
1.	But Majhi	0.25
2.	Mohan Majhi	0.25
3.	Lohra Majhi	0.25
4.	Keshab Majhi	0.25
5.	Tarun Majhi	0.25
6.	Laxan Majhi	0.25
7.	Lachi Majhi	0.25
8.	Agadhu Majhi	0.25
9.	Bana Majhi	0.25
10.	Fakira Majhi	0.25
11.	Kalia Majhi	0.25
12.	Nakula Majhi	0.25
13.	Uanshu Majjhi	0.25
14.	Gulthu Majhi	0.25
15.	Purusottam Majhi	0.25
16.	Sandu Majhi	0.25
17.	Pratap Majhi	0.25
18.	Narshi Majhi	0.25
19.	Krushna Majhi	0.25
20.	Kanunja Majhi	0.25
Total Area		5.00 Acres

