

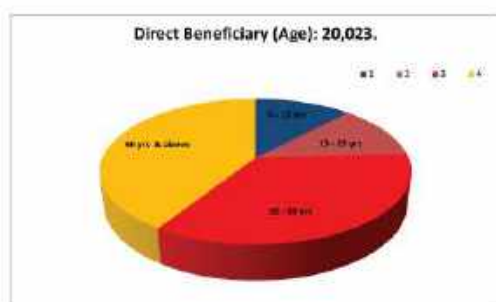
**Name of the Project:**  
Natural Resource Management Addressing Climate Change by Gender mainstreaming through solar energy in 40 villages of West Medinipur and Jhargram districts.

**Funded By:**  
Misereor, e.V Germany and KZE (Katholische Zentralstelle für Entwicklungshilfe e.V.)

**Project Period:**  
1st January 2021 - 31st December 2023.

**Area of Operation:**  
The project operates in 40 Tribal backward villages in Nayagram, Gopibalavpur, Kesiary and Dantan blocks covering 9 GPs. in the districts of West Medinipur and Jhargram in the state of West Bengal.

**Beneficiaries :**  
Number of direct beneficiaries - categorized by age and gender Total 4,125 Direct Households.



1	Age Group 0 - 12 yrs	2,402
2	Age group 13 - 19 yrs	2,404
3	Age Group 20 - 35 yrs	7,008
4	Age Group 36 yrs and above	8,209
	<b>20023</b>	

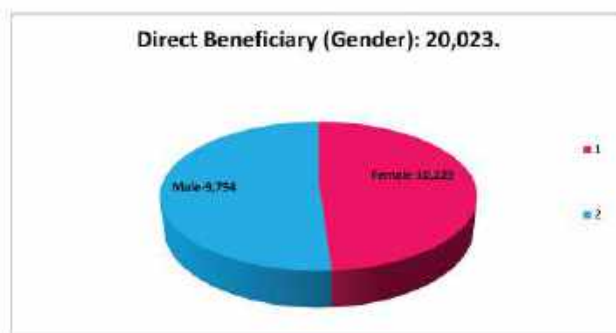
#### Age Group:

- Age Group 0-12 yrs = 2,402
- Age Group 13-19 yrs = 2,404
- Age Group 20-35 yrs = 7,008
- Age group 36 yrs & above = 8,209
- **Total Direct Beneficiaries = 20,023**

#### Gender:

- Total no. of Male in Project area = 9,794
- Total no. of Female in Project area = 10,229
- **Total no of Direct Beneficiaries = 20,023**

Number of Indirect Beneficiaries— categorize by age and gender Total 10,125 Indirect Households.



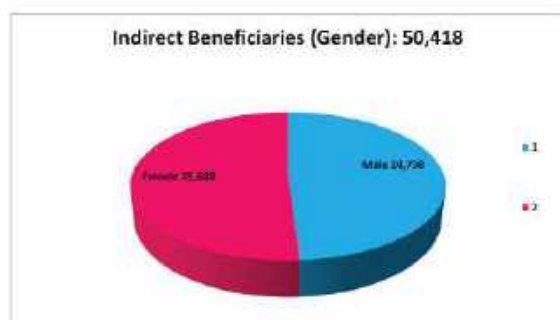
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## Age Group:

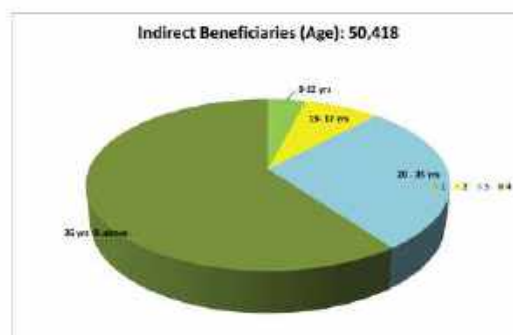
- Age Group 0-12 yrs = 2,016
- Age Group 13-19 yrs = 4,033
- Age Group 20-35 yrs = 14,117
- Age group 36 yrs & above = 30,252
- Total Indirect Beneficiaries = 50,418.

## Gender:

- Total no. of Males = 24,730
- Total no. of Females = 25,688
- **Total no. of Indirect Beneficiaries = 50,418**



1	Total No. of Male	24,730
2	Total No. of Female	25,688
3	Total No. of Indirect Beneficiaries	50418



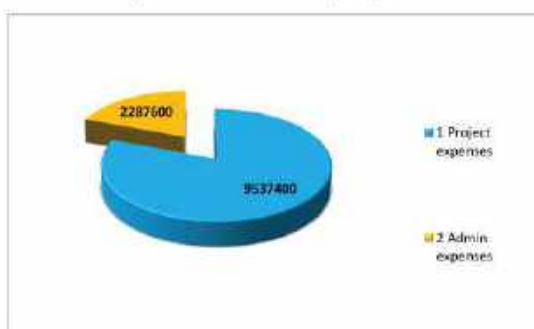
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## Budget Allocation:

Project Expenses: Rs. 95,37,400

Admin Expenses: Rs. 22,87,600



1	Project expenses	9537400
2	Admin expenses	2287600



## Project Goal:

About 4,125 families from 40 villages in the districts of West Midnapore and Jhargram have been informed on how to cope with climate change and mitigation, and 200 indigenous women are acting as catalysts for dissemination and conversion to renewable energy sources.



## Project Objectives:

The three main project objectives have been outlined below:

- Villagers have been trained in the use of solar energy and can make a living through the production of solar lights.
- The villagers from 40 villages have been sensitized on climate change and its consequences and the health status of the village population has improved.
- The partnership with the private and public sectors is strengthened.



## Project Activities:

The key activities which were implemented from April 2022–March 2023 are as follows:



- Staff Planning Meeting for the preparation of DIP (Detailed Implementation Plan) from January to December 2022.
- Conduct Programmes and meetings for target beneficiaries and various stake holders, like GP officials and solar vendors on “Environment Literacy” and “Solar Technology” with the purpose to motivate them to install solar lights home lights and promote other solar products.
- Gender Awareness Camps in 40 villages highlighting the major concerns of the community like gender education, stereo type gender roles and responsibilities, social taboos, different types of abuses and domestic violence etc.



- Home visits were carried out for marketing of Solar Lanterns and LED Bulbs, monitoring the Nutrition Gardens and compost pits, plantation programmes and regular follow-up on Govt schemes.





- GP and block visit and orientation on the promotion of solar water pump sets for safe drinking water, solar home and street lights etc. and simultaneously follow up on the Micro-plan.
- Advocacy and linkage with allied agencies, at GP, block and district level to avail various Government. schemes and facilities for the 40 target villages.



- Producer group meetings, on documentation, accounts, record keeping and developing of 'Business Plan'.
- Hands on training for the solar technicians, center wise on assembling solar home lights, along with installation.



- Regular functioning of the practice centers, assembling and marketing in 40 Practice centers located at remote villages.
- Promotion of solar products in local markets and in 40 commercial points.
- Repair and maintenance of solar panel and home lighting units in Borsole village in Gopiballavpur block.





- Training on Organic Farming, Village level demonstration on “Compost Pit” and Nutrition Garden and Nursery for village farmers (both men and women).



- Celebration of World Environment Day, Earth Day, Clean Energy Day, World Nature Conservation Day, International Day of World Indigenous People, Women’s Equality Day, Celebration of International Day of Peace and Non-Violence, International Women’s Day in project area etc.





- Creation of a mini forest and orchard with massive plantation programme with the community, supported by CSR Fund.



Plantation Committee involved in mini forest plantation at Borsole village in Gopiballavpur block



- Contact various Evaluating agencies like IIT Kharagpur, Bidhisa and IBRAD for conducting the NRM Project's External Evaluation following DAC criterion.



- Donors visit programme by proper planning, execution and reporting on Brigitte ma'am visit from Germany to SKC on 17th November 2022.
- Regular staff Review, feedback and planning meeting month wise, with quarterly staff assessment.
- Documentation and Reporting on the entire activities conducted in the project.





## Achievements:

- Skill Development for 525 (405 women & 120 men) solar technicians through Hands on training on assembling of various solar products.
- A total of 2419 men and 7321 women participants attended the 'Environment Literacy' camps on awareness building, as a result a considerable improvement have been noticed in their health conditions by using solar powered devices instead of kerosene oil, using of 1237 ICS, hence consuming less firewood and reduction in the kitchen smoke, 3945 organic nutrition gardens in target families replacing the chemical fertilizers etc contributing towards their profit margin and enhancing the nutritional value of the target families.
- Total 3,265 target families are using the solar products (lanterns, home lights, mobile chargers etc).
- Till date a total of 9,075 solar lanterns were assembled, generating a profit of Rs. 11,96,560/- by the 'Producer group members'.
- A total of 5,347 LED Bulbs were assembled incurring a profit of Rs. 1,17,634/-, additionally 926 solar lanterns & home lights were repaired, thus, giving a profit of Rs.27,960/- to the Producer Groups.



The rural women who were once not allowed to step out of their houses, are seen at different marketing points/junctures to market their products and additionally provide "hands-on-training" to different groups as well.





- Total 45 solar home lights were non-functional at Borsole village (Gopiballavpur). The Solar Producer group in that village took initiative to repair the old panels, CCU and batteries and hence now a total of 27 home lights are in working condition.

- The good working relation with all the 9 GPs, as a result received 6 government spaces at NRM Practice Centre for free of cost.
- 2 women technicians have received Loan of Rs. 2,00,000/- each from the IDO (Industrial Development Office) to start sa Solar business.
- 1 street light, 2 solar submersibles and 3 tube-wells installed at the community due to approval of village level Micro-Plan.
- Received LED raw materials (MRPVIII Rs. 48/-) at a subsidized rate of Rs.18 per bulb through proper linkage with BB Auspicious Private Limited, Jadavpur.
- Availed training on Marketing the solar products from Govt. Resource Person cum Solar Trainer at Gopibalavapur, on 'Solar Light' for free of cost.
- A total of 11,644 vaccination completed in target households through regular awareness building and counselling.
- 4076 women have availed the Laxhmi Bhandar scheme from the target area through regular follow-up.

### Impact:

- 4 Women Master Trainers are selected and are nominated as Panchayat representatives in 2023 Panchayat elections from the NRM Project.
- 8 Women master Trainers confidently participated in the 'Inception Workshop' by SDRC (Sustainable Design Research Consortium) at Regenta Orkos, Kolkata, sharing their journey of transformation from rural housewives to solar technicians.
- Also 5 youths from NRM Field attended the 'Jan Jati Gaurav Divas' conducted by IBRAD and share their experience on Climate Change mitigation efforts.







- Women representing the project at various workshops, seminars etc. Also Women's Football team formed by the Project and women Tournament 2022 was played between the two women football team formed by the NRM project, which reflected the act of courage and strong determination by women in that rural male dominated area, who through the project has played an extraordinary role in their communities breaking stereotype job responsibilities.



- 315 solar technicians were regularly involved in assembling and marketing the solar products and LEDs in the 40 village practice centers and was able to generate an income of Rs. 13,61,354/-.
- A profit of Rs 30,000/- gained by the women group in Nayagram and Kesiary blocks, by selling 6,000 saplings raised by them through the hands-on- training on Nursery conducted by the Project.
- The Producer Group named 'Alor Disha' at Dantan was able to set up a shop consisting of solar products and spare parts , availing loans from IDO (Industrial Development Office) after their 'Trade License' was issued.





## Story of Change:

### Case study

**Title:** A journey from a Liquor seller to a dignified solar technician.

**Village:** Choto Dhansola, Gopi block, Jhargram district.

**Reported by:** Sabitri Saren (Field Implementer).



Kapurmoli Saren, a 32-year-old housewife from Choto Dhankamra village of Gopiballavpur block sold country liquor (or locally termed as 'Mahua') at the weekly 'Haat' (market) to meet her family expenses. To make more money to bear the expenses, she resorted to selling liquor from the comfort of her house, illegally. The consequence of this act had an adverse effect on her and her family members. They were banished from attending events held in the village, the villagers refrained from speaking with her and eventually, her social status took a sharp plunge in the society. Although her life was filled with humiliation and isolation, the effects

of which were creeping into her mental space yet nothing of the taunts and the adverse effects could prevent her from selling liquor to feed a family of six and to supplement her husband's earning.

A day of hope and new meaning dawned in her life when one of the NRM project staff approached her to pay a visit to the village/ practice center with the aim to learn the skill of assembling solar lanterns. At first, she was reluctant to visit the center in order to keep her credentials undisclosed (for she is a class II dropout). However, after incessant appeals, she agreed to come to the Practice Center. And, when she did, her life took a 360 degree turn for the better. She ended up learning the skill of assembling Solar Lanterns and LED Bulbs and now serves her as the mode of bread and butter.

Kapurmoli Saren has gained a title for herself, known to the village as an efficient solar technician. The entire community acknowledges the efforts of Seva Kendra Calcutta for it has played a vital role in transforming her life, giving her a source of income that has helped her to retrieve her lost respect. She is forever indebted to Seva Kendra Calcutta, a beacon of hope to those who are faced with adversity.

