Introduction

LDF-HSRLM program aims to establish good governance and efficient public service delivery system for sustainable livelihoods. The partnership intended to improve the performance of 31 Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) and making them sustainable across 7 districts in Haryana. As per the partnership, LDF was to provide techno-managerial support to lend technical depth to plan, leverage and enhance the impact of public resources provided by the Government to 31 clusters for CLF efficiency and long-term sustainability along with livelihood development for the community. Each CLF was taken as a strategic development unit and LDF associates in close coordination with HSRLM staff were responsible for sustainable impact.

Under the purview of this partnership, LDF deployed associates in 31 CLFs responsible for program implementation in close coordination with HSRLM staff, CLF/ VO Office Bearers/ community cadres and other stakeholders. Program Coordinators were placed at district level for oversight in seven intervention districts and to mentor and provide guidance to the associates. The overall program implementation, stakeholder coordination, monitoring and execution is overseen by the state program manager along with the monitoring team in Gurgaon.

Theory of change for the program

"It was women who first domesticate crop plants and there by initiated the art and science of farming while men went out hunting in search of food. Women started gathering seeds from the native flora and began cultivating those of interest from the point of view of food, feed, fodder, fibre and fuel.” (Bibhu Santosh Behra 2013)
The program focuses towards streamlining institutional processes which will lead to increase access of fund to the community and develop platform for livelihood diversification and linkage to increase income of the intervention HHs which will have a positive impact on their standard of living.

**Intervention verticals under LDF-HSRLM partnership**

Taking a step ahead towards establishing a robust mechanism for financial sustainability of the community institutions and establish livelihood prototypes to increase household (HH) income, Letz Dream Foundation (LDF) continued its focus intervention under two broader heads of Institution Building & Capacity Building (IBCB) and Livelihood Interventions (LI). LDF along with support from District Mission Management Units (DMMUs) efficiently executed the program objectives and has laid the foundation for sustainability of community institutions and sustainable and diversified livelihood opportunities at community level.

Some of the major achievements of the program are listed below under thematic heads

**Institution Building and Capacity Building (Oct 2018- March 2021)**

In the process of creating an eco-system for Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) long term sustainability following milestones have been achieved for the above-mentioned time period;

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1 For comparison IB/CB data for March 2018 is taken into consideration
VO Grade in June 2020 and March 2021

VO grading has been initiated for the 1st time in Haryana by LDF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Heads</th>
<th>June 2020</th>
<th>March 2021</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graded VOs</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Grade</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Grade</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Grade</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 13% more VOs have been upgraded compared to last year
- Grade A VOs have increased by 134% compared to last year
- 42.44% VOs are in grade B in March 2021 compared to 40% VOs in June 2020
- Only 12.5% VOs are in grade C presently compared to 38.3% in June 2020
Livelihood

The livelihood program intends to increase income of intervention HHs by Rs 72,000 annually and develop models which are scalable, can have sustained impact and most importantly, can be measured for evidenced based replication. All livelihood interventions focus towards **reducing input cost, increasing production, improved market linkage and convergence**

**Livelihood working model**

**Improved Agricultural Practice**

Haryana is the 2nd largest producer of food grains in India. Agriculture in Haryana is often categorised with large farmlands, improved farm mechanisation, adequate irrigation and improved market but the situation is not the same for most of the HHs brought under the fold of HSRLM. The poor and marginalised farming HHs with small farm lands, traditional farming practices and poor market accessibility have low agricultural income as the result of low agricultural productivity. With an aim to increase income of these HHs and establish livelihood prototypes LDF initiated improved agricultural practices with 2740 HHs (1540 in Rabi and 2740 HHs) in 9 CLFs in 3 districts of Haryana. Women were undertaken as the prime intervention units for the program. The impact from the intervention is mentioned below

Cost of cultivation per HH (with avg 1.5 acre) decreased by Rs. 3900.25 for Rabi Season and by Rs. 3540 during Kharif season.
Beside reducing the cost of production, the PoP adoption helped in increasing the agricultural productivity of different Rabi and Kharif crops.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>% Increase in Agricultural Productivity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhiwani</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatehabad</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuh</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table above shows increase in productivity per acre for all intervention crops

- Introduction to Seed Selection beside other PoPs during Kharif season helped in increasing cotton productivity by average 23% in intervention clusters.
- Use of micro-nutrient played an important role in increasing mustard productivity by an average 17% in among intervention HHs.

Increase agricultural productivity and improved market linkage through Minimum Support Price registration helped in increasing HHs income of the beneficiaries.

Income per HH (with avg 1.5 acre) increased by Rs. 21,615.25 for Rabi Season and by Rs. 21,717 during Kharif season.

- Approx. 70% HHs were registered under MSP in both the season.

Introducing diversification, LDF encouraged farmers for cash crop and vegetable cultivation

- Farmers in Bhiwani started vegetable cultivation with average 0.5 acres of land
- Land under vegetable cultivation increased by 33% in Nuh district
- Land under cash crop production increased by 12% 

Vegetable cultivation has been initiated with 135 HHs in Nuh and Bhiwani. Cost of production reduced by an average 7% and income increased by an average Rs. 33,800 for intervention HHs.

Rabi 2020-21 intervention is in process with 3200 HHs in 10 clusters of 3 districts
Goat Rearing (April 2019- March 2021)

Goat rearing program has been continued with 464 HH in 4 CLFs of Nuh district. Some of the major achievements under the program are mentioned below;

1. Mortality rate has decreased from 21.43% from baseline to 0.22. Mortality in control cluster increased from 9.27% during baseline to 13.76% probably (because mortality among goats increases during rainy season as the herd are exposed to diseases and poor immunization)
   - Goat immunization process was initiated with all the intervention HHs.
   - Deworming, dipping and vaccination done for with 554, 203 and 366 respectively out of 924 goats (new born babies and pregnant goats are not eligible for the deworming, dipping and vaccination process).

2. The herd size has increased from an average 2.5 to 3.52 herd per HHs. The breeding capacity of goats have increased from 1 to 1.5 per breeding season. The herd size in control cluster has increased from an average 3.73 to 4.19 herd per HHs.
   - Improved feed management and health management have resulted in increase in herd size of the intervention HHs. Training on herd and breed management which encourages beneficiaries for cross breed have also played an important role
   - Almost 100% of the intervention HHs have adopted the improved feed management practice and 156 out of 260 HHs have started using mineral bricks

3. Milk production has increased for the intervention HHs compared to their counterparts in controlled CLF. For the month of September 2020, milk production in intervention HHs stood at an average of 5.7 litres per goat/ per month compared to 1.97 litres per goat/ per month in control cluster
   - As the result of improved feed management, health and disease management and improved animal management practices milk production among goats in intervention HHs has increased.

4. In coordination and support of HSRLM LDF organised 2 buck fairs in Nuh during Eid (July 2020). Beside the forward linkage LDF also initiated live-weight sale of bucks for the first time in Nuh which led to increase in profits of the beneficiaries.
   - A total of 56 bucks and 32 goats worth Rs. 10,00750 were sold
   - The profit of the beneficiaries increased by 50% through sale of bucks on live weight.
5. Liaising with Animal Husbandry Department to ensure availability of medicines for all Gram Panchayats (GPs) under goat rearing intervention. Rs. 18,500 govt funds have been mobilized through availability of medicines from government department (40% of 924 herd have been vaccinated and Rs. 50 is the expenditure incurred by the government on each herd)

6. Identification of beneficiaries for convergence with MGNREGA category B work for construction of goat shed
   - Beneficiaries list has been prepared and shared with District Mission Management Unit (DMMU) Nuh. Formal request has been sent to CEO Zilla Parishad from DMMU for further action.
   - Model goat sheds have been constructed in all intervention clusters.
   (All the eligible beneficiaries will have their goat shed constructed by December 2020).

7. Awareness and Facilitations for Pashu Kisan Credit Card (PKCC) has been initiated for all the intervention HHs with the help of Animal Husbandry Department and DMMU.
   - Awareness and Facilitation camps have been organised in all the intervention GPs and more than 100 forms have been filled.
   - PKCC helps beneficiaries to access credit of Rs. 1,60,000 to be used for livestock (both small and large ruminants) development. The rate of interest is 4% and the amount needs to be repaid in 2 years.

Livestock’s² (April 2019- March 2021)
The livestock program continued with 835 HHs in Nuh, Kaithal, Yamuna nagar and Fatehabad districts. 1835 new HHs were added to the intervention group for the mentioned period. Some of the major achievements under the program are mentioned below;

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² The report has impact for only two district because intervention in other districts has recently started
1. Milk Production has increased in our intervention HHs
   - Fatehabad: Milk production has increased by 2.1 litres from 6.3 litres in summers to 8.2 litres in rainy season in treatment group and has reached the state average of 8.3 litres. Whereas there has been a very little increase in control group of .5 litres from summer to rainy season.
   - Nuh: Milk production has increased by 1.7 litres from 6.3 litres in summers to 8 litres in rainy season in treatment group and has reached the state average of 8.3 litres. Whereas there has been a very little increase in control group of .9 litres from summer to rainy season

**Plan for next year (2021-22)**

**ICB**

1. Every VO to have 7 lacs as transactions
2. 60% Repayment from VO to CLFs
3. 100% SHGs to get access to CIF
4. Every VO to have access to Rs. 4 lacs through rotation
5. 60% VOls to be in A grade and 30% to be in B grade

**Livelihood**

1. Replicate the intervention in 100% Agri-cluster HHs
2. Diversify income through vegetable cultivation
3. Livestock – Expansion in 2000 HHs in 9 clusters from 4 districts
4. Goat rearing – saturate existing clusters

**Convergence**

LDF plans to initiate convergence with state/government welfare schemes under departments such as health, education, Women and child development, depending on a gap assessment of the district

**Conclusion:**

The age-old patriarchal dominancy and plight of women farmers in India will not get diminish easily, but the state rural livelihood mission is, like silver lining for the women of Haryana. LDF-HSRLM partnership has indeed proven useful from the point of strengthening the community institutions and piloting replicable livelihood models which can be replicated in all CLFs in different districts of Haryana.