

# Cluster Facilitation Project

Cluster Facilitation Project (CFP in Jharkhand is a developmental initiative aimed at enhancing the livelihood opportunities and agricultural productivity of rural communities through a cluster-based approach. The project is typically aligned with government schemes like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and other rural development programs to ensure the holistic development of selected clusters in the state.

## ### Key Objectives of the Cluster Facilitation Project:

### 1. \*Enhancing Livelihoods:\*

- The primary goal is to improve the livelihoods of rural communities by creating sustainable employment opportunities, particularly through agriculture, horticulture, livestock, and other allied activities.



### 2. \*Watershed Management:\*

- The project focuses on effective watershed management, ensuring that land and water resources are utilized sustainably. This includes activities like soil conservation, water harvesting, and the development of irrigation infrastructure.

### 3. \*Capacity Building:\*

- The project invests in building the capacity of local communities, particularly farmers, by providing training, technical support, and knowledge-sharing platforms. This helps in adopting better agricultural practices and improving productivity.



### 4. \*Convergence with Government Schemes:\*

- The project aims to bring synergy between various government programs, especially MGNREGA, to ensure that the resources are used efficiently and that the benefits reach the intended communities.

### 5. \*Strengthening Local Institutions:\*

- The CFP strengthens local institutions such as Gram Panchayats, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), enabling them to play a more active role in the development process.

### 6. \*Infrastructure Development:\*

- The project supports the creation of essential rural infrastructure such as roads, storage facilities, and market access points to improve the overall economic environment in the clusters.

### ### Implementation Strategy:

#### - \*Cluster-Based Approach:\*

- The project operates by identifying clusters of villages with similar geographical and socio-economic conditions. These clusters are then developed holistically, focusing on their specific needs and potential.

#### - \*Community Participation:\*

- Active involvement of the community in planning, implementing, and monitoring the projects is a key feature. This ensures that the interventions are need-based and have a higher chance of success.



### ### Impact and Benefits:

#### - \*Increased Agricultural Productivity:\*

- By focusing on better water management and improved farming techniques, the project leads to increased crop yields and better income for farmers.

#### - \*Sustainable Development:\*

- The project promotes environmentally sustainable practices, ensuring that the natural resources are preserved for future generations while meeting the present needs.

- **\*Improved Livelihoods:\***

- With better infrastructure, training, and support, rural communities experience an overall improvement in their livelihoods, leading to reduced poverty and enhanced quality of life.

- **\*Empowerment of Local Institutions:\***

- Strengthening of local governance and community-based institutions ensures that the benefits of the project are long-lasting and self-sustaining.

The Cluster Facilitation Project in Jharkhand represents a comprehensive effort to tackle rural poverty and underdevelopment by leveraging local resources and capacities, ensuring that development is both sustainable and inclusive.