

# INNOVATIVE PRACTICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NAXAL EFFECTED AREA

Murari M Choudhury/NEEDS-Jharkhand  
[www.needsngo.in](http://www.needsngo.in)

## Naxal impact:

- ▣ All 24 districts of Jharkhand has been notified as Naxal effected
- ▣ Santhalpargana region is less effected; compare to other districts

# The issues

- ▣ Over 2 lakhs youth are added every year as unemployed
- ▣ Youth opportunities and perspective are missing

# The issues

- ▣ Tribal population feels that they are yet excluded new state did not gave them a way forward
- ▣ Participation of youth in Governance is denied i.e PRI elections held up

# Issues:

- ▣ Most Food Insecure (3 to 9 months)
- ▣ High Involuntary Migration
- ▣ Distinctly Rural – 80% to 90%
- ▣ Poor Husbandry,
- ▣ Resource Degradation

# Aspiration....

*“why you want us to live in poverty and misery”;  
“*

*why you say “agriculture is the solution for poor”*

*“why you say a trained dai should be sufficient to conduct deliveries;  
when comes to rural “*

*“why you think our children should study under the tree or sit on  
floor? “*

*“Why you think that a auxiliary nurse is the right answer to our  
health issues??”*

*If you have answer to any of these questions, we will not be  
rebellious”....; says a naxal youth encountered us in a village*



The Future is  
Ugly, We Need  
to Act Now

वीभत्स भविष्य, करना है  
तो करें, बस इसी पल

We need to think  
differently



But.....

- ▣ The state has a huge potential of economic growth and rural prosperity



# Strategies that helps...

- ▣ Inclusion
- ▣ Transparency- provide information
- ▣ Accountability
- ▣ Engage adolescent / youth [education, vocational skills; sports and health activities]
- ▣ Work through women groups of self help
- ▣ Focus at block level- essentially [concentration is a factor]

# Models of success.....

- ▣ Demonstrate change through prototype modeling, while transfer full knowledge and skill involving community in decision making
- ▣ Start with what they have, focus on short duration interventions [seasonal]
- ▣ Focus on know how and skill- ensure visioning and full participation in decision making

# Models for sucess...

- ▣ Micro financing addressing on financial exclusion issue, however, high rate of interest is difficult to justify poverty lending and livelihood linkages with micro finance
- ▣ To improve on service delivery and accountability, NGOs are taking initiative in community based monitoring



## Impacts:

Demonstrating change in productivity more than national standard have motivated farmers and young people to listen if agriculture, i can bring some change?



## What worked:

1. Focus on food security as their immediate need
2. Start with what they have with short duration intervention
3. Give them social security [group bonding]
4. Build up new knowledge and skill once changes are realized
5. Involve in decision making in a transparent manner
6. Allow them to handle resource
7. Scale up or hand hold for diversified livelihood initiative





# What works:

- ▣ Give them information, knowledge and skill
- ▣ Give them a platform
- ▣ Allow them to take decisions



- ▣ A case:
  - Given the opportunity VHCs in 176 villages monitoring the health service delivery i.e. malnutrition, immunization coverage etc- this is now raising questions on accountability

# Way forward:

- ▣ The resurgence of agriculture and provision of clean administration are prerequisites for the containment of the Naxalite threat and mitigation of inequalities.
- ▣ Youth of Jharkhand wants a diversified opportunities to bring 40% population to left with agriculture
- ▣ This demands focusing on building up agriculture and allied sector infrastructure at block level



# Way forward

- ▣ In spite of NREGA for employment generation, Jharkhand require immediate intervention in infrastructure building at every block level to generate sustained livelihood opportunities
- ▣ Simultaneously, Jharkhand require intervention in quality education inputs at elementary education level without which talk of developing a knowledge society would remain as fraud

## Lets accept...

- ▣ Micro innovations would do little, we need to address the aspirations of young people, and we have the talent and resource to do it
- ▣ But we perhaps do not have the political willingness or visioning to bring such change

# What kind of Infrastructure

- ▣ Convert over 60% land in to arable holding
- ▣ Insitu water harvesting
- ▣ Post harvest technology infrastructure building
- ▣ Knowledge access
- ▣ Technical institutions within access
- ▣ High standard education infrastructure
- ▣ Road and habitation- this would create huge wage employment itself
- ▣ Health service access
- ▣ Marketing infrastructure

**All at  
block  
focused**

# How to do it?

- ▣ Include youth and women in decision making at every hamlet level
- ▣ Make women SHGs to be frontier in resource handling
- ▣ Intensive adolescent focused programming
- ▣ Increased CSO intervention [be selective through genuine process]
- ▣ Bring transparency and accountability
- ▣ PRI election – sooner the better
- ▣ Develop strategies to increase in service sector, shifting population from agriculture; giving agri business opportunities to young farmers
- ▣ Create infrastructure
- ▣ Focus on rural and slum poverty
- ▣ Hand over ICDS centers to SHG federations [under the supportive supervision of technical institutions, not administration]- require total reform
- ▣ Bring CSO in PHC management; change PHC as network hospitals with 100% insurance facilities- require total reform

# What CSO can do:

- ▣ Mobilizing/ organizing and ensuring community participation
- ▣ Facilitate developing block plans through visioning process with community
- ▣ Community monitoring and dissemination
- ▣ Capacity building, knowledge transfer and skill enhancement



# What CSOs can do...

- ▣ Coordination and facilitation, mentoring of community leaders/ institution
- ▣ Making institutional arrangements
- ▣ Facilitating Public-Private-Partnership
- ▣ Financial inclusion [help linking with financial institution]
- ▣ Develop special projects i.e. distressed families dependent on illegal mining; forest displaced and so on

## About NEEDS:

- ▣ NEEDS working to achieve food and nutrition security of marginalized in the state of Jharkhand
- ▣ NEEDS and other proactive CSOs are practicing few of the strategies suggested in health, livelihood areas
- ▣ We are currently operating in selected pockets of 11 districts of Jharkhand



# About us.....

- ▣ Our Program participants are women, children and young people
- ▣ We work in a self help institution base of women

Long way to go; let  
us take the journey  
together- JOHAR