

Guideline on Formation and Strengthening of Self Help Groups (SHGs) & Grounding of Income Generation Activities under OFSDP-II



Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project Phase-II Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society Forest & Environment Department, Government of Odisha



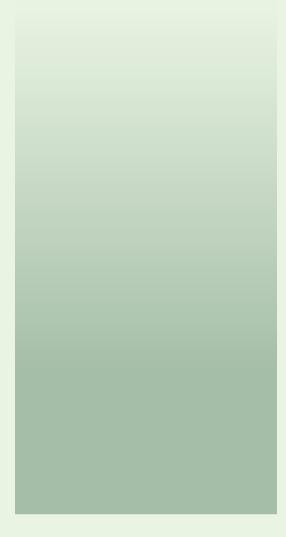
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webmail@ofsdp.org 0674-2386084, 2386016

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L.K.Tewari, IFS Additional PCCF (Projects)-cum-Project Director Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society

FOREWORD

Government of Odisha has identified empowerment of women as one of the key development initiatives and adopted promotion of Women Self Help Group as key strategy to achieve Women's Empowerment. Following the objective of Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project Phase-II, the project has been focussing on inter-sectoral convergence with the other Government schemes under implementation in project areas for access to better livelihood options and improvement of income of the targeted forest dependents.

OFSDP Phase –II has planned to form 3600 SHGs in its project areas to support the livelihood of the communities during the project period. Women SHGs under OFSDP-II are envisaged to be the engine for women empowerment and family well-being. Making advantage of the holistic micro plan and annual plan the women SHGs will also work on the health, nutrition and literacy aspects to cater their practical needs along with the income generation activities.

Under OFSDP-II, Sustainable Livelihood Programme has been envisaged to go beyond the conventional definitions and approaches of poverty eradication in forest fringe villages. It is planned that in livelihood promotion endeavour more attention will be paid on factors and processes that would enhance poor people's ability to make their living in an economically, ecologically, and socially sustainable manner.

To facilitate the growth and sustainability of the SHGs, promote income generation activities (IGA) of SHGs and facilitate convergence programmes for SHGs and the clusters, PMU has developed a comprehensive Guideline on Formation and Strengthening of Self Help Groups & Grounding of Income Generation Activities under OFSDP, Phase-II. This Guideline will be helpful in Selection of SHGs in the project area, strengthen the functioning of SHGs, helpful in identifying Income Generation Activities and in the overall growth of SHGs under Clusters and Livelihood Resource Centre.

The sincere and hard work put up by Dr. Meeta Biswal, IFS, Additional Project Director and Dr. P.R. Karat, IFS, Joint Project Director in preparing the SHG guideline are praiseworthy. The efforts of the assisting team from PMU comprising of Dr. Mamata Mishra, State Programme Manager (Livelihood, Natural Resource Management & Inter-sectoral Convergence), Shri Subrat Kumar Kar, State Programme Manager (Capacity & Institutional Development), Shri Chhayakant Mishra from the PMC and all the PMU officials are acknowledged thankfully.

I hope that this document would serve as an important guideline for the Project Management Unit, Divisional Management Units, and Field Management Units implementing the OFSDP-II.

(Shri L. K. Tewari, IFS) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Projects) -cum-Project Director, OFSDS



Dr. Meeta Biswal, IFS Additional PCCF -cum-Additional Project Director Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society

PREFACE

The objective of Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project Phase-II is to enhance forest ecosystem along with sustainable livelihood of local people by improving sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation and community development, thereby contributing to harmonization between environmental conservation and socio-economic development in the Project area in Odisha.

OFSDP, Phase-II plans to promote livelihood activities in the project area spread over 12 Territorial Forest Divisions where 50 Forest Ranges (known as Field Management Units) have been selected to undertake the project activities, in 1200 villages through Vana Surakshya Samitis (VSS). On an average in each VSS, 03 Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) will be promoted for undertaking income generation and alternate livelihood activities. Thus, the total of 3600 women SHGs will be promoted in 1200 VSSs of 12 Forest Divisions.

The Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society has implemented OFSDP-I and Ama Jangala Yojana with livelihood component as key element of the project around SHGs. From past experiences it is revealed that insufficiency of products at SHG level caused difficulty in taking up their processing, product augmentation and aggregation. For ensuring aggregation of the products so as to take up their value addition, bulk marketing, it is envisaged to promote a cluster level approach under OFSDP-II. Accordingly, product clusters are proposed to be formed at each Field Management Unit (FMU) or at Divisional Management Unit (DMU) level considering the availability and access to raw material, infrastructure facilities, skill and capacity of community to take up the identified activity in a sustainable manner etc.

Under OFSDP, Phase-II, functioning of SHGs, their graduation into clusters and formulation of the Business Development Plan will be handled by Livelihood Resource Centre (LRC). The LRC will be operated at PMU. Besides individual SHG functioning, the Livelihood Resource Centre will also co-ordinate the activities of Income Generation Resource Agency (IGRA) and livelihood activities being

undertaken under other livelihood oriented projects of Forest Department including Ama Jangala Yojana (AJY).

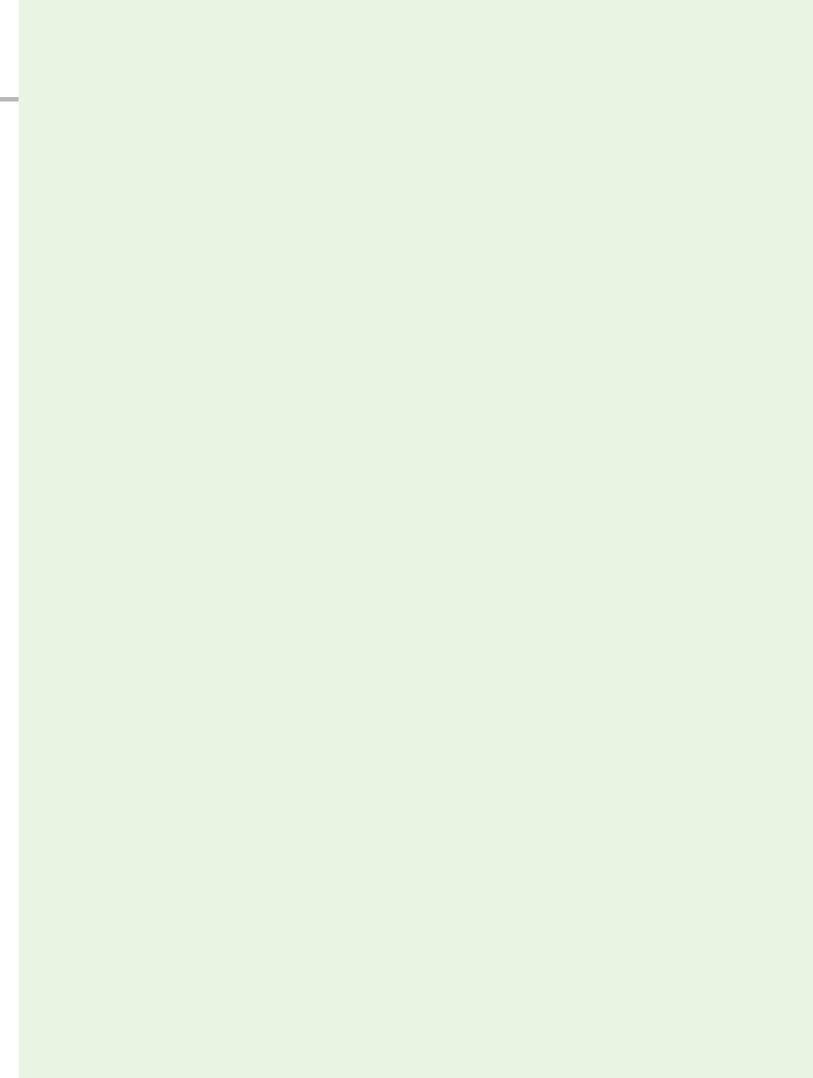
This Guideline exhaustively deals with the formation of SHGs, strengthening, functioning of SHGs, and selection of Income Generation Activities. It is expected that this document will facilitate and monitor the growth of SHGs under Cluster as well as LRC. This also deals with the financial support system to the SHGs under OFSDP-II. I am hopeful that this document would be very useful to all the project functionaries and stakeholders in achieving the objective of OFSDP, Phase - II.

The Guideline has been prepared under the guidance of Shri L.K.Tewari, IFS, Project Director of OFSDS. The sincere efforts, dedication and contribution made by the experts of PMU and support of PMC in preparing this guideline are highly appreciated.

(Dr. Meeta Biswal, IFS) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests –cum-Additional Project Director, OFSDS

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Empowerment of women is one of the key development initiatives identified by the Government of Odisha. It is wellknown that economic empowerment of women significantly contributes to their social empowerment. As such helping women to achieve economic independence by enabling them to have independent employment and income has been accorded the highest priority. It has also been recognised that women will be better-placed to overcome the negative social pressures and gender biases operating against them and to unshackle themselves through group identity and activity. Promotion of Women's Self-Help Groups (WSHGs) has therefore been adopted as a key strategy for achieving women's empowerment.
- 1.2 The objective of Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project Phase-II (OFSDP-II) is to enhance forest ecosystem along with sustainable livelihood of local people by improving sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation and community development, thereby contributing to harmonization between environmental conservation and socio-economic development in the Project area in Odisha. Focus will remain on inter-sectoral convergence with other Government schemes under implementation in project

areas for access to better livelihood options and improvement of income of the targeted forest dependents.

- 1.3 The project OFSDP-I and Ama Jangala Yojana (AJY) implemented livelihood component of their project around SHGs. Subsequently progressive SHGs were graduated into cluster to reach higher market with economies of scale and processing initiatives. Experience of OFSDP-I and AJY, implemented by OFSDS, revealed that insufficiency of products caused difficulty in taking up their processing, value addition of different kinds, bulk marketing and retailing of product at SHG level. For ensuring aggregation of the products so as to take up their value addition, bulk marketing, it is envisaged to promote a cluster level approach under OFSDP-II. Accordingly, product clusters will be formed at each Field Management Unit (FMU) or at Divisional Management Unit (DMU) level considering the availability and access to raw material, infrastructure facilities, skill and capacity of community to take up the identified activity in a sustainable manner etc.
- 1.4 Women SHGs under OFSDP-II are envisaged to be the engine for women empowerment and family wellbeing.

Making advantage of the holistic micro plan and annual plan the women SHGs will also work on the health, nutrition and literacy aspects to cater their practical needs along with the income generation activities. By converging, with other line departments including Women and Child Development Department, Health Department, Agriculture Department etc. These activities will be implemented in the project villages. Women Animators of the VSS and the PNGO staffs will take an active role in such endeavour.

1.5 Sustainable Livelihoods, under OFSDP-II, has been envisaged to go beyond the conventional definitions and approaches of poverty eradication in forest fringe villages.

> Therefore, in livelihood promotion endeavour more attention will be paid on factors and processes that would enhance poor people's ability to make their living in

Objectives of the Guideline

The overall objective of the guideline is to promote/strengthen SHGs to engage in the sphere of socio-economic development, to enhance the economic and social wellbeing of members, status of women and contribute to the overall village development.

- To promote and support SHGs on growth trajectory
- To identify, assess and select WSHGs (3600+) under OFSDP-II
- To promote IGA activities with SHG members

an economically, ecologically, and socially sustainable manner.

- 1.6 Odisha Livelihood Mission (OLM), an autonomous body established under the Department of Panchayati Raj, Government of Odisha, is the state nodal agency for promoting livelihood in the rural areas under National Rural Livelihood Mission. Efforts will be made for promotion of schemes/programs undertaken by the Odisha Livelihood Mission (OLM) and the National Rural Livelihoods Project (NRLP) through project SHGs. The guidelines for implementation of livelihood programme under OFSDP-II will therefore be compliant to the OLM guidelines. Since the OFSDP-II is a time bound intervention and has limited capacity to provide the long term assistance to project SHGs, it would be an advantage for SHGs to be adopted by OLM as the project activities phases out.
- To facilitate convergence for institutional and financial growth of SHGs
- To facilitate SHG functioning and maintenance of Records
- To facilitate business plan development and linkages
- Facilitate in linking with infrastructure and institutional support
- To facilitate financial and non-financial support to the selected SHG
- To improve the income of the SHG members
- To create vibrant SHGs to graduate to be a part of cluster institution



Project Area

The project will promote livelihood activities in the project area spread over 12 Territorial Forest Divisions where 50 Forest Ranges (known as Field Management Units) have been selected to undertake the project activities, in 1200 villages through Vana Suraksha Samitis (VSS). On an average in each VSS, 03 Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) will be promoted for undertaking income generation and alternate livelihood activities. Thus, the total of 3600 women SHGs will be promoted in 1200 VSSs of 12 Forest Divisions as per details given in Annexure-I. The functioning of SHGs, their graduation into clusters and formulation of the Business Development plan will be handled by Livelihood Resource Centre (LRC), that will operate at PMU. Besides individual SHG functioning, the Livelihood Resource Centre will also co-ordinate the activities of Income Generation Resource Agency (IGRA) and livelihood activities being undertaken under other livelihood oriented projects of Forest Department including Ama Jangala Yojana (AJY).

Key Stakeholders

The key stakeholder and their responsibilities towards SHG and IGA promotion under OFSDP-II is as below:

Levels	Stakeholders	Key Responsibilities			
PMU	SPM (LLI,NRM	Develop the guideline and strategies for IGA promotion			
	& ISC)	Issue of office orders			
	SPM C&ID	• Dissemination of study findings w.r.t livelihood opportunity, market, value chain etc.			
		Facilitate state level convergence			
		Follow up and handholding			
DMU	DMU Chief, SMS (livelihood)	• Overall supervision of the implementation plan and promotion of institutions			
		 Dissemination of study findings w.r.t livelihood opportunity, market, value chain etc. 			
		Facilitate Convergence at district/division level			
		 Steer the process of implementing project financial and non- financial provisions 			
		• Facilitate the institutional arrangements (SHGs, VSSs, and Clusters) and its coordination			
		Monitor and report to PMU			



FMU	FMU Chief, Team leader of PNGO	 In-charge of implementation of the project activities Facilitate the overall selection and prioritization of SHGs Facilitate institutional coordination among SHG, VSS and Cluster (s) facilitate the process of implementing project financial and non-financial provisions Facilitate convergence at block level Supervise and monitor progress and Report to DMU
VSS	EC Members, Animator	 Play key role in promotion/selection of the right SHGs to take IGA Support in preparing the baseline of resource and market Support SHGs in accessing resources Manage Revolving fund successfully Track progress and report to FMU
SHG	Leaders and Members	 Undertake IGA and plus activities Manage financial and non-financial resources Build skill and capacity of leaders and members Maintain adequate records Manage linkage with project, bank and other resource agencies Report changes and take up audit
Working Group	Members of Working Group	• Working Groups will be formed at PMU, DMU, FMU and VSS level to aid and facilitate by LRC



2 Women SHGs under OFSDP-II

- 2.1 The women SHGs promoted under OFSDP-II, would be the primary community level institutions consisting of generally 10-20 (in no case exceeding 20) women members which would work together on the principle of self-help promotion as the implementing units. Women SHGs under OFSDP-II will also be required to be involved in income generating activities and in women empowerment activities around Health, Education, Nutrition, Financial Literacy etc. Women SHGs under the project envisaged to undertake IGA across sectors, based on market and resource situations. Matured and capacitated SHGs will be graduated into product clusters to maximise value chain and to undertake value addition. The clusters will be promoted under the support of Livelihood Resource Centre instituted by OFSDP-II.
- 2.2 Identification, formation and selection of potential SHGs under OFSDP-II will follow a demand driven approach, which at the first place will require the willingness of the members to form the SHG, which will be a part of the project. The dependence of member households on forest, socio-economic vulnerability

(ST/SC/OBC, poverty level), appreciation of the project i.e. OFSDP-II and potential for cluster formation will be other major criteria.

2.3 Implementation of IGA would require linkages between the SHG and the concerned VSS.

The SHG members shall essentially be the members of the General Body (GB) of the VSS and in that capacity, they will be eligible to participate in the meetings of the GB and Executive Committee (EC) of the VSS.

2.4 The process of selection of women SHGs to be supported under the project will start after completion of the micro planning in each VSS. However, the identification of existing SHGs in the VSS will be made during the micro planning. In this regard, an information sheet on existing women SHGs of the VSS will be maintained in the format prescribed in Annexure-II, which will be prepared by the Member-Secretary of the VSS and verified by the PNGO representative. This information sheet will be authenticated by the FMU Chief and a copy of this sheet will become a part of the micro-plan of the VSS.



2.5 A number of women SHGs are already organized under different programs and initiatives of State Government. Different programs of the Odisha Livelihood Mission are under implementation in nearly 50% of the project areas. Therefore,

wherever the OLM is present the project will work with the existing women SHGs in village, that could be identified by adopting the exclusion and inclusion criteria given in the following table-

OLM Area	Proposed Criteria under OFSDP-II		
Exclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria		
1. Currently taking loan from a financial institution as a group and have defaulted	 Currently taking loan from a financial institution as a group and have defaulted Members having multiple membership with other SHGS More than one family members are in one SHG 		
Inclusion/ Priority Criteria	Inclusion Criteria		
1. Motivated to work with OFSDP-II	1. Motivated to improve their livelihood		
2. Understand the OFSDP- II objectives	2. Understand the OFSDP- II objectives		
 Forest Dependents Potential for cluster formation 	3. Vulnerable households among the VSS members, households identified through micro planning process and not yet a member of any other SHGs		
	4. Forest Dependents		
	5. Potential for cluster formation		

2.6 Prioritization of SHGs in a village will require detailed exercise. In this regard, a rating tool for SHG grading is prescribed in the Annexure-III, in which various indicators and corresponding maximum score are given. Each identified SHG (existing or new one) will be given marks against the maximum marks indicated in column-3 of the rating tool format. Focus Group Discussion (FGD) will be required to be made for this purpose with different stakeholders including target SHGs. The highest scoring SHGs (03 no.) will qualify for inclusion in OFSDP II and directly selected to be a part of the cluster level institution whereas ones with lower score (more than 50marks) will be linked to the VSS for further development and financing. On successful graduation in the areas of institution building, financial management, Skill and capacity etc. they may apply to be the member of cluster, that will be facilitated by the VSS.

- 2.7 On an average about three SHGs will be supported by the project in each VSS. Depending on the number of households in the VSS, number of SHGs to be supported under OFSDP- II will be finalized and included in the micro plan approved by General Body (GB) of the VSS as well as by the FMU Chief. Any subsequent change in number, when required, has to follow the same process through GB of VSS and FMU Chief.
- 2.8 The project shall work with the existing women SHGs present in villages. However, following guidelines shall be considered in identification of the SHGs-
 - a) SHGs whose most of the members are motivated to promote certain IGA and improve the livelihood shall be given priority under the project.
 - b) SHGs with Vulnerable households those are identified during Micro Planning shall be given preference under OFSDP-II.
 - c) SHGs having more than 50% members who are forest dependents should be given preference during selection process.
 - d) SHG formed under OLM who is motivated to work with OFSDP-II will be given priority during identification, provided they have operated for at least more than six months and they satisfy the inclusion criteria.

- e) If currently any loan has been taken by the SHG from a financial institution as a group and defaulted, such SHG(s) shall be excluded under OFSDP-II.
- f) In case a SHG has become defunct, a detailed analysis may be done on the reasons contributed to the defunct situation. If reasons are not fatal the SHGs may be considered under OFSDP-II.
- g) Some of the reasons which may be considered fatal for SHG revival are;
 - i. Financial mismanagement and misappropriation in the SHG
 - ii. Conflict beyond resolution
 - iii. No members existing/interested, etc in the SHG.
- h) The reasons considered to be fatal for revival of SHG are to be recorded in writing by the concerned authorities.
- i) SHG (s) where members having multiple memberships in other SHGs, or more than one family members are in a SHG shall not be included under OFSDP-II.
- j) SHGs having similar livelihood activities and potential for cluster promotion shall be selected under the project so that cluster promotion is ensured in future.
- k) Women SHGs supported under OFSDP-II shall be nurtured following the SHG guidelines duly customized



for OFSDP II. This will facilitate adoption of SHGs formed under OFSDP-II by OLM after phasing out of the project.

- Steps may also be taken to cover other women SHGs with the programme of other Line Departments such as OLM, Mission Shakti etc.
- 2.9 Baseline Survey and Profile of the SHG Members: Basic information about the SHG members will be collected by the Member Secretary of the VSS with the help of the VSS Animators and the P-NGO representative in the format as prescribed in Annexure- IV, and verified by P-NGO representative and authenticated by the FMU Chief. The information (s) will be mostly around current livelihood and IGAs at individual member level. Investment in terms of finance and labour, involvement of other family members, raw material, process, technology, infrastructure, final product, market, profitability and growth pattern etc. Information will also be gathered and monitored on productive assets, skill, income, information and issues and

challenges etc. the SHG rating tool as given in Annexure-III will be referred for selecting SHG for linking to the Cluster and VSS as detailed under point 2.6.

- 2.10 Final Selection of SHG: Final selection of the SHGs will be made by a joint team headed by of SMS (Livelihood, Rural Finance & Marketing) of the DMU, Executive Committee Members (at least 5 members, including three women members), Member Secretary of VSS, FMU Coordinators, P-NGO Representative, Animators (including the women animator of VSS).
- 2.11 The Select List of SHGs: The selected list of SHGs in each VSS for inclusion under OFSDP-II will be endorsed by the Field Management Unit (FMU) Chief to the Divisional Management Unit Chief for his/her approval. The approved list of SHGs will be forwarded to the PMU indicating the activity identified for the SHG. One copy of the selected list will also be forwarded to the Livelihood Resource Centre of OFSDP-II, set-up in the PMU.



3 Strengthening and Functioning of SHGs

- 3.1 All efforts will be made to strengthen the SHGs covered under the project. These efforts will require appropriate policy directives by the PMU and the LRC, and effective implementation at DMU, FMU and VSS levels.
- 3.2 Proper lending of loans by the VSSs to SHGs and timely refund of loans by SHG to VSS and rotation of loan by the VSS will require prompt attention. It must be the endeavour that rotation of loan to SHGs is made as frequently as possible for different

income generation activities, to sustain the livelihood of households of SHG members.

3.3 Capacity development of stakeholders at all levels on different thematic areas like scientific collection, processing, storage, packaging, marketing and managerial skills will be given due thrust. The important aspects and things to be focussed in Capacity building and handholding of SHGs are summarized in the following table:

Aspect	Things requiring focused attention during handholding
Conceptual Awareness	 Concept of Self Help; Principles of Thrift & credit; Social Responsibility of SHG (Village education, sanitation, liquor prohibition, conflict resolution etc. Environmental Democratization – involvement and decision making in management of natural resources viz. forest, water and land; Setting rules/ bye-laws for group; Awareness about banking rules and other schemes



SHG Meetings	1. Regularity of conduct of meetings;
	2. Schedule of meeting and Agenda
	3. Arrangements of the meetings;
	 Maintaining transparency with regard to financial transaction during the meetings;
	5. Attendance of SHG members in the meeting including imposition of penalty clause for absentees,
	6. Assistance of animator during SHG meetings
Saving and Credit	1. Regularity of saving. Compulsory and optional saving
	2. Inter Loaning for productive and consumption purposes
	3. Individual pass book for saving and loan ledger for loan
	4. Participatory loan disbursement processes 5. ROI and repayment schedule clearly spelled
	6. Management of loan, default with peer pressure
	7. Penalty for saving and credit defaulters
IGA	1. Market oriented at the same time based on local resources
	2. Individual, CIG and SHG based activities
	3. Business plan for IGA
	4. Fund management with adequate records
	5. Financial linkage with bank and financial support from Project.
Linkage with cluster and	1. Member to the cluster
LRC	2. Scientific collection and proper processing of SHG produce;
	3. Value addition including demand driven packaging;
	4. Creating linkages with local markets, town traders, traders outside the State, etc. for marketing of IGA products.
	5. Value chain maximization.
Record Keeping	1. Adequate and transparent records
	2. Record keeping facilitation by animator

Note: The Animator and the PNGO will generally do the handholding



- 3.4 All identified SHGs in an FMU will be divided into two categories based on the rating tool of SHG and activities taken up by SHGs. The FMU Coordinator (Microplanning and Livelihood Support) will maintain this information which will be transmitted to DMU and DMU to submit to PMU and LRC. The first category of SHGs (03 in number) those who rank first 3 positions after SHG rating will be eligible for the financial and nonfinancial support directly from Cluster where the rest of SHGs will be eligible to get financial and non-financial support from the VSS.
- 3.5 Member Secretary of the VSS will maintain the list of all SHGs selected in the VSS with their salient features and group them into different classes, as per their status in terms of desired SHG aspects such as, Conceptual awareness, SHG Meetings, Funding to SHGs, Internal Loaning, High Value Marketing of SHG products and Record Keeping.

- 3.6 Monthly meeting timing and dates of SHG will be mutually fixed / re-fixed to suit the facilitators (P-NGO team member and animator) and the group as a whole. The quorum of the meeting is more than 3/4th of the members. Record keeping will be done by the group at the completion of the meeting.
- 3.7 Proceedings of SHG meetings will be maintained at SHG level by FMU Coordinator (Livelihood) and will be shared with FMU by FMU Coordinator and with DMU by SMS (Livelihood, Rural Finance & Marketing).
- 3.8 Meetings of each SHG will be held at least once in a month which, inter-alia, will be attended by a member of P-NGO team. Important decisions taken in SHG meetings will be reflected in the monthly plan and report of P-NGO team.



4 Selection of IGAs

- 4.1 Promotion of Income Generating Activities (IGAs) by involving women Self Help Groups (SHGs) have been envisaged under OFSDP-II. The Project would provide support for strengthening the women SHGs as an institution, in their business planning, credits, product development including value addition and in establishing market linkages.
- 4.2 In view of difficulties experienced in taking up the processing, value addition, bulk marketing and retailing of products at SHG level, promotion of cluster level approach or formation of product clusters for aggregation of the product will be attempted, so as to ensure a more profitable marketing and better income for the SHG members.
- 4.3 Under OFSDP-II, various alternate livelihood options will be explored for forest dependent communities in the project area. A mission mode approach on livelihood promotion will be adopted through a dedicated Livelihood Resource Centre (LRC) which will, inter-alia, ensure continuous and long term hand holding support to SHGs and clusters for sustainability.
- 4.4 Income Generation Activities taken up under the project may not be the main source of income for the women SHG households, but these would certainly hel p them in mitigating their day-to-day management of household situations. Thus, pretending all women SHGs to become profit oriented entity may not be so realistic. However, belonging to a women SHG would help them in management of their day to day requirement to some extent. The project will keep options open for individual or household based income generation activities.



5

Important Considerations for IGAs under OFSDP-II

- 5.1 Experience of IGA processes gained in projects implemented by OFSDS have shown that along with the financial support, a more focussed approach is required to be followed for success and sustainability of income generation opportunities for the forest fringe communities. This approach shall take into account the following presumptions and important considerations;
 - a) IGA is always demand-driven and as such it shall be as per requirement of the market and credit. Under no circumstance, the IGA shall be presumed as supply-driven and it shall be undertaken with the objective to meet the physical and financial targets or to utilize the natural resources just because "they are there".
- b) Along with the resource-based interventions, support in the form of adequate capacity development of the stakeholder members is essential for success and sustainability of the IGA. In other words, the training of SHG members and individual business personnel on relevant themes to handle a particular income generating enterprise will be persuaded under OFSDP-II.
- c) IGA support needs to be facilitated by reinforcing with adequate, appropriate and innovative forward and backward integrations (in terms of credit, capacity development, input supply and market institutions) to make IGAs viable and sustainable. These aspects will be given adequate thrust during implementation of IGA interventions under OFSDP-II.



6 Types of IGA to be promoted under OFSDP-II

- 6.1 The OFSDP-II envisages support to livelihood of forest fringe communities through various income generating activities across farm, off-farm, non-farm and NTFP sector. The IGA support to the community, therefore, will be rendered at different forms as mentioned below;
 - a) Individual Member or Common Interest Group (CIG) based IGAs within a SHG, where small loan based activities with a short gestation period will be admissible for individual(s) or CIG for gaining income by selling the product(s) at local market with handholding provision by project facilitators and in convergence with other local potential agencies.
 - b) Group based small income generating activities around a single commodity for which loans will be made available to the SHG group and collective marketing/ value addition with an objective to get higher return through linkage to higher markets by scaling up and also in linkage with other Business Development Support (BDS) providers.
 - c) Product based SHG clusters, which will be formed around one or few viable products. Each such cluster will pick up livelihood options which can be;

- i) On-farm based (agriculture, horticulture, pisciculture, apiculture, floriculture, nurseries, etc.),
- ii)Off farm based (Dairy, poultry, goat rearing, piggery etc.), iii) Forest based (Sal & Siali leaf plates, Brooms, NTFP, etc.), or
- iv) Non-farm based (entrepreneurships depending upon the requirement, such as plumbing, carpentry, tailoring, cycle repair, mobile repair, shops, etc.
- 6.2 NTFP based livelihoods activities will be promoted through NTFP inventorization, development of NTFP strategy and facilitating linkage with business development services including R & D.
- 6.3 The SHGs will be financially supported by the project through Revolving Fund (RF) and IGA infrastructure fund which will be routed through LRC.
- 6.4 Each SHG will develop business plan when intended to go for group activities. The business plan should clearly say about the business, key functions, financials, marketing plan, profitability, repayment etc. ref Annexure-XI



Growth of SHGs: Clusters and LRC

7.1 With an objective of sustainability of livelihood initiatives under OFSDP-II, product based SHG clusters will be formed for aggregation of the SHG produce, its processing, value addition and high value marketing at remunerative prices.

7

7.2 Major steps for Cluster development and different activities to be carried out are summarized below;

Planning for Cluster	 Identification of product(s) around which cluster will be formed Identification of target VSSs and the SHGs Consultation with SHG, VSS members, project staff Selection of the right clusters for initiating appropriate activities Preparation of FMU-wise list of probable clusters with names of VSS and SHGs indicating the rationale behind their selection to PMU/
	LRC through DMU.
Collection of base line information on Cluster	 Mapping of Clusters on the basis of produce Mapping of available infrastructure Product profile (Name of the product; season of collection/ harvest; approximate quantity; Perpetuity of the produce etc. Market mapping and value chain of the selected products
Organization of cluster meetings	 Sensitization of SHGs on cluster development Participatory discussion to arrive at a consensus on roles and responsibilities of members and leaders and finalization of the institutional arrangement for the cluster. Meeting on finalization of the Business Development Plan of the Cluster. Signing of formal agreement between SHGs and VSS on Business Development Plan of the Cluster



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3. Bylaw preparation for registration					
5. Formation DMU level coordination committee					
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s and					
1. Selection of appropriate market					
2. Negotiation for rate of the produce					



- 7.3 As per the requirement of external credit assistance spelled out in the business plan, the P-NGO team will help the cluster-institution in exploring and formalizing financial assistance with Banks, other financial institutions or from related schemes/projects in the event of convergence.
- 7.4 The P-NGO will also facilitate formalization of linkages with input supplying, infrastructure and marketing agencies which may involve signing of formal MoU with specific terms and conditions.
- 7.5 The FMU coordinator (Livelihood) along with P-NGO team will help the SHG and their cluster level organization in procuring raw materials, equipment etc. by following appropriate procedure and in taking charge of the infrastructure facility like storage godown, processing yard etc. They will also help the SHG and/or cluster level institution in initiating the IGA and carrying out activities like aggregation of produce, storage, processing, grading, value addition, marketing, maintaining of accounts, repayment of loans and in sharing of benefits.
- 7.6 The FMU coordinator (Livelihood) along with P-NGO team will also help the SHG in logistic coordination, quality checks, sticking to deadlines and targets, bargaining and in trade-negotiations whenever required.
- 7.7 The progress of cluster business will be closely monitored at the FMU and DMU levels. Records with respect to profit

generated and their distribution among the SHG members will also be maintained regularly by VSS animator.

- 7.8 The SHG product clusters will have the following functions
 - Identification of viable cluster product(s)
 - Organisation of SHGs which shall operate the identified product(s)
 - Formation and strengthening of Producer Organizations
 - Market assessment and value chain study
 - Developing the business plan for Producer Organizations
 - Support for infrastructure development and equipment installation
 - Processing
 - Facilitating revolving fund assistance, and
 - Facilitating appropriate market linkages

To ensure sustainable livelihood in the project area, long term professional support during and beyond the project period, a Livelihood Resource Centre (LRC) will be set up at the level of Project Management Unit. Terms of Reference defined in the MOD of OFSDP-II will be followed in setting up the LRC.



8 Progress Monitoring and Reporting of SHGs

- 8.1 The progress monitoring of SHGs and its members will be done over the baseline status of the SHG (Ref: 2.9)
- 8.2 Progress monitoring and reporting is an essential activity for the SHGs. The progress reports of various activities of the SHGs under OFSDP-II will be prepared on monthly basis by the Secretary of the VSS with support of PNGO representative. These progress reports will then be submitted to the FMU Chief by 15th day of the successive month. The FMU Chief after verification of the report will submit it to the DMU Chief within a week's time, for onward transmission to the PMU and the LRC by 25th day of the successive month. The progress report will also be required to be uploaded in the web enabled MIS of OFSDP-II simultaneously by the cluster.

9 Procedure for sanction of loan to SHGs under OFSDP-II

9.1 Under OFSDP-II the selected SHGs will be given loan for execution of identified income generation activities. The PMU of OFSDP-II will release funds for carrying out IGAs to the DMUs who will transfer the funds to the VSSs. The VSSs will release funds to the SHGs after verification of their application. The SHGs will submit their application to the VSS in the format prescribed in Annexure-X along with the business plan at Annexure-XI.

10 Miscellaneous Regulations on SHG

- 10.1 Animator will help SHG members to become functionally literate. In each SHG, the individual profile of SHG members will be maintained in the format prescribed in Annexure-IV. Besides the individual passbook of members will also be maintained in the format prescribed in containing saving and loan ledger of member in Annexure-VI.
- 10.2 Abstract information of SHG will be maintained for all SHGs both by the SHG and the VSS concerned in the format prescribed at Annexure- II.
- 10.3 SHG Resolution registers will be maintained in the format prescribed at Annexure-VII, for keeping the record of various meetings and other activities of the SHG. The cashbook of the SHG will be maintained in the manner prescribed in Annexure-VIII.
- 10.4 FMU coordinators and PNGO representatives under the overall supervision of FMU chief will monitor the progress of SHG strengthening in their fortnightly review meeting and forward the same to the DMU Chief.
- 10.5 The DMU Chief will review the progress of SHG strengthening in different FMUs in the P-NGO coordination meetings in every month.
- 10.6 A visitor register will be maintained in each SHG in the format prescribed at Annexure-IX for recording the observations and remarks of visitors. The DMU Chief and FMU Chief, inter-alia, will record their observations/remarks in this register during each of their visits.

Annexure -I

Sl.	Name of the	Name of Forest	Name of Forest Range	No. of	No. of	Batch
No.	District	Division (DMU)	(FMU)	VSSs	SHGs	
1.	Angul	Athamaliik	1. Athmalik	20	60	Ι
			2. Madhapur	25	75	II
			3. Bamur	30	90	III
2.	Boudh	Boudh	1. Boudh	20	60	Ι
			2. Kantamal	20	60	II
			3. Manamunda	20	60	III
3.	Dhankanal	Dhenkanal	1. Dhenkanal	25	75	Ι
			2. Hindol	25	75	II
			3. K Nagar- East	25	75	III
			4. K Nagar West	25	75	III
			5. Kapilash	25	75	IV
			6. Sadangi	25	75	IV
4.	Ganjam	Ghumsur - N	1. Mujagada	25	75	Ι
			2. Jagannathprasad	25	75	II
			3. Central	25	75	III
			4. Tarasinghi	25	75	IV
5.		Ghumsur - S	1. Buguda	20	60	Ι
			2. Sorada	20	60	II
			3. Badagada	20	60	II
6.	Jharsuguda	Jharsuguda	1. Belpahar	29	87	Ι
			2. Bagdihi	20	60	II
			3. Kolabira	31	93	II

SELF HELP GROUPS UNDER OFSDP-II



Sl. No.	Name of the District	Name of Forest Division (DMU)	Name of Forest Range (FMU)	No. of VSSs	No. of SHGs	Batch	
7.	Mayurbhanj	Baripada	1. Dukura	24	72	Ι	
			2. Kaptipada	26	78	Ι	
			3. Bangriposi	20	60	II	
			Baripada	25	75	II	
			5. Udala	25	75	II	
			6. Betnoti	30	90	III	
8.		Karanjia	1. Dudhiani	20	60	Ι	
			2. Gueguria	20	60	II	
			3. Karanjia	20	60	III	
			4. Kendumindi	20	60	III	
			5. Thakurmunda	20	60	IV	
9.		Rairangpur	1. Badampahar	20	60	Ι	
			2. Bahalda	20	60	Ι	
			3. Bisoi	20	60	II	
			4. Manada	20	60	II	
			5. Rairangpur	20	60	II	
10.	Sambalpur	Sambalpur	1. Padiabahal	25	75	Ι	
			2. Sadar	30	90	Ι	
			3. Dhama	15	45	II	
			4. Rengali	30	90	III	
11.	Subarnapur	Subarnapur	1. Sonepur	25	75	Ι	
			2. Ullunda	25	75	II	
			3. Binika	25	75	III	
12.	Sundergarh	Sundergarh	1. Ujalpur	30	90	Ι	
			2. Hemgir	30	90	II	
			3. Lephripara	30	90	III	
			4. Sundergarh	30	90	III	
			5. Bargaon	30	90	IV	
Total 1200 3600							



Annexure-II

Information Sheet for Existing Women Self Help Group in a VSS under OFSDP-II

:

:

:

:

I. Major Information

- (i) Name of DMU
- (ii) Name of FMU
- (iii) Name of C.D. Block :
- (iv) Name of G.P.
- (v) Name of VSS
- (vi) Village Population :

Male	Female	Total

(vii) No. of existing SHGs in the Village (VSS) :

II. SHG specific information

- (i) Name of SHG :
- (iii) Scheme under which SHG is promoted (please tick mark ($\sqrt{}$)

Government

NGO Bank

Others (Please specify)

(iv) No. of members.

Category	Male				Fe	emale		Total	
	SC	ST	BPL	Others	SC	ST	BPL	Others	

(SC- Scheduled Caste; ST – Scheduled Tribe; BPL – Below Poverty Line;



(v) Details of SHG functionaries :

Sl. No.	Designation	Name	Date from which in position	Remarks
1	President			
2	Secretary			
3	Treasurer			

Prepared by

Verified by

Authenticated by

(Member- Secretary)

(P-NGO Representative)

(FMU Chief)



Annexure-III

Rating Tools for SHG Grading

Sl	Indicators	Max.	Marks	
No		marks Secured		
	I. Social		1	
1	Membership Profile			
a 1	Vulnerable and Forest Dependents (>80% are Tribal)	2		
b	Vulnerable and Forest Dependents (>80% are Forest Dependents)	2		
с	Vulnerable and Forest Dependents (>80% are from Below Poverty Line households)	2		
d	Vulnerable and Forest Dependents (>80% belong to same Neighborhood)	2		
e	Vulnerable and Forest Dependents (>80% are Landless)	1		
2	Experience with plus activities			
a	Heath: VHND, immunization	1		
b	education: MDM, Enrollment, drop out	1		
с	Sanitation: SBM	1		
d	Environment: Afforestation, avenue plantation	1		
e	Liquor menance: awareness/Protest	1		
f	Food security: Garin bank	1		
g	Caring child or old aged: Crech	1		
h	Campaign for rights: entitlemnts	1		
i	CPR: Care and /or Management	1		
j	Institution: New SHG, Protection groups, user groups	1		
	Total (1+2)	19		
	II. Institutional			
3	Conduct of Meeting (last 6 months for weekly or 1 year for monthly			
	frequency of meetings)			
a	Meeting (>90%)are held regularly (weekly/monthly) on a fixed date, time and place	3		
b	Meeting (71 -90%)are held regularly (weekly/monthly) on a fixed date, time and place	2		



с	Meetings (50-70%)are held regularly (weekly/monthly) on a fixed	1	
	date, time and place		
d	Meetings (<50%) are held regularly (weekly/monthly) on a fixed date,	0	
	time and place		
4	Attendance in Meeting (Average attendance in last 6 months for		
	weekly or 1 year for monthly frequency of meetings)		
a	Above 90% in all group meetings	5	
b	71 -90% in all group meetings	3	
с	50-70% in all group meetings	2	
d	<50% in all group meetings	1	
5	Regularity of Saving (in last 6 months for weekly or 1 year for		
	monthly frequency of saving)		
a	>95% on time payment of savings by all members	3	
b	85-94% on time payment of savings by all members	2	
с	60-84% on time payment of savings by all members	1	
d	<60% on time payment of savings by all members	0	
6	Records: In Place and Maintained		
a	Membership Register	1	
b	Attendance Register	1	
с	Meeting Book	1	
d	Cash Book	1	
e	Saving Book	1	
f	Loan Book	1	
g	Individual Pass book	1	
h	Individual Loan Ledger	1	
i	Visitor Book	1	
j	Bank Pass Book	1	
7	Sanction of Internal Loan		
a	Need based with IGAs as prefence	5	
b	Eaqual Division of the fund as loan	2	
с	Decision by the leaders only	0	
8	Leadership		
a	Leaders are selected by concensus	5	
b	Leaders are selected by majority	3	
с	Leaders are selected by the promoting Agency	1	
d	Leaders are selected by influencers	0	
	Total (1+2)	31	1



	Financial		
9	Relationship with Bank		
a	savings	1	
b	Loan relation: repaid the loan fully/ repayment on as scheduled	9	
c	Default the loan	0	
10	Number of members having loan overdueas on date of Grading		
a	All members are repaying regularly and no one is having any overdue	10	
b	Between 1-4 members are having overdue	5	
d	d More than 4 members having overdue		
		20	
	Income Generating Activities		
11	IGA activities of members		
a	Each individual member having similar IGA activity	13	
b	More than 50% member having similar IGA	7	
с	Only leaders having IGA	3	
d	No. members having IGA	0	
12	Group based IGA		
a	group basded IGA	13	
b	CIG from the group taken IGA	7	
с	No group IGA	0	
13	Membership with Apex /other institution (s)		
a	Membership with SHG federation	1	
b	membership with Farmers Producer Organisation (FPO)	1	
с	membership with cooperative	1	
d	membership with cluster	1	
		30	
		100	



Annexure-IV

Profile of SHG Members

General Information:

1.1	Forest	Division:	Range:	VSS:
1.1	101030		Range.	v 00.

- 1.2 Name of the SHG:
- 1.3 Name of the Member:
- 1.4 Husband/Father's Name:
- 1.5 Age: 1.6 Category: ST/SC/OBC/Gen 1.7 Economic Status: BPL/APL
- 1.8 Adhar No:

1. Asset Profile:

1.1	House Type: Katcha/Semi Pucca/Pucca
1.2	Land Holding (in acre): Owned: Rev, FRA, Total
1.3	Land type: Irrigated, Non-irrigated
1.4	Animal (in Number): Bullock, Cow, Goat, Pig, Other Total
1.5	Agri. Implements: 1, 2, 2, 3,
2.	Financial Profile:
2.1	Individual Bank Account: Yes/ No, If yes Account No Name of Bank
2.2	Savings at: Bank/Post office/MFI/Insurance agency/Other
2.3	Debt: Currently due you have any Debt: Yes/No
	If Yes, Source, Amount, RoI,

Purpose.....



3. Livelihood Profile:

3.1 Family occupation profile

Name	Primary occupation	Income (p/a)	Secondary Occupation	Income (p/a)	Total Income (INR)

1. Agriculture 2. Wage labour 3. Animal Husbandry 4. NTFP, 5. Service, 6. Trading 7.other (specify)

3.2 Agriculture

Product	Land Used	Yield	Consumption	Sale price	Sale Value	Market

3.3 Animal Husbandry

Animal/ Bird	Number	Investment	Consumption	Sale price	Sale Value	Market

3.4 NTFP

Product	Period engage	volume	Consumption	Sale price	Sale Value	Market



3.5 Processing Activities

Raw- Product	Type of Value addition	End product	Production/per month	Sale price	Sale Value	Market

3.6 Other

Activity/ Product	Volume	Investment	Consumption	Sale price	Sale Value	Market

4. Aspiration: (If any IGA activities You are aspire to do and why?)

Activity	Reason (strength areas)



Annexure-V

(Cover Page)

Format for Pass Book of Self Help Group Member

Passbook Number	:	
Name of the Member	:	
Name and Address of the SHG	:	
Date of joining in the SHG	:	
Phone/Mobile No.	:	



Contd...

(Inner Pages)

Format for Pass Book of the Individual Member

PASS BOOK

-

	Photo
Pass Book No.	:
Member's Name	:
Name and Address of the Member	:
Date of Joining in the SHG	:
Adhar No.	:
Signature of:	Signature of:

President.....

Member.....



Contd...

Savings of Individual Member (To be maintained on Monthly basis)

(In Rupees)

Date	Opening Balance (3=7)	Savings during the month	Total (3+4)	Withdrawal	Balance (5-6)	Signature of the member
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Balance (3=7)	Balance during the (3=7) month	Balance (3=7)during the month(3+4)	Balance (3=7)during the month(3+4)	Balance (3=7)during the month(3+4)



Annexure-VI

Format for Loan Ledger of the Individual Member

LOAN BOOK

		Photo	
Loan Book No.	:		
Member's Name	:		
Name and Address of the Member	:		
	•••••		
Date of Joining	:		
Adhar No.	:		
Signature of:			Signature of:
President			Member



Loan Book of individual Member

Name	:	
Date of sanction	:	
Date of disbursement	:	
Loan application no	:	
Purpose of Loan	:	
Total amount disburs	ed :	
Period of loan .		 RoI
Installment amount .		 No. of instalments

Loan No.	Date	Payment due	Payment made	Outstanding	Sign of member



Annexure - VII

(Cover Page)

RESOULUTUION BOOK OF SELF HELP GROUP

Name and Address of the SHG	:	
Date of formation of SHG	:	



ODISHA FORESTRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT-II



General Information of the SHG

a)	Name of VSS	:			
b)	Name of SHG	:			
c)	Code of SHG (If any)	:			
d)	Village	:			
e)	Panchayat	:			
f)	FMU	:			
g)	Block	:			
h)	Division	:			
i)	District	:			
j)	Date of formation of SHG	:			
k)	Members in the SHG:	SC	C, ST, General, Total		
1)	Bank Account details	:			
	i. Bank Account Number	:			
	ii. Bank Name and Address	:			
m)	Other Bank details, if any				
	i. Bank Account Number	:			
	ii. Bank Name and Address	:			
n)	n) Name of local Cluster, if any				
o)	Date of joining the Cluster	:			
p)	p) Name and Address of the Panchayat level Federation, If any:				
q)	a) Date of joining in the Panchayat level Federation:				

Signature of	f:
--------------	----

Signature of:

President.....

Secretary.....



Resolution of the Meeting

Name and Code of the SHG:

Meeting No.	·	Starting time of meeting	·
Date	:	Closure time of meeting	:
Place	:	Presided by	:
Total Member of SHG	·	No. of members attended	:

Resolution	Key Discussion Points	Decisions (if any)
Saving		
Internal Loan		
Default Management		
IGA		
Banking activities		
External loan (OFSDP-II, Bank etc.)		
Activities with OFSDP-II		
Cluster related		
Plus activities		
Financial management		
Representation and CB etc.		
Other		

Signature of the Participants:

1.	11.
2.	12.
3.	13.
4.	14.
5.	15.
6.	16.
7.	17.
8.	18.
9.	19.
10.	20.



Annexure -VIII

(Cover Page)

CASH BOOK OF THE SELF HELP GROUP

Name and Address of the SHG	:	
Date of formation of SHG	:	



ODISHA FORESTRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT-II



Month.....

Month.....

Payments **Payments**

Receipts

Sl.	Receipt	Amount
No.		(in Rs.)
	Opening Bal.	
1	Total Savings (5)	
2	Interest	
3	Penalty	
4	From Bank	
5	From VSS	
6	From Federation	
7	From Cluster	
8	Other Grants if any	
9	Others	
	Total	

Sl.	Payment	Amount		
No.		(in Rs.)		
1	Loan dues with the member (15)			
2	Savings in Bank			
3	Refund to VSS/Cluster			
4	Refund to Federation			
5	Loan repayment to Bank			
6	Savings in Federation			
7	Savings in Cluster			
8	Payment to others			
9	Cash in Hand			
	Closing Bal			
	Closing Balance			
	Total			

Signature of:

President	Secretary	Treasurer

Animator.....



Annexure-IX

Format to be Adopted in Visitors Book

(To be maintained at SHG level)

Visitors Remark

Name of the Guest :	
Name of the institution :	Designation :
Date of Visit :	
Purpose of visit :	
Discussed with :	
Remarks:	
Signature	

Name of the Guest :	
Name of the institution :	Designation :
Date of Visit :	
Purpose of visit :	
Discussed with :	
Remarks:	
Signature	



Annexure-X

Application form for Sanction of Loan from VSS Revolving Fund under OFSDP-II

(For submission by SHG to VSS)

То

The President

....., VSS

Sub: Request for sanction of Loan from VSS Revolving Fund under OFSDP-II.

Madam / Sir,

Wethefollowing members of	SelfHelpGroup
-	village request you to kindly sanction an amount
of Rs	(Rupees
) from `	VSS Revolving Fund (OFSDP-II) for undertaking
activity for a period of	(month / Year), starting from. The detail business plan of the
proposed activity is attached herewith	th for your kind information and consideration.

We all will be obliged for sanctioning of loan from VSS Revolving fund, OFSDP- II for the proposed business.

Yours sincerely,

(SHG President/ Secretary)

Signature/ Thumb Impression of all members:

1.	8.
2.	9.
3.	10.
4.	11.
5.	12.
6.	13.
7.	14.



Acknowledgement

We,	,President&	,Secretaryof	Self Help Group
do acknowledge	e to avail loan of Rs	(Rupees)
from	VSS at annual interest of	(%) for	a period of
month / year, vi	de Cheque No,	dated	

President.....

Secretary.....

Date:

Date:



Annexure-XI

Business Plan Format for SHGs

I. General Information

1.	Name of the SHG	:		
2.	Date of formation of SHG	:		
3.	Total Members	:		
4.	Name of the Proposed Activity	:		
5.	Location of the proposed activity	:		
6.	How many members will involve in	h th	e proposed activity :	
7.	7. Past experience of the group in similar activity :			
8.	. Special trainings related to the activity, if any :			

II. Details of the Proposed Project

A. Fixed Capital:

1. Land and Building

Area	Own/Lease/Rent	Total Value per year

2. Machines and Equipment

Sl. No.	Description	Units required	Unit Cost	Total Value

3. Other fixed asset (fixtures and other)

Sl. No.	Description	Units uired	Unit Cost	Total Value



B. Working Capital:

1. Raw Material

Sl. No.	Item (s)	Units required	Unit Cost	Total Value

2. Utilities

Sl. No.	Particulars	Source	Cost	Total Value
	Electricity/Charcoal/ Oil			
	Water			

3. Manpower

Sl. No.	Particulars	Units required	Unit Cost	Total Value

4. Selling and Distribution expenses

Sl. No	Activities	Cost
	Transport	
	commission	

5. Administrative Expenses

Sl. No	Activities	Cost
	Printing and stationery	
	Communication	

C. Total Cost of the Project (A+B)

- i. Own contribution
- ii. Required Loan
- iii. Source (s) of Loan



D. Production/ Sale Programme

Month	Item (s)	Quantity sold	Unit rate	Total Sale Value
Total				

E. Profitability Projections

Total value of D	Total Value of C	Gross Profit (D – C)

III. Additional Information:

1. Market and Marketing:

Target Markets:

Contract terms (if any)

- 2. Processing details: Steps, skill and capacity, technical service provider (if any)
- 3. Skill and capacity: Existing and planned

4. Support services Required and the plan to get the services

Signature:

Secretary

President

Treasurer

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Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project Phase-II

Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society Forest & Environment Department, Government of Odisha

SFTRI Campus, Ghatikia, Bhubaneswar-751 029