

SETTING UP OF COMMON FACILITY CENTRE (CFC) TO SUPPORT LIVELIHOOD OF TRANSGENDERS And RURAL WOMEN



Products from the CFC

Value added products from Coconut, Coconut Waste, Coconut Leaves, Fruits, Vegetables, Ragi & Millets

Coconut is ODOP for Ramanagara Dist.



Introduction - Transgender and Rural Women

- Over a decade in India, the issue of transgender has been a matter of quest in both social and cultural context where gender equality still remains a challenging factor towards the development of society because gender stratification much exists in every sphere of life as one of the barriers prevailing within the social structure of India.
- As per Census 2021, it has been counted that 4.9 million transgender peoples in India who are facing livelihood issues.
- Census 2021 found only 46% of the Transgender population, as compared to 76% of general population, as literate.
- Rural women in Ramanagara are very enterprising in nature, who accepts challenging role to meet their personal needs and become economically independent. These Rural Women have become aware about their situations and entered in the space of utilizing the over grown waste agriculture products converting into value added product for their livelihood. This is also contributing to the growth of the economy.
- The activities like coconut oil extraction, broom stick making, ragi ready to eat food items, drying Tomato's and other vegetables and fruits etc., are the major livelihood activities undertaking by women in rural areas to ensure economic security, besides engaging themselves in agriculture.

Brief Background of Transgender Community in Ramanagara

- Ramanagara district, Karnataka state a place which is densely populated with transgender community, from pastime which endeavor a major hub for this community.
- In tune with the general trend for the Transgender community, even the Ramanagara Transgenders are facing the same issues here too, especially in terms of livelihood options available for them.
- Based upon our baseline survey it is found that, most of the Transgenders who are dwelling in Ramanagara town are from the surrounding villages and adjoining Mysore district.
- Few of the community members are currently engaged in small time livelihood activities such as fruit waste-based products like floor cleaners, kitchen cleaners, etc.
- Since, Ramanagara is very close to South West Bangalore, they come to Bangalore for their work but goes back to Ramanagara, as accommodation in Bangalore is too costly to bear.
- During the corona times, they faced huge problems and multiple challenges in the city owing to diminished income from their regular begging activities.
- We found that, some of the Transgenders came back to their home town and started doing various livelihood activities like broom stick making, house hold toiletries, agri-products, domestic work etc., for their own livelihood, which gave them the much-needed confidence.
- After interactions with them, we found they want to continue living with self respect instead of begging and sex work where they undergo lot of harassment and embarrassment to their self esteem.

GAP Identified In The System

- Transgender peoples are one of the most discriminated high-risk community.
- Limited livelihood options adversely affect their socio-economic wellbeing characterized by poor access to education, housing and food insecurity.
- Transgenders have found it extremely difficult to get skill training and jobs due to social taboos and customs, and strong prejudice in the work places.
- Ensuring their socio-economic empowerment, a stigma free and equal society, will enable the community to have access to better education, employment, and health services and live a life with dignity. Infact most of them are sharing a tiny room in the outskirts of the towns, by preparing their food almost on the road side space.
- Even they are using the space available outside their house for producing products for selling in the market which is very unhygienic in nature.
- In this context, the study aimed at understanding the barriers and enablers to access to skilling and livelihood opportunities for transgender people in Ramanagara district, Karnataka.
- With this backdrop, they desperately in need of CFC where they can be trained under one roof for enhancing their skill sets.



Proposed Hard & Soft Interventions

Hard Interventions

1. Common Raw Material Bank
2. Common Coconut Fibre extraction facility
3. Common Cold pressed Coconut Oil extraction machines
4. Common Coconuts Value Added Products producing facility
5. Common Ragi Cleaning machines
6. Common Ragi Baby food Making Facility
7. Common Solar drying Facility
8. Common Packing Facility as per FSSAI
9. Common ready to cook idli and dosa batter making facility
10. Common Cold storage facility for storing the finished perishable products
11. Common Training Centre
12. Common Marketing and Branding Facility
13. Common Dry Items Storage facility

Soft Interventions

1. Trust Building and capacity building activities.
2. Exposure Visits to other Clusters and other states Industries.
3. Continues Design thinking activities.
4. Technology enhancement.
5. Brand building activities / Digital awareness programs.
6. Presentation skills on their products and concepts.
7. Sales, Distribution and Supply Chain activities.
8. Handling logistics issues & Modern e-retailing opportunities
9. Getting updated with new trends in the allied industries and sectors and awareness about campaigns on relative sectors.
10. Exposure to Export promotional activities.
11. Business Management Techniques.
12. Administration Management Techniques.
13. Interpersonal skill enhancement.

Proposed Products Manufactured at CFC

1. Coconut Shells & Fibre Products like, Coco pith, Coco blocks, Coco fibre ropes etc.
2. Organic manure from husk, fibres, shells and other waste generated during the processing of the main products
3. Cold Pressed Organic Coconut oil
4. Coconut leaf green themed decorations for marriages and other function
5. Coconut leaf based articles such as hat, flower vase, flower holders, corner decorations etc.
6. Dried fruits and vegetables
7. Dried leafy vegetables
8. Ragi and Rice based ready to cook idli and dosa batter



Critical Machinery Requirement

Sl. No.	Machineries (Particulars)	No.s	Corresponding Production Process
1	Coconut Husk & Pith Processing Machineries	7	To process the Coconut husk and pith in to final products
2	Coconut Oil Extraction Machineries	3	For Coconut Oil Extraction
3	Ragi Millets Processing Machineries	6	For processing the Ragi and other Millets
4	Solar dryer and Electric tray dryers for copra, fruits, vegetables and leafy vegetables	1	For drying of copra, fruits, vegetables and leafy vegetables
5	Pre-Fabricated cold storage room	1	For storing the perishable products
6	Packing Machineries	7	For packing the processed products into finished goods
7	Electrical works	1	For run the machineries and other equipments
8	Office Equipments	18	For running the office and adiminstration works
	Total		

Baseline Survey Conducted Among the Transgenders Community



Our SPV Members - Transgender's Verbatims



“We feel very depressed after getting bad, disrespectful behavior from different people at workplaces, exposed to a lot of ridicule from the society, hence it would be a pleasure and comfortable to work if we get a livelihood option. Given a chance, I will be doing any job irrespective of its outcomes”.

- **Savitha** was working an MNC but owing to the disparity in the work and back speaking from the other staff, left the job.



“We all are sex workers here and most of us get frustrated to be in sex trade but there is no other option for us. Our plight in the society does not allow us to do even small jobs like washing clothes, cleaning, and the household work. Many of us are addicted to different bad habits such as alcohol consumption, drugs, smoking, just to ignore the trauma and body pains coming out of hormone treatment,” explained by Amulya aged about 35 years who studied B. Com

- **Amulya** was worked with one of the Govt. organisation but due to increased ill treatment , tried to met suicide twice. Fortunately she was able to overcome the trauma after leaving the job and joined the Transgender community. Now she likes to become an Entrepreneur.



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