

Kolzari Farm: 'Earn with Dignity'

A novel initiative for eradication of rural poverty



A joint venture of:

SHODH: The Institute for Research and Development, Nagpur

&

Kolzari Adiwasi Yuva Bahuuddeshiya Sanstha, Bhagwanpur

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Organization Type – Non-governmental, non-profit

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1. Why the intervention

- In the year 2007 villages Botezari and Kolsa (partial) were relocated from Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve to a new village named Bhagwanpur
- Although basic infrastructure facilities were provided, few employment opportunities were made available
- Agricultural land given to the households was poor and for three consecutive years villagers were able to grow little, leading to near starvation situation
- Subsistence on rain-fed agriculture, partially educated youth, and uprooted community needs lot of handholding

2. Who we are

- SHODH is a non-governmental, non-profit organization, established in the year 1997
- It is a group of like-minded people from various professions, and urban and as well as rural background
- SHODH's initial years were focused on research studies related with rural and tribal forest-based livelihood, formal and informal institutions, and collective action.
- We have conducted several studies in states like Maharashtra, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh.
- National and international organizations like the Forest Department, Tribal Development Department, Revenue Department, the World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF, Ford Foundation, South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE), and International Forestry Research and Institutions (IFRI) have supported our studies.



Informal meeting at the demo site

3. Nature of intervention

- Help the Bhagwanpur community to settle physically and mentally at the new place
- Expose them to alternate income earning opportunities
- Provide necessary training in the trades of their choice
- Support them to start new ventures for earning non-farm income
- Advocate use of nature friendly energy like solar and wind
- Start small credit facility for women

4. What have we already done since September 2009

- Established Kolzari Yuva Mandal and Grain Bank
- Supported 5 individual enterprises
- Arranged community festival as collective/participatory activity
- Collected and distributed clothes to women and children
- Established a demonstration site on 8 acres of land for encouraging self-employment and group earning activities through integrated animal husbandry like fishery, poultry, sericulture, emu farming etc



Watering the field

- Fenced the demonstration plot to protect from wild animals
- Arranged one dug well and 2 bore wells
- Created an artificial fish tank on 0.5 acres
- Constructed a poultry shed with locally available material that can house 3000 birds
- Set up three solar lamps

5. Work in progress

- Establishment of solar-wind hybrid energy generation system
- Setting up an Emu farm with 100 birds
- Construction of low cost, eco-friendly toilet

- Setting up of agriculture plots for organic farming of vegetables and paddy

6. **Objectives**

With the focus on 14 surrounding villages around Bhagwanpur we plan to indulge in-

- **Awareness building** - regarding possibilities of income generation through allied activities, sustainable resource use, and ways of resource enhancement and management.
- **Training** – practical training of scientific rearing of animals, marketing possibilities and skills, managerial skills (human resource and finance), and avenues of procuring finance.
- **Experimentation** – encourage practice and experimenting with new market friendly varieties of animals and birds, as well as rearing methods.
- **Implementation and replication** – the trained youth will be encouraged to undertake these activities either individually or in groups, on their own farm land, self-help groups and cooperatives would be encouraged.



First vegetable crop

7. **Key Project Staff**

1. Project Coordinators - 2
2. Program coordinators – 8 (members of Kolzari Yuva Mandal)
3. Resource persons – 5

Total key project team members: 15



Participatory poultry farming

8. Withdrawal strategy

- SHODH will withdraw from the project after 5 years
- Will provide honorary support for following 2 years to maintain continuity and smooth transition
- Responsibility for organizing trainings and monitoring will be with the Youth Club for years 6 and 7, and ultimately with the trade committees/cooperatives from that time forwards

9. Budgetary requirement

- Amount raised so far – 100,000
- Requirement over 3 years – 18,716,000

Donations to SHODH are exempt under section 80G, and SHODH is registered under FCRA.



Emu farming at the site

10. Banking details

For international transfers –

Name of the Account: SHODH: The Institute for Research and Development

Account No: 10984000824

Name of the Bank: State Bank of India, Dharampeth Branch

Bank Address: Laxmibhavan Chowk, Dharampeth, Nagpur, Maharashtra State, India

Branch Code: 4872

SWIFT code: SBIN IN BB 239

For transfer within India –

Name of the Account: SHODH: The Institute for Research and Development

Account No: 10984000880

Name of the Bank: State Bank of India, Dharampeth Branch

Bank Address: Laxmibhavan Chowk, Dharampeth, Nagpur, Maharashtra State, India

Branch Code: 4872

IFS code: SBI No 004872



Watch hut at the demonstration site