



ANNUAL REPORT 2025–2026



BAIF Institute for Sustainable Livelihoods and Development – Odisha



Committed to sustainable development since 1967

BAIF and its Associate Organisations

- BAIF Development Research Foundation (BAIF) – Public Trust under Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950. Founded in 1967 by Dr. Manibhai Desai.
- BAIF Institute for Sustainable Livelihoods and Development-Not for profit Company under Section 25 of Companies Act, 1956 (Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013). Established on April 16, 2012.
- BAIF Agro and Biotechnology Pvt. Ltd. (BAIF Agro).
- Vasundhara Agri-Horti Producer Company Ltd. (VAPCOL).

To know more about our Founder and BAIF programmes, please visit www.baif.org.in



Our inspiration...

Dr. Manibhai Desai
Founder, BAIF

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Cover Page (Clockwise from top – East, South, West): Mr. Bijay Kumar Nayak in his pipal crop cultivated under improved agricultural practices; Ms. Saraswati Pradhan with her newborn calf born through improved Artificial Insemination (AI) services; Women participants of the Women Empowerment through Skill Development Programme with their sewing machines.

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MESSAGE FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR

I take the privilege of presenting the progress and highlights of BAIF's Odisha programme during the year 2025 – 26.

In Odisha, the programme is being implemented across 23 districts, reaching out to over 48,000 families, including the aspirational districts of Balangir, Kalahandi, Koraput, Nabrangpur and Nuapada. The year witnessed both the consolidation of existing engagements and the introduction of new, context-specific initiatives.

We sincerely acknowledge the generous support extended by our project sponsors during the year – Government of Odisha, NABARD, Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd., Gates Foundation, Adani Foundation, HDFC Bank, Jindal India Power Ltd., Bioversity International, District Mineral Foundation (DMF) – Keonjhar, Arcelor Mittal Nippon Steel (AMNS), Vedanta Group, RG Manudhane Foundation for Excellence and Hindalco – whose contributions align closely with the twin goals of societal transformation and holistic development. These partnerships have strengthened our efforts in significantly augmenting rural livelihoods.

It is commendable that Shri. Dilip Kumar Pradhan, BAIF Livestock Technician from Angul district, was awarded the prestigious National Gopal Ratna Award 2025 (1st position) of the Government of India for outstanding contributions to cattle development. It is heartening to note that BAIF AI Technicians from the State have been recognised with the Award for the 4th consecutive time. The impact of development initiatives was also showcased at various events and exhibitions, enabling adoption and replication.

The programme remains aligned with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), while contributing meaningfully to various pillars of sustainable livelihoods, health, nutrition, skilling and climate actions, progressing towards the Nation's vision of *Viksit Bharat*.

We deeply value the continued support and cooperation received from all the stakeholders – sponsors, partners, participants, BAIF team, senior management, advisory board and our well-wishers, which have been instrumental in our progress and remain vital as we move forward in building resilient and prosperous rural communities.

Jai Hind!

Rakesh K. Warriar
Vice President — Programmes & Regional Director — East



OVERVIEW BY STATE HEAD



It gives me immense pleasure to present the Annual Report 2025–26, highlighting the achievements, progress, and collective efforts made during the year. This year has been marked by dedication, innovation, and a strong commitment to our mission of serving communities and advancing our organisational objectives throughout the state.

Despite various challenges, our team in Odisha demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination in implementing programmes, strengthening partnerships, and delivering impactful outcomes. Through the active participation of stakeholders, staff members, volunteers, community leaders, and participant families across the state, we were able to expand our reach and enhance the quality of our initiatives. Our focus remained on promoting excellence, transparency, and sustainable development while addressing the diverse needs of communities in Odisha.

During 2025–26, we successfully organised numerous activities, training programmes, awareness campaigns, research initiatives, and outreach efforts across different districts of Odisha. These interventions contributed significantly to capacity building, knowledge dissemination, community empowerment, and social development. Our efforts not only strengthened institutional effectiveness but also fostered collaboration with government departments, academic institutions, development partners, and local stakeholders throughout the state. The achievements presented in this report reflect the dedication and hard work of everyone involved in deploying BAIF's mission of sustainable rural development through livelihood enhancement, natural resource management, women's empowerment, and the overall socio-economic development of rural communities in Odisha.

As we look ahead beyond 2025–26, we remain committed to further strengthening our presence and impact across Odisha. We will continue to expand our outreach, deepen community engagement, and foster strategic partnerships to create sustainable and meaningful change. The experiences and lessons gained during the year will serve as valuable guidance as we pursue our goals and contribute to the overall development of the state.

I extend my sincere gratitude to all our Senior Management, Odisha team members, partners, supporters, government agencies, donors, and stakeholders across Odisha whose unwavering commitment and cooperation have made these accomplishments possible. Their contributions have been instrumental in driving progress and reinforcing our shared vision for a stronger, more prosperous, and self-reliant rural Odisha.

I am confident that, with continued collaboration, dedication, and collective effort, we will achieve even greater success in the years ahead. I invite you to celebrate the achievements made possible through our shared commitment to sustainable rural development and the well-being of the people of Odisha.

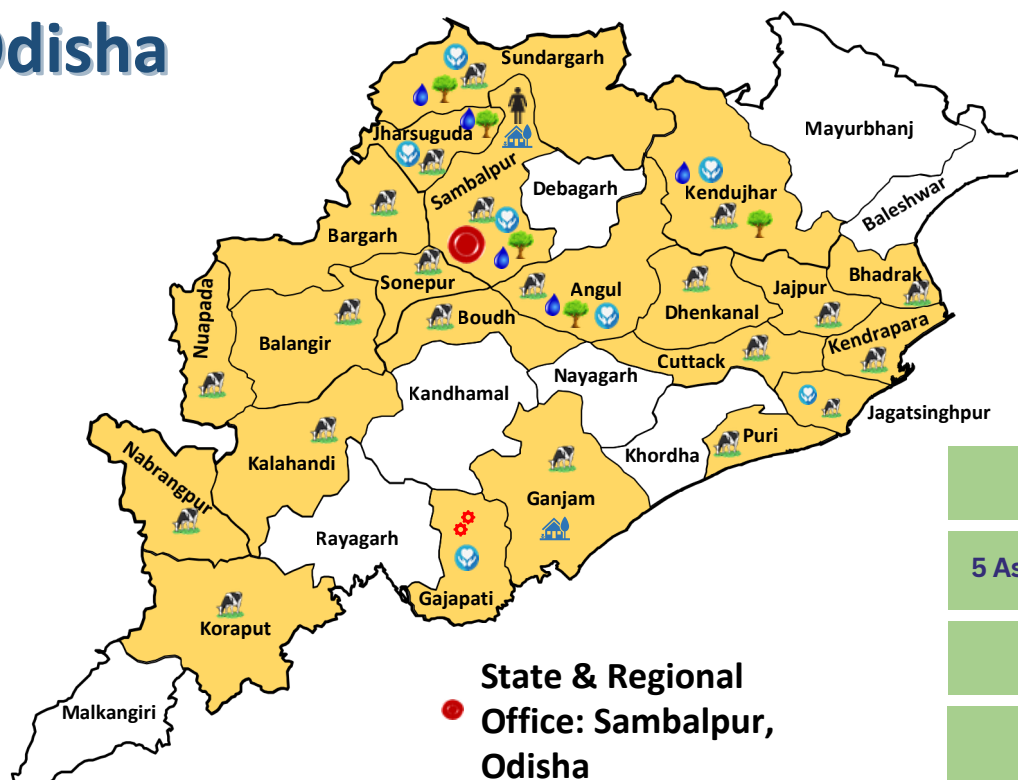
Thank you.

Sandip Kakade
State Head
BISLD – Odisha & Chhattisgarh



2025-2026 at a Glance and Programme Coverage

Odisha



23 Districts

5 Aspirational Districts

142 Talukas

4,883 Villages

48,000 Families

Samruddha
GramLivestock-based
LivelihoodFarm-based
Livelihoods

Capacity Building

Water-centric
LivelihoodHealth &
NutritionWomen in
Development

MISSION

The Mission of BISLD is to create opportunities of gainful self-employment for the rural families, ensuring sustainable livelihood, enriched environment, improved quality of life and good human values.

This is being achieved through skill development, effective use of local resources, extension of climate-smart technologies, facilitation for value chains of farm produce and community participation

VISION 2030

We aim at bringing positive change in the lives of 10 million rural families belonging to economically weaker sections of the society, from present level of 4.0 million families, through resilient and sustainable means of livelihoods, improved quality of life, while contributing to the national and global sustainable development goals of climate action, gender equity, clean drinking water and overall ecosystem well-being.

CORE VALUES

Well-being | Excellence | Sustainability | Transparency | Equity | Participation

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

I. Sustainable Livelihoods

A. Livestock-based Livelihoods

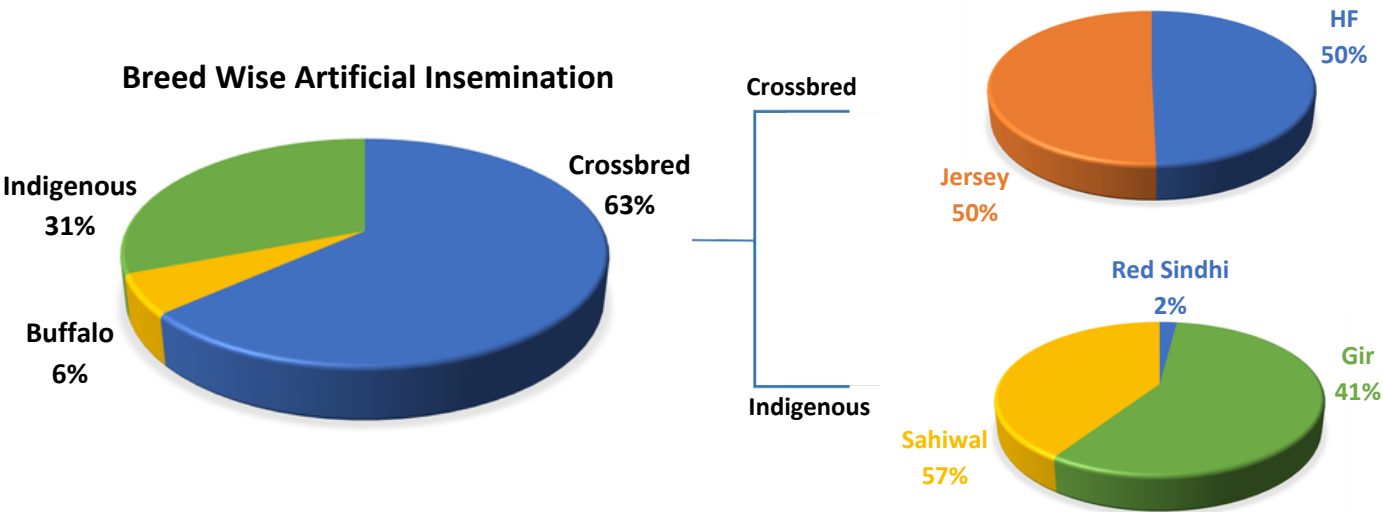
Livestock-based livelihoods are a crucial component of rural economies around the world, providing a vital source of income, food security, and employment. They serve as a financial asset and safety net, helping families to weather economic shocks and natural disasters. Additionally, livestock farming often plays a significant role in cultural traditions and social structures. Sustainable livestock management practices are essential for ensuring the health of the animals, the well-being of the farmers, and the protection of the environment. This multifaceted livelihood strategy thus not only supports economic stability but also enhances resilience and contributes to the broader goals of rural development and poverty alleviation. Odisha has a cattle population 10th rank in the country with 5.12% of India's cattle population. However, the sector faces challenges such as low-productivity animals, fodder shortages etc. To meet the demand of 5.86 MT by 2033-34, milk production must grow by about 9% annually. Major projects implemented in the state under this thematic component are outlined below.

1. Livestock Development Programme

Sponsor: Adani Foundation
Location: Bhadrak district, Odisha
Duration: April 2019 to March 2026

Major Achievements: The project is being implemented across 102 villages in Bhadrak district of Odisha, through a network of six Livestock Development Centres (LDCs). The programme focusses on enhancing rural livelihoods through scientific dairy husbandry, including artificial insemination, fodder development, health services, and capacity building of farmers. During the reporting year, a total of 3,031 artificial inseminations were performed, and 634 improved breed female calves were born in 102 project villages. Geo-tagging, ear tagging and calving reports are maintained for traceability.

To improve cattle health and productivity, mineral mixture was incorporated into the daily feeding practices. Supported 1000 of kg mineral mixture to beneficiaries. In addition, cattle health camps were organized benefiting farmers and providing healthcare services to over 460 livestock. Community outreach, farmer trainings, and animal health initiatives have further strengthened livestock productivity and resilience.



Dairy Development Enhancing Rural Livelihoods



Mr. Kailash Patra, a farmer from Sargadia village of Bhadrak, Odisha, has significantly improved his livelihood through the Livestock Development Programme. Previously dependent on seasonal agriculture and daily wage labour, he owned three cows that generated minimal income and provided limited support to his family.

Through awareness programmes conducted by the nearby Cattle

Development Centre, he learned about artificial insemination (AI) and opted for AI using sex-sorted semen. The intervention resulted in the birth of a genetically improved Jersey female calf, encouraging him to adopt improved dairy management practices, supported by regular vaccination, deworming and mineral mixture supplementation.

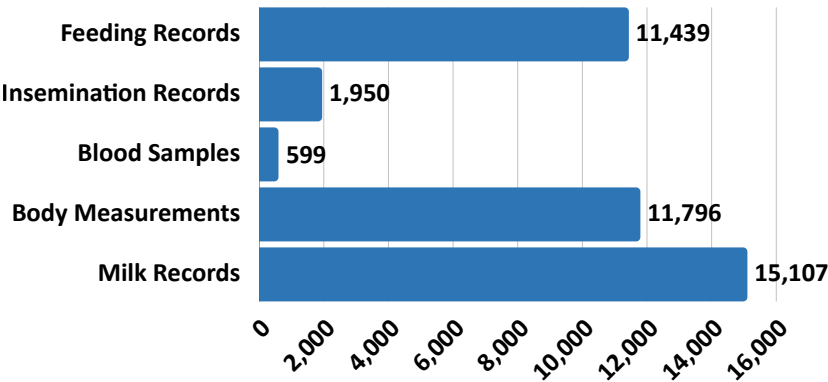
Today, he owns six improved breed cows and produces an average of 24 litres of milk per day. By selling milk in the local market, he earns approximately ₹20,000 per month from dairy farming, strengthening his family’s sustainable source of income. Encouraged by the results, he continues to expand his dairy enterprise through scientific livestock management practices.

2. Enhanced Genetics Project (EGP)

Sponsor: Gates Foundation
Location: Ganjam, Jajpur, Angul and Balangir districts, Odisha
Duration: January 2023 to March 2026

Major Achievements: The project focusses on several key activities to achieve its objectives in the livestock sector. These activities include milk sample collection, milk testing, body measurement, analysis of feeding practices, and blood collection programmes. The objectives are to understand the genotype-environment interaction, establish a platform for genomic selection among crossbreds, implement a multi-breed and multi-trait genomic selection programme for cattle and buffaloes, develop a farmer feedback system, demonstrate and implement a business model, and source potential bull calves for semen production. Overall, the project aims to gather data, improve genetic selection, involve farmers in the feedback process, and showcase a sustainable business model in the livestock sector.

Multi - Trait Genomic Selection



3. Godhan 2.0

Sponsor: RG Manudhane Foundation for Excellence
Location: Angul, Balangir, Bargarh, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Kendrapara and Sonepur districts, Odisha
Duration: April 2025 to March 2033

Major Achievements: The programme was developed to sustain and strengthen doorstep breeding services and create a robust platform for delivering improved dairy-based services to farmers. Through this programme, seamless breeding services were provided, helping safeguard dairy-based livelihoods through 118 Cattle Development Centres (CDCs) while improving access to breeding and animal health services in remote areas across the districts.

The project facilitated artificial insemination services for cattle, buffaloes, and goats while promoting improved breeding practices and genetic improvement of livestock. In addition, mineral mixture was supplied through CDCs to support animal nutrition, health, and productivity.

The project also strengthened the capacity and viability of Artificial Insemination Technicians (AITs) by reducing input constraints and creating opportunities for additional income through livestock service delivery. The establishment of a reliable input supply system ensured uninterrupted services and strengthened the sustainability of last-mile livestock development interventions across the project.



- An estimated 1,755 successful pregnancies were achieved through artificial insemination services.
- Project reached 17,422 farmers through breeding, animal health, and nutrition interventions.
- Skilled self-employment was generated for 119 youths engaged in service delivery, enabling them to earn an average monthly income of up to ₹12,000.

4. Sustainable Agriculture for Alternative Livelihoods (SAFAL)

Sponsor: ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Limited

Location: Jagatsinghpur district

Duration: September 2023 to August 2026

Major Achievements: The project continued to strengthen livestock-based livelihoods in Jagatsinghpur district through improved breeding services, animal nutrition, health care and livestock promotion. The project covered 600 farmers through a range of livestock development interventions.

A total of 603 artificial inseminations were conducted, including 311 using conventional semen and 292 using sex-sorted semen technology to improve breed quality and enhance the probability of female calf births. These interventions contributed to increased milk production potential and improved livelihood opportunities for participating households.

To improve animal nutrition and health, 400 families were provided with mineral mixture supplements, while 100 farmers were supported with Azolla beds and culture along with training on production, maintenance and feeding practices. Animal health camps were organised, recording around 300 animal footfalls and improving access to preventive and curative veterinary services. The project also promoted small ruminant development through the construction of eight low-cost goat houses and distribution of 40 female goats, supporting improved livestock management and income generation among participating households.



- Livestock assets worth ₹17.25 lakh created through the addition of improved calves to farmers' herds.
- 192 calves born, including 128 female calves, contributing to future milk production potential.
- Approximately 1,000 cattle benefited from improved nutrition and health management.

5. Breeding Bull Production through Assisted Reproductive Techniques and Genomic Evaluation

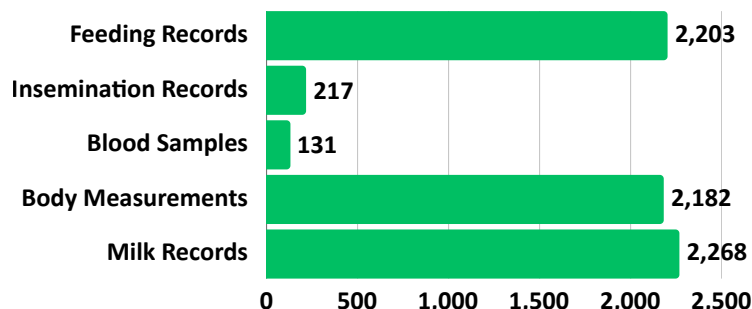
Sponsor: Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Govt. of Odisha

Location: Cuttack and Sambalpur districts

Duration: April 2022 to March 2026

Major Achievements: The project initiated the production of breeding bulls using assisted reproductive techniques and genomic evaluation. Demonstrated commitment to enhancing cattle breeding by introducing superior genetics through embryo transfer technology has contributed to the improvement of dairy farming in the region and supported the Government of Odisha's efforts in livestock development.

Multi - Trait Genomic Selection



6. Focused Development Programme (FDP)

Sponsor: HDFC Bank

Location: Sambalpur district

Duration: July 2025 to March 2028

Major Achievements: The project was initiated to promote sustainable livelihood development in Kuchinda and Bamra blocks of Sambalpur district through integrated livestock development, animal health services, and nutrition interventions. The interventions aimed to strengthen farm-based livelihoods, enhance livestock productivity, and improve income opportunities for rural households. A Next Generation Breeding Centre was established in the project cluster to provide breeding services to farmers while also facilitating the dissemination of knowledge on animal health management, fodder cultivation, and other improved livestock practices through trained Artificial Insemination Technicians (AITs).

Under the livestock development component, 192 conventional semen artificial inseminations, 61 sex-sorted semen artificial inseminations and 75 goat artificial inseminations were conducted to improve breed quality and expand access to scientific breeding services. In addition, nutrition support and fodder crop interventions were provided to 205 participants to improve livestock feeding practices and productivity.



Animal health and nutrition were strengthened through livestock health camps, where animals received health check-ups, mineral mixture supplementation and Harit Dhara. Convergence support facilitated the organisation of one health camp village, improving access to livestock healthcare services.

The project also promoted goat-based livelihoods through the adoption of improved breeds, scientific management practices and construction of 50 goat houses by participants using their own resources, demonstrating strong community participation and ownership.



- 205 livestock owners adopted nutrition support and fodder interventions, contributing to improved feeding practices and livestock productivity.
- Access to scientific breeding services was expanded through 328 artificial inseminations in cattle and goats, improving opportunities for genetic improvement of livestock.

7. Dairy Development Programme

Sponsor: NABARD

Location: Ganjam district

Duration: April 2024 to July 2026

Major Achievements: The project promoted dairy-based livelihoods in Ganjam district through cattle induction, capacity building, and access to institutional credit. During 2025–26, the project is being implemented across 13 blocks, covering 35 Gram Panchayats and 49 villages.

A total of 176 families benefited under the project through the induction of 202 crossbred Jersey (CBJ) cows. To facilitate dairy enterprise development, 344 provisional sanctions were obtained from participating banks, while loan documentation support was extended to eligible farmers for livestock investment.

The project also promoted improved dairy management practices through capacity-building programmes on animal health management. A total of 102 farmers participated in training programmes and received mineral mixture and Haritdhara to support cattle health and productivity. In addition, 100 progressive farmers were supported with critical inputs and resources for strengthening dairy-based livelihoods.



- Milk production increased by approximately 1,080 litres per day following the induction of improved dairy cattle.
- Participants reported an estimated increase in income of ₹15,000 per month per household.
- Bank credit linkage of ₹1.10 crore was facilitated to support dairy enterprise development and livelihood enhancement.

Training Driving Dairy Growth



Mrs. Pramila Swain, a 55-year-old dairy farmer from Hindola village in Ganjam district, Odisha, has improved her family's livelihood through dairy farming supported under the NABARD DDA project. Earlier, the family depended largely on agriculture and agricultural labour for income, with limited opportunities for regular cash earnings.

After attending a dairy development training programme conducted by BAIF, she gained knowledge on scientific dairy management and recognized the potential of expanding her enterprise. Encouraged by

the training, she availed a cattle loan from Odisha Gramya Bank and purchased an additional cow to increase milk production.

Today, she owns five Jersey cows and produces an average of 40–50 litres of milk daily. The milk is sold through the Heritage Procurement Centre at a rate of ₹36 per litre, providing the family with a reliable source of income and assured market access. Improved feeding, regular healthcare, and proper animal management practices have further contributed to maintaining productivity.

Dairy farming has become the primary source of income for Pramila's family, improving their living standards and providing greater financial stability. Encouraged by the results, she plans to further expand her dairy enterprise and invest in improved milking facilities in the future.

8. Basudha

Sponsor: Hindalco Industries Ltd.

Location: Sambalpur district, Odisha

Duration: July 2024 to June 2027

Major Achievements: The project promoted livestock-based livelihoods across 15 villages through dairy development, goat rearing, animal health services, and fodder promotion. During 2025–26, a total of 63 households benefited from livestock development interventions aimed at improving productivity and household income.



Under the programme, 199 artificial inseminations were conducted in cattle, including 51 using sex-sorted semen, resulting in the birth of 17 calves. In addition, 147 goat artificial inseminations were carried out, leading to the birth of 48 kids through scientific breeding interventions.

To strengthen animal health and nutrition, animal health camps were organised, providing treatment and deworming support to 383 animals. Fodder development demonstrations were conducted with farmers promoting Hybrid Napier, Berseem and Azolla cultivation for improved feed availability.

The project also supported dairy development through the induction of 10 high genetic merit cows, while 35 goat units and 15 goat sheds were established to strengthen small livestock-based livelihoods. Capacity-building efforts included three dairy training programmes covering 200 farmers and skill development support for rural youth.



- Milk production increased by approximately 8–10 litres per household per day among participating dairy farmers.
- Participant households reported an estimated increase in income of ₹500–600 per day through livestock-based livelihood activities.

9. Integrated Dairy Management & Sustainable Livelihood Project (VedGram)

Sponsor: Vedanta Ltd.
Location: Jharsuguda district, Odisha
Duration: May 2025 to May 2028

Major Achievements: To improve livestock nutrition and productivity, the project promoted livestock-based livelihoods across 15 villages, benefiting 690 households through scientific breeding, animal health, and fodder development interventions. A Cattle Development Centre (CDC) continued to provide livestock breeding and advisory services to farmers in the project area.

To improve breed quality and livestock productivity, 320 artificial inseminations were conducted, including 200 using conventional semen and 120 using sex-sorted semen. Animal health services were strengthened through three health camps, providing treatment to 320 animals and deworming support to 50 animals.

The project also promoted improved feeding practices through fodder development activities. A total of 10 fodder demonstrations were conducted, covering 100 farmers and promoting fodder cultivation across 25 acres. Multiple fodder varieties were introduced to enhance the availability of nutritious feed and support improved livestock productivity.

Overview of Livestock Development Programme in Odisha

Major Achievements: A total of 144 Cattle Development Centres (CDCs) were actively operational during the reporting period, offering doorstep artificial insemination (AI), breed improvement, and calf care services.

Through these CDCs, 34,560 AI procedures were successfully performed, marking a substantial increase in breed improvement outreach across the districts. These efforts resulted in the birth of 20,056 calves, of which 8,099 were male and 11,957 were female.

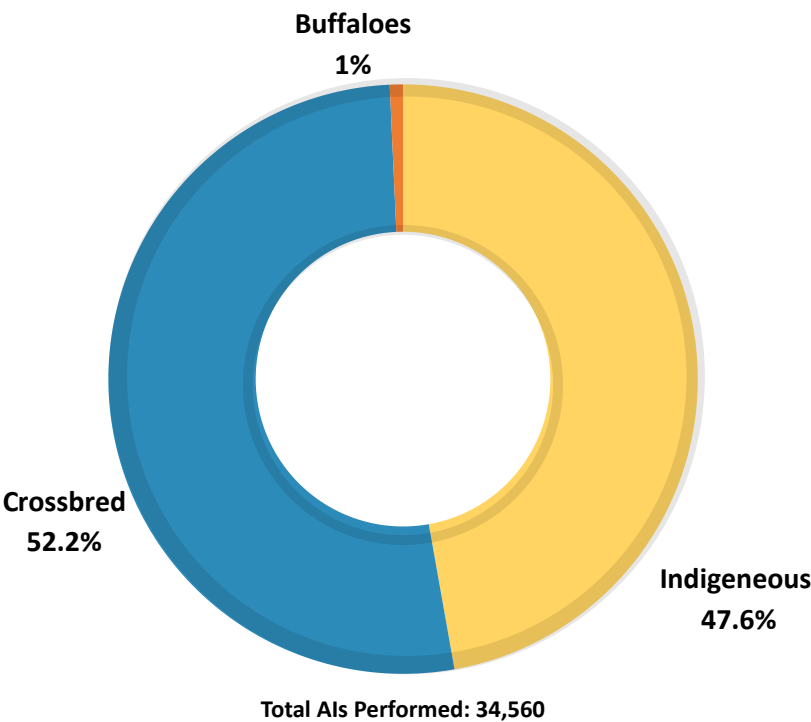
In addition, goat breed improvement initiatives were implemented across 388 villages covering 2,349 families and 7,606 goats. During the year, 1,132 artificial inseminations were conducted through 32 trained Artificial Insemination Technicians (AITs), resulting in the birth of 156 kids. Capacity-building programmes trained 365 goat keepers, while 5 health camps benefited 268 goats.



Total Calves Born: 20,056

Male: 8,099

Female: 11,957



B. Farm-based Livelihoods

1. Livelihood Enhancement through Orchard Plantation

Sponsor: Deputy Director of Horticulture (DDH)-Keonjhar

Location: Champua block, Keonjhar district of Odisha

Duration: September 2023 to July 2027

Major Achievements: Orchard development activities continued during the year with a cumulative area of 93.5 acres brought under the *Wadi* model covering 83 households across five villages. The orchards comprise Mango, Cashew, Apple Ber, and Pomegranate plantations established to enhance long-term livelihood security for small and marginal farmers.



During 2025–26, plantation maintenance activities such as irrigation, weeding, mulching, and fencing were undertaken to support healthy orchard growth. A total of 8,517 saplings were maintained across six *Wadis*, while 2,360 RCC poles and wire mesh fencing were provided to protect plantation areas from stray animals and unauthorised access.

To strengthen irrigation access, borewell construction and solar pump installations were completed across all six *Wadi* clusters, benefiting 83 farmers and supporting orchard and intercropping activities over 93.5 acres. In addition, intercropping was promoted through the cultivation of turmeric, cabbage, tomato, and brinjal across 10 acres, enabling farmers to generate income while the orchards mature.



- Intercropping activities generated a total production of 17 tonnes, providing supplementary income to participating households.
- Farmers earned a cumulative income of ₹8.26 lakh from the cultivation of turmeric, cabbage, and tomato during the reporting period.
- Approximately 70% of the plantations reached the fruit-bearing stage, indicating healthy orchard establishment and growth.

From Barren Land to Prosperity



Mr. Gobinda Charan Pradhan, a 53-year-old farmer from Kanchanpur village, transformed his 2.5-acre barren land into a productive orchard through support provided under the Livelihood Enhancement project. A member of the Village Development Committee, he actively participated in project trainings and village meetings, recognizing the opportunity to create a sustainable source of income for his family.

With technical guidance from BAIF, Gobinda developed an Apple Ber orchard using scientific land preparation practices, including fencing, pit preparation, and high-density plantation. He also received training on orchard management and support for intercropping to generate income during the orchard's establishment phase.

To maximise the use of his land, he adopted cabbage cultivation as an intercrop in the orchard. With continuous technical support, from a single season of cabbage cultivation, he harvested approximately 5 tons of cabbage and earned ₹1,12,500 through local market sales. In addition, he earned ₹52,600 through MGNREGA-supported activities related to orchard development.

The intervention has transformed previously unproductive land into a valuable livelihood asset while creating multiple income streams for the family. Encouraged by the results, Gobinda continues to manage the orchard with dedication and looks forward to the future income potential of Apple Ber cultivation.

"The one who plants trees, knowing that he will never sit in their shade, has at least started to understand the meaning of life."
— Rabindranath Tagore

2. Sustainable Agriculture for Alternative Livelihoods (SAFAL)

Major Achievements: Improved agricultural productivity and income enhancement remained key focus areas under the project through the promotion of climate-resilient farming practices, vegetable cultivation, high-value crops, and organic agriculture. Saline-resilient paddy varieties were promoted across nine villages, covering 350 farmers and 248 acres, supported by quality seeds, input assistance, and technical guidance on improved cultivation practices.

The project also promoted vegetable cultivation through trellis-based farming systems and open-field cultivation of high-value vegetables. A total of 374 farmers were supported with improved seeds, fertilizers, equipment, and technical training to enhance productivity and strengthen market linkages. In addition, ginger cultivation using space-efficient vertical growing methods was demonstrated among 20 farmers to improve returns from small landholdings.



- 32 tons of vegetables were produced through improved cultivation practices promoted under the project.
- Farmers adopting trellis-based vegetable cultivation earned an additional income of up to ₹10,000 per farmer.

Trellis Farming Boosting Farm Income



Mr. Prasant Jena, a 45-year-old farmer from Singhitali village in Jagatsinghpur district, has improved his livelihood through trellis-based vegetable cultivation supported under the Project. Earlier, he cultivated *amaranthus* on just 0.1 acre of land using traditional farming methods and local seeds, earning approximately ₹3,000 per month for a limited period. The income was insufficient to significantly improve his family's economic condition.

Through the project, he received support in the form of trellis materials, F1 hybrid vegetable seeds, bio-pesticides, liquid fertilisers, a sprayer and harvesting crates. He also received regular technical guidance on improved cultivation practices.

With this support, he expanded vegetable cultivation from 0.1 to 0.2 acres and diversified into crops such as bitter gourd, cauliflower, brinjal, beans and cowpea. The adoption of trellis farming and improved production practices resulted in higher yields and better market returns. From a single crop cycle, he earned approximately ₹22,000 from vegetable cultivation, substantially increasing his income compared to previous years.

Encouraged by the results, he plans to continue and further expand trellis-based vegetable cultivation. His experience demonstrates how access to improved technologies, quality inputs, and technical guidance can enhance farm productivity and create sustainable livelihood opportunities for smallholder farmers.

3. Focused Development Programme (FDP)

Major Achievements: The project promoted diversified and high-value agricultural practices to enhance farm productivity and strengthen livelihood opportunities for farmers. Trellis-based cultivation was scaled up to improve crop management, enable year-round cultivation, and increase productivity through efficient use of available land and resources.

The project also supported the cultivation of high-value cash crops such as chilli and mustard on small landholdings, encouraging farmers to adopt improved production practices and diversify their income sources. These interventions contributed to more intensive and profitable use of agricultural land while enhancing resilience to changing climatic conditions. In addition, the project initiated the use of drones for nutrient and pesticide application by training participant farmers as drone pilots, promoting precision agriculture and improving the efficiency of farm operations.

To promote long-term livelihood security, grafted mango plantations of *Amrapali* and *Langda* varieties were established on private and community lands. A total of 2,300 grafted mango saplings were planted as part of a tree plantation initiative to enhance green cover in the project area and create environmental awareness among the community.



- Trellis farming increased crop yields by approximately 20–30% while reducing labour drudgery in crop management.
- High-value cash crop cultivation generated an estimated income of ₹30–45 lakh, with participating farmers earning ₹30,000–45,000 on average.

4. Integrated Dairy Management & Sustainable Livelihood Project (VedGram)

Major Achievements: Agri-horti-forestry interventions were implemented across 25 acres covering 50 households in five villages. A total of 2,500 saplings of Mango, Lemon, and Apple Ber were planted, which were successfully maintained through regular care and field-level support.

The project focused on improving land productivity and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities. Continuous technical guidance and plantation management support were provided to ensure healthy growth and survival of the saplings.

In addition, vegetable cultivation was promoted among 150 farmers, with potato cultivation contributing to increased cropping intensity and more efficient utilisation of available agricultural land. These interventions supported livelihood diversification and strengthened farm-based income opportunities for participating households.

C. Water-centric Livelihoods

Water-centric livelihoods in rural areas are crucial for community well-being, providing essential income and food security. Activities like agriculture, aquaculture and small-scale irrigation rely on sustainable water management. Effective practices such as rainwater harvesting and efficient irrigation boost productivity and resilience against environmental challenges. These initiatives foster community cooperation, ensuring long-term water availability and ecological balance. By focussing on water-centric livelihoods, rural communities can achieve economic stability, environmental sustainability and improved quality of life.

1. Sustainable Agriculture for Alternative Livelihoods (SAFAL)

Major Achievements: To improve water security and enhance irrigation access, the project implemented a range of water harvesting and conservation interventions across project villages. These initiatives focused on expanding irrigation coverage, improving community water resources and promoting sustainable water management practices.

A total of 10 portable group solar lift irrigation pump sets were provided to groups of farmers, benefiting 30 farmers and increasing irrigation coverage by approximately 30 acres. The intervention enabled off-season cultivation, promoted crop diversification and reduced dependence on diesel and petrol-operated irrigation systems.

The project also restored and beautified community ponds in villages through pond cleaning, installation of solar lighting, development of cemented seating areas and improvement of pond access infrastructure. The restored ponds are expected to support the domestic and livelihood needs of around 30 households.

To promote rainwater harvesting and local water conservation, 20 rooftop rainwater harvesting systems were installed in schools, Panchayat offices, and Anganwadi centres across villages. These structures have created water storage and recharge potential while strengthening community awareness on sustainable water resource management.



- Irrigation coverage increased by approximately 30 acres, enabling cultivation beyond the monsoon season.
- Enhanced water storage and groundwater recharge potential was created through the installation of 20 rooftop rainwater harvesting systems across 10 villages.

2. Basudha

Major Achievements: The project continued to promote inland fish farming interventions in the Hirakud region of Sambalpur district to strengthen water-centric livelihoods and enhance the productive use of local water resources. During 2025–26, five farmers across three villages were supported under pisciculture activities through the distribution of 8,000 quality fingerlings comprising Rohu, Catla, and Mrigal species. The intervention aimed to improve fish production and create sustainable income opportunities through scientific aquaculture practices. By promoting the cultivation of commercially important fish species, the project contributes to livelihood diversification, improved utilisation of village water bodies, and the adoption of water-based livelihood models in the region.

3. Integrated Dairy Management & Sustainable Livelihood Project (VedGram)

Major Achievements: Improved water access and efficient irrigation remained key focus areas under the project. During the year, 10 farm ponds were lined and one community pond was desilted, creating a water harvesting capacity of approximately 2.5 million litres. These interventions supported improved water availability for agriculture and strengthened local water resource management.

To enhance irrigation efficiency, 38 water lifting devices were supported, covering 57 acres, while 15 drip and sprinkler systems were installed across 75 acres through convergence. Collectively, these interventions brought 142 acres under irrigation, benefiting 149 farmers and enabling cultivation during the Rabi and Summer seasons.

The project also promoted water-based livelihoods through pisciculture interventions in two villages. A total of 10 farmers were supported with 12,600 fingerlings of Rohu, Catla, and Mrigal species to improve fish production and strengthen livelihood opportunities through productive utilisation of village water bodies.

4. Focused Development Programme (FDP)

Major Achievements: To strengthen water security and climate-resilient agriculture, the FDP project implemented water harvesting and solar-powered irrigation interventions aimed at improving irrigation access and reducing dependence on conventional energy sources. During the year, 20 farm ponds were constructed to enhance water storage capacity and support irrigation and livestock needs.

The project also promoted renewable energy-based irrigation through the installation of 40 portable solar-powered lift irrigation units and two solar lift irrigation systems. These systems provide a water discharge capacity ranging from 20,000 to 1,00,000 litres per day, enabling timely irrigation, improved water access, and sustainable agricultural production while reducing irrigation costs for farmers.

To promote livelihood diversification and productive utilisation of farm ponds, inland fish farming was introduced with support for fingerlings, technical guidance, and training on scientific aquaculture practices through convergence with the Fisheries Department.

To safeguard solar irrigation infrastructure installed in remote locations, solar-powered wireless CCTV systems were installed at solar lift irrigation panel and motor sites. The 4G-enabled surveillance system provides real-time monitoring, image and video recording, night vision, and remote access through mobile applications, ensuring improved asset security and efficient management of irrigation infrastructure.



- Water harvesting potential of 10.32 million litres was created through the construction of 20 farm ponds.
- An estimated 40–50 acres of additional irrigation potential has been created through farm pond development.
- Adoption of solar irrigation systems reduced dependence on diesel-based irrigation and is expected to reduce carbon emissions by approximately 18.9 tonnes per year.

D. Rural Non-Farm Sector-based Livelihoods

Rural non-farm sector-based livelihoods encompass economic activities in rural areas beyond agriculture, forestry and fisheries, crucial for economic diversification, poverty reduction and rural development. By offering alternative income sources, livelihood opportunities, the non-farm sector improves living standards and reduces dependency on agriculture. The specific projects with RNFS component and their contribution to the RNF Sector are detailed below.

1. Sustainable Agriculture for Alternative Livelihoods (SAFAL)

Major Achievements: The project promoted diversified rural non-farm livelihood opportunities through enterprise development, skill enhancement, and value addition initiatives, with a special focus on women and vulnerable households. Mushroom cultivation was promoted among 68 women farmers organised into Self-Help Groups and individual enterprises across eight villages. The intervention included training, technical guidance, and enterprise support to strengthen production and marketing capacities.



Mushroom Harvesting



Rice Mill



Backyard Poultry



Milk Processing Unit



Agro Resource Centre

To diversify income opportunities, four community-based enterprises were established and supported, including traditional lentil dumplings (badi) processing and marketing, rice milling, terracotta production, and oil extraction. Capacity-building programmes and market exposure opportunities were provided to strengthen entrepreneurship and improve market linkages for participating groups.

The project also promoted backyard poultry farming as a livelihood option for women and landless households. A total of 33 poultry units were established with support for housing, chicks, feed, and training on scientific poultry management. In addition, four Agro Resource Centres cum Custom Hiring Centres were established to improve access to farm machinery and create community-managed enterprise opportunities. A milk processing unit equipped for paneer and ghee production was also established, enabling value addition and collective entrepreneurship among dairy farmers.



- Mushroom cultivation generated 2,276 kg of production and an income of ₹7.89 lakh for participating women farmers.
- Micro-enterprises such as paper plate production generated an income of approx. ₹95,000.
- Four community enterprises, four Agro Resource Centres, and one milk processing unit strengthened local entrepreneurship and created sustainable non-farm income opportunities.

2. Basudha, FDP and Vedgram

Major Achievements: Rural non-farm livelihood opportunities were promoted across projects through mushroom cultivation, backyard poultry farming, and community enterprise development. Mushroom cultivation has been supported for around 120 households under individual and group-based models, while poultry-based livelihood interventions reached more than 50 households through the provision of chicks, poultry housing, and related inputs.

Commercial mushroom production units and poultry enterprises were promoted to strengthen income-generating opportunities for rural households. Community-based enterprise development was further supported through the establishment of two Custom Hiring Centres and Farm Equipment Banks, designed to improve farmers' access to agricultural machinery and services. Under the FDP project, drones were introduced for nutrient and pesticide application to promote modern and efficient agricultural practices. In addition, a Community Equipment Bank-cum-Information Centre was established under the Basudha project to facilitate access to farm equipment, agricultural information and extension support services for farmers.

These interventions contributed to livelihood diversification, enhanced self-employment opportunities, and strengthened the economic resilience of participating households.

Backyard Poultry Creating New Opportunities



Ms. Sarojini Karali, a resident of Sambalpur, Odisha, has strengthened her livelihood through backyard poultry farming supported under the Basudha project. As a landless farmer, she previously depended entirely on seasonal agricultural labour, earning ₹300–400 per day during the farming season. However, limited employment opportunities during the off-season often left her without a reliable source of income.

To create an alternative livelihood, she received support for establishing a backyard poultry unit, including assistance for poultry shed construction, 50 chicks, feed, vaccination support and essential equipment. This enabled her to start a home-based poultry enterprise and generate income throughout the year.

With proper care and management, the poultry unit has grown successfully and become an additional source of income for her family. She has already earned approximately ₹10,000 from poultry farming and the activity is expected to generate around ₹40,000 annually upon completion of the production cycles.

Beyond the additional income, the intervention has reduced her dependence on seasonal wage labour and provided greater livelihood security. Managing the enterprise from her home has also reduced physical labour while giving her more control over her earnings and daily activities.

Encouraged by the positive results, she plans to further expand her poultry unit in the future. Her journey demonstrates how small-scale livestock interventions can create sustainable livelihood opportunities for rural households.

II. Women in Development

1. Women Empowerment through Skill Development Programme (WESDP)

Sponsor: Jindal India Thermal Power Ltd (JITPL)

Location: Kaniha block, Angul district

Duration: April 2025 to March 2026

Major Achievements: Women's economic empowerment was promoted through a tailoring-based skill development programme implemented in Angul district of Odisha. Four tailoring training centres were established and equipped with 30 sewing machines to provide practical, hands-on training in tailoring and garment production. The programme focused on strengthening livelihood opportunities for rural women, particularly vulnerable women, widows, adolescent girls, and Self-Help Group members.

A total of 185 participants enrolled in the programme, who successfully completed the assessment process. Participants received training in machine operation and maintenance, fabric identification, garment cutting and stitching, finishing techniques, and the preparation of traditional and contemporary garments. Four skill development centres with a training capacity of 166 participants are strengthening sustainable non-farm income generation among women and youth through garment design and tailoring training, supported by certification from Medhavi Skills University.

The intervention enhanced technical skills, self-confidence, and entrepreneurial capabilities, enabling women to explore self-employment and income-generating opportunities through tailoring-based enterprises.



- Four tailoring training centres established with 30 sewing machines, creating local skill development infrastructure for rural women.
- Approximately 185 women enrolled and around 160 successfully completed the assessment process.

Tailoring Skills Empowering Women



Women associated with the Tailoring Training Centre in Angul district have strengthened their skills and livelihood opportunities through support provided for tailoring and garment production. Earlier, many women were primarily engaged in household responsibilities and had limited access to skill development and income-generating opportunities within their locality.

To enhance their livelihood prospects, the centre received support for 10 Usha sewing machines along with accessories.

This strengthened the existing training facility and enabled more women to participate in tailoring, garment designing, and stitching activities. Regular training sessions helped participants develop technical skills and improve the quality of their products.

Over time, the trainees organized themselves into the Jay Shree Ram Producer Group, comprising 23 women members. The group produces a range of garments, including blouses, frocks, petticoats, festive wear, and traditional clothing, while also participating in exhibitions and engaging with government departments, self-help group networks, and other institutions to expand market opportunities. The initiative has created a sustainable source of income for the women, enhancing their confidence, entrepreneurial abilities, and economic empowerment through collective enterprise.

"There is no chance for the welfare of the world unless the condition of women is improved. It is not possible for a bird to fly on only one wing." — Swami Vivekananda

2. Basudha, Vedgram, SAFAL, FDP

Women's economic empowerment was further strengthened through the promotion of off-farm livelihood activities across multiple projects. A total of 192 women participants from various Self-Help Groups (SHGs) were supported in mushroom cultivation through training, input support, and enterprise development initiatives, enabling them to generate supplementary income while enhancing household nutrition. Mushroom cultivation emerged as a low-investment, women-friendly enterprise that encouraged collective action and entrepreneurship at the community level.

In addition, 183 backyard poultry units were established during the year, creating sustainable income-generating opportunities for rural women and vulnerable households. The intervention improved access to nutritious food through egg and poultry consumption while strengthening women's participation in household economic activities. Together, these initiatives contributed to enhanced financial independence, skill development, livelihood diversification, and greater involvement of women in local enterprise development and decision-making processes.



III. Health and Nutrition

The emphasis under this theme is to synergise efforts to improve overall living standard in each of the villages through inputs in health, hygiene, nutrition, education, literacy, knowledge and awareness. Quality of life activities complement the livelihood generation initiatives and multiply the impact through progression to overall development and well-being.

1. PAANI

Sponsor: Jindal India Thermal Power Ltd (JITPL)

Location: Kaniha block, Angul district

Duration: April 2025 to March 2026

Major Achievements: Access to safe drinking water was strengthened through the cumulative establishment of 39 solar-powered RO drinking water systems, benefiting over 1,795 households across project locations. During the year, the PAANI project further expanded safe drinking water access through the installation of 10 solar-powered RO systems and six borewells across 10 villages in Angul district. To ensure uninterrupted access to safe drinking water in educational institutions, annual maintenance support for water filtration systems was provided in six government schools.

The project contributed to improved public health by reducing the risk of waterborne diseases and strengthening hygiene practices within the community. Improved water accessibility reduced the time spent by women and children in collecting water, enabling greater participation in education, livelihood activities, and household responsibilities. The adoption of solar-powered systems further supported environmentally sustainable service delivery while ensuring reliable access to safe drinking water in rural areas.



- Ten solar RO drinking water systems, 39 since inception, and six borewells established across 10 villages, improving access to safe drinking water for approximately 170 households.
- Safe drinking water facilities strengthened in six government schools through filter maintenance and operational support.

Safe Water, Healthier Communities



The Saharsahi Water User Group from Ghantiyanali village in Angul district has witnessed a significant improvement in access to safe drinking water through the installation of a solar-powered drinking water system. Earlier, the 45 households in the village depended primarily on borewell hand pumps for their daily water needs. During the summer months, water scarcity often forced women and children to spend considerable time collecting water from distant sources. To address this challenge, a solar-powered drinking water system was established with a 5,000-litre storage tank, water filtration unit, and three standposts with tap connections.

The system provides safe and clean drinking water to the community while utilizing renewable energy for sustainable operation.

Today, the facility supplies approximately 10,000 litres of safe drinking water daily, benefiting all 45 households in the village. The intervention has significantly reduced the time and effort required to fetch water, particularly for women and children, while ensuring access to clean drinking water close to their homes. Around 30 school-going children also benefit from easy access to safe drinking water through the community standposts.

2. Basudha

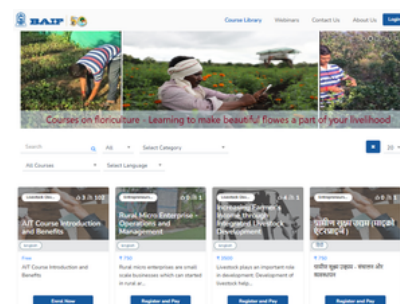
Major Achievements: The project promoted household nutrition and food security through the establishment of 50 nutrition gardens, enabling year-round access to fresh vegetables, fruits, and herbal plants. The initiative encouraged the cultivation of diverse food crops at the homestead level, improving dietary diversity and supporting balanced nutrition among participating families. Improved paddy cultivation practices were promoted among 400 farmers, contributing to enhanced food production and household food security. Crop diversification through banana, papaya, and vegetable cultivation further strengthened the availability of nutrient-rich foods while creating awareness on healthy diets and sustainable food systems.

IV. Education and Skilling

A. Educational Initiatives

i. Learning Management System (LMS)

The Learning Management System of BAIF provides short and long-duration courses in agriculture, livestock, natural resource management, community-based development, and enterprise development for the capacity building of farmers, along with webinars. The highest number of enrolments was recorded under Livestock Development, followed by Crop-based Livelihoods. A total of 379 farmers from Odisha participated in LMS courses, leveraging this digital platform for their livelihood enhancement.



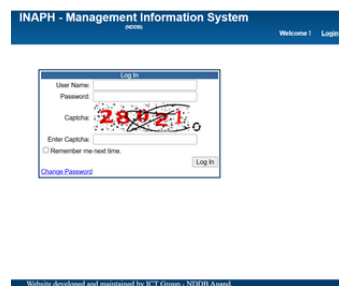
B. ICT for Development

i. Digitalisation

The complete record of Artificial Inseminations conducted in the field is entered into a mobile application-based database management system specifically developed for this purpose. The application is useful for maintaining a record of artificial inseminations, pregnancy diagnoses, calvings, and for monitoring.

i. Geo Tagging

This is a simple, authentic document designed to collect and preserve field data for future reference. It captures a photograph of the asset along with its geo-location, including latitude and longitude. This practice helps in maintaining updated records, monitoring, and verification as and when required. It also plays a crucial role in avoiding data duplication.



C. Capacity Building

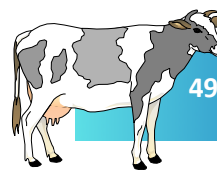
Capacity building focusses on information dissemination, knowledge sharing, learning and empowerment of the community to be self-reliant. Various activities like training, exposures, demonstrations, documentation and camps were undertaken. It also helps in keeping the team apprised of emerging developments.



114 Youth Trained



379 E-Learning
(No. of persons)



498 Dairy Trainings



36 Animal Health
Camps



43 Exposure Visits



105 Wall Paintings

Capacity Building of Team



V. Climate Action Programme

The Climate Action Programme is designed to address the urgent need for sustainable solutions to combat climate change. This initiative focusses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting renewable energy and enhancing community resilience through education and innovative practices. By engaging individuals, businesses and governments in proactive measures, the programme aims to foster a healthier planet and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come. Specific interventions and packages promoted are highlighted and explained in the following sections.

A. Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies

Major Achievements: Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures were integrated across programme interventions through agroforestry, renewable energy, sustainable water management, and climate-resilient livelihood models. Climate-smart agriculture and mitigation pathways benefitted 2,817 families across 1,518.8 acres in 26 villages, while sequestration measures contributed an estimated 448.2 tCO₂e of carbon sequestration during the year.

Water conservation and climate adaptation efforts were strengthened through the creation of 0.1057 MCM of water harvesting potential and the establishment of 52 water harvesting and recharge structures, including farm ponds and other water conservation assets. These interventions brought 133.4 acres under irrigation, improving water availability and enhancing resilience to climate variability.

Renewable energy adoption was promoted through the installation of 27 solar lift irrigation systems with a combined renewable energy generation capacity of 34 kW, reducing dependence on conventional energy sources and supporting sustainable agricultural production.



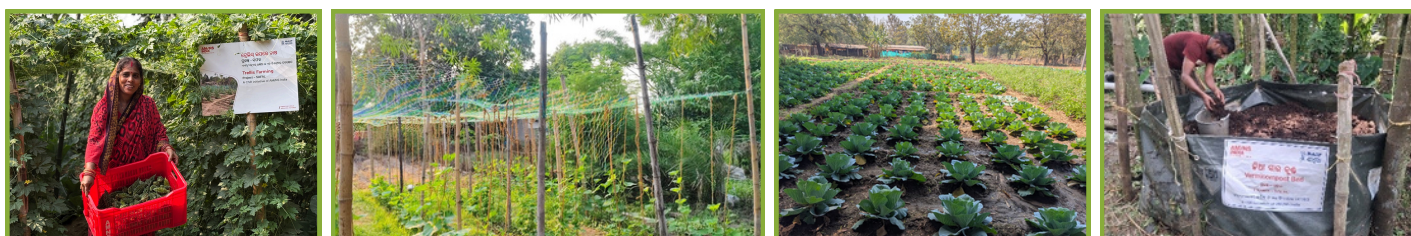
B. Climate-Smart Agriculture

Major Achievements: Climate-smart agriculture practices were promoted across 1,518.8 acres, benefiting 2,817 farming families in 26 villages through interventions focused on resilient crop production, natural resource management, sustainable land use, and climate-resilient livelihoods.

Improved paddy cultivation, trellis farming, orchard-based farming systems, intercropping, high-value crop cultivation, and organic nutrient management were promoted to enhance productivity and resource-use efficiency. Improved vegetable cultivation and high-value crop interventions reached more than 650 farmers, while climate-resilient paddy cultivation practices benefitted over 550 farmers.

Orchard-based and agri-horti-forestry systems expanded across more than 148.3 acres, strengthening biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration, and long-term livelihood opportunities. Organic farming practices were further promoted through 100 vermicompost units, integrated nutrient management, Azolla cultivation, and other sustainable agriculture approaches that improved soil health and reduced dependence on chemical inputs.

Collectively, these interventions strengthened farmers' adaptive capacity, improved farm productivity, and supported the transition towards sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural systems.



C. Agrobiodiversity Conservation

1. Consumption of Resilient Orphan Crops & Products for Healthier Diets (CROPS4HD)

Sponsor: Bioversity International

Location: Jujomura block of Sambalpur district

Duration: March 2023 to June 2025

Major Achievements: The project continued to strengthen community-led conservation of indigenous crop diversity and resilient farming systems in Sambalpur district. A Community Seed Bank established at Burda village now conserves 50 traditional and locally adapted crop cultivars, supported by 179 farmers and 77 seed savers actively engaged in seed conservation and exchange activities. In addition, 16 on-farm conservation centres preserved 202 crop cultivars comprising rice, millets, pulses, and oilseeds, contributing to the protection of local genetic resources and climate-resilient farming systems.

The programme promoted the conservation and evaluation of traditional and orphan crops through participatory varietal selection, mother and baby trials, and seed multiplication activities involving crops such as mung bean, dolichos bean, cowpea, millets, and indigenous rice varieties. A total of 72 crop accessions were collected and submitted for nutritional profiling, while 23 traditional rice cultivars were identified, cultivated and documented through community-led conservation efforts, strengthening local food systems, nutritional security, and climate resilience.

Capacity-building initiatives included farmer trainings on indigenous crop cultivation, seed storage, community seed bank management, millet-based food preparation, and exposure visits to successful conservation models. Awareness programmes, biodiversity exhibitions, and stakeholder consultations further enhanced community participation and strengthened local institutions for the long-term conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity.



- Community-based conservation systems strengthened through one Community Seed Bank, 16 on-farm conservation centres, and the preservation of 202 traditional crop cultivars.
- A total of 72 crop accessions were collected for nutritional profiling, while 23 traditional rice cultivars were documented and promoted for conservation and cultivation.

2. BASUDHA

Major Achievements: The project promoted the conservation and sustainable use of local agricultural biodiversity through the cultivation of indigenous paddy varieties and the adoption of climate-resilient farming practices. Improved paddy cultivation covering 400 farmers across 400 acres integrated Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), encouraging the use of bio-inputs, green manuring, and ecological crop management practices. Crop diversification was promoted among 30 farmers through the cultivation of banana, papaya, and vegetables on 7.5 acres, strengthening on-farm diversity and reducing dependence on single-crop systems. Nutrition gardens established across 50 households encouraged the cultivation of diverse vegetables, fruit plants, and herbs, contributing to the conservation of local food crops and household-level agrobiodiversity. These interventions enhanced resilience to climatic variability while supporting sustainable farming systems and the preservation of locally adapted crop resources.

D. Renewable Energy

Major Achievements: Renewable energy is one of the most efficient forms of climate change mitigation. Solar power has its benefits and immediate application in the rural context for energy applications in lifting. This year, solar- and bioenergy-based interventions were scaled up demonstrating their practical applications in



"Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals, and happiness."
— Thomas Jefferson

irrigation, lighting, cooking, and sustainable farming.

A total of 50 solar pumps (both group-based and individual) were installed across projects, benefitting over 100 households. These systems not only improved irrigation access but also reduced farmers' dependence on diesel pumps, resulting in significant fuel cost savings of ₹8,000–10,000 per household per year. Furthermore, 20 IRESA (Integrated Renewable Energy and Sustainable Agriculture) units were installed, promoting efficient use of organic residues and contributing to energy self-sufficiency. Replacing traditional cooking fuels and helping farmers save annually on LPG and on synthetic fertilisers. To improve public infrastructure, solar-powered streetlights were also installed.

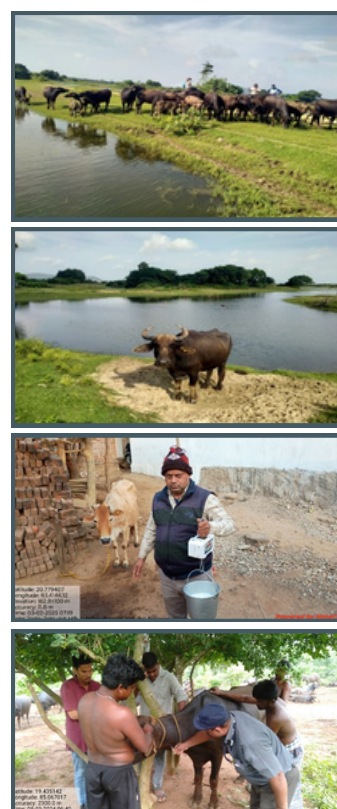


VI. Development Research

1. Breed Performance and Genomic Characterisation of Indigenous Livestock Breeds

A study was undertaken to assess the production, morphometric, and genetic characteristics of the indigenous Binjarpuri Cattle and Chilika Buffalo breeds under the Odisha Bull Production Project. The research covered farmers in Jajpur and Ganjam districts and generated a comprehensive database on milk production, milk composition, body measurements, and genomic information to support future breed improvement programmes. Chilika buffaloes, uniquely adapted to the saline ecosystems around Chilika Lake, demonstrated superior milk quality with an average milk fat content of 7.18% and SNF of 9.89%, while Binjarpuri cattle recorded average milk fat and SNF levels of 4.84% and 8.31%, respectively. The study registered 306 Chilika buffaloes belonging to 26 farmers and 344 Binjarpuri cattle belonging to 317 farmers. In addition, 643 blood samples were collected for genomic analysis, of which 462 samples have already been successfully genotyped, creating a valuable foundation for future conservation and genetic improvement initiatives. The findings provide important evidence for strengthening indigenous breed conservation, productivity enhancement, and climate-resilient livestock development in Odisha.

Trait	Binjarpuri Cattle	Chilika Buffalo
Animals Registered	344	306
Farmers Covered	317	26
Average Milk Yield (kg/day)	2.33	3.41
Average Milk Fat (%)	4.84	7.18
Average SNF (%)	8.31	9.89
Blood Samples Collected	396	247
Genotype Success	266	196



2. Performance Evaluation of Grafted and Non-Grafted Tomato and Brinjal

A research study was conducted in Jharsuguda district, Odisha, to evaluate the performance of grafted and non-grafted brinjal and tomato crops. The study assessed plant growth, harvesting duration, yield performance, root development, crop longevity, pest and disease incidence, and economic returns. Results indicated that grafted plants outperformed non-grafted plants across most parameters. Grafted brinjal recorded a 40.0% higher yield (442.8 q/ha) and 63.2% higher net income, while grafted tomato achieved a 36.7% higher yield (380.4 q/ha) and 55.3% higher net income compared to non-grafted plants. Grafted crops also exhibited longer productive life, stronger root systems, and higher benefit-cost ratios, demonstrating the potential of grafting technology to enhance vegetable productivity and farm profitability in Odisha.

Crop	Treatment	Plant Height (cm)	No. of Branches	No. of Pickings	Yield (q/ha)	Longevity (days)	Net Income (₹/ha)	B:C Ratio
Brinjal	Non-grafted	136.2	10.4	20	316.2	170	2,54,150	3.32
	Grafted	145.4	14.6	31	442.8	220+	4,14,850	3.99
Tomato	Non-grafted	106.8	6.4	21	278.2	130	1,43,990	2.19
	Grafted	101.2	8.6	29	380.4	157	2,23,650	2.42



3. Comparative Performance Analysis of Paddy Landraces from Jujumura Block, Odisha

A field study was conducted in Sambalpur district, Odisha, to evaluate the growth, yield performance, and economic viability of 16 traditional paddy landraces collected from Jujumura Block. The performance of these landraces was compared with two improved check varieties, Geetanjali and Puja. The assessment included growth characteristics, maturity duration, grain yield, and economic returns.

Among the evaluated landraces, Kalabathi and Sunaharini emerged as the most promising, recording grain yields of 33.68 q/ha and 33.32 q/ha, respectively. Kalabathi achieved the highest net income (₹86,859/ha) and benefit-cost ratio (3.29) among all tested landraces, outperforming both check varieties in economic returns. Sunaharini also demonstrated strong economic performance with a benefit-cost ratio of 3.25. The findings highlight the potential of selected indigenous paddy landraces for enhancing productivity, profitability, and agrobiodiversity conservation in Odisha's farming systems.



Landrace/Variety	Days to Maturity	Grain Yield (q/ha)	Net Income (₹/ha)	B:C Ratio
Kalabathi	150	33.68	86,859	3.29
Sunaharini	130	33.32	79,545	3.25
Talmuri	135	30.06	59,222	2.63
Geetanjali (Check)	135	30.52	64,350	2.84
Puja (Check)	150	36.04	73,282	3.12

4. Nutrient Management Strategies for Sustainable Paddy Production

A field-based research study titled "*Impact of Nano-Urea, Potassium Silicate and Micronutrients on Soil Nutrient Dynamics, Productivity and Profitability of Paddy*" was published in the Asian Journal of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition during 2026. The study was conducted in Jharsuguda district under the Comprehensive Community Development Programme (Utthan Project) supported by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) to evaluate the effects of nano-urea, potassium silicate, and micronutrients on paddy growth, productivity, soil health, and farm profitability. The research demonstrated that balanced nutrient management combining the recommended dose of fertilisers with potassium silicate and micronutrients significantly improved grain yield, straw yield, and economic returns compared to conventional nutrient management practices. The findings provide evidence-based recommendations for enhancing paddy productivity and profitability while supporting sustainable nutrient management in Odisha.

Key Indicator	Best Performing Treatment (RDF + Potassium Silicate + Micronutrients)
Average Grain Yield	51.8 q/ha
Average Straw Yield	64.9 q/ha
Gross Returns	₹1,02,100/ha
Net Returns	₹57,600/ha
Outcome	Improved productivity, profitability, and soil fertility

VII. PARTNERSHIPS

SPONSORS

Odisha Livestock Resources Development Society

ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Ltd

Adani Foundation

Gates Foundation

Vedanta Limited

Hindalco Industries Ltd.

NABARD

HDFC Bank

District Mineral Foundation

Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.

Jindal India Power Limited

RG Manudhane Foundation for Excellence

COVERAGE

Angul, Balangir, Bargarh, Boudh, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Jajpur, Kalahandi, Kendrapara, Koraput, Nabarangpur, Nuapada, Puri, Sambalpur

Jagatsinghpur district

Bhadrak district

Ganjam, Jajpur, Angul and Balangir districts

Jharsuguda district

Sambalpur district

Ganjam district

Sambalpur district

Keonjhar district

Sundargarh district

Angul district

Angul, Balangir, Bargarh, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Kendrapara and Sonepur districts

PROGRAMMES

Livestock Development: Breeding

Farm-based Livelihoods

Livestock Development: Integrated services

Livestock Development: Characterization and performance recording

Farm-based Livelihoods

Holistic Development

Livestock Development: Integrated services

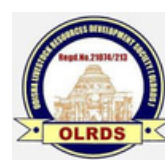
Farm-based Livelihoods

Farm-based Livelihoods

Farm-based Livelihoods

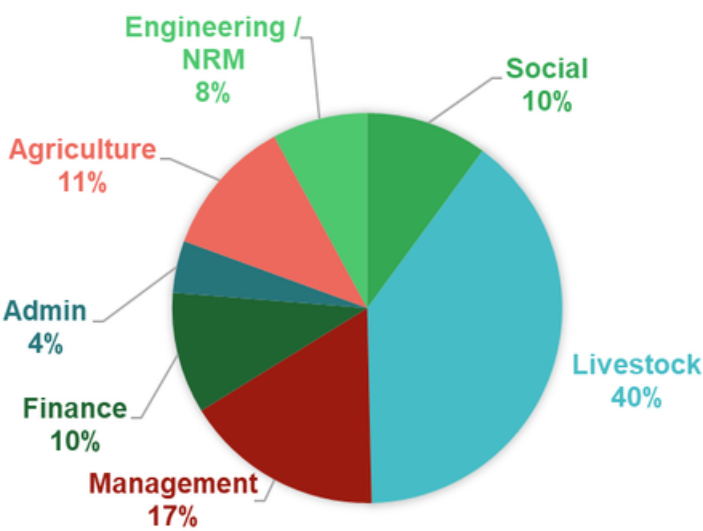
Health and Sanitation

Livestock Development: Breeding

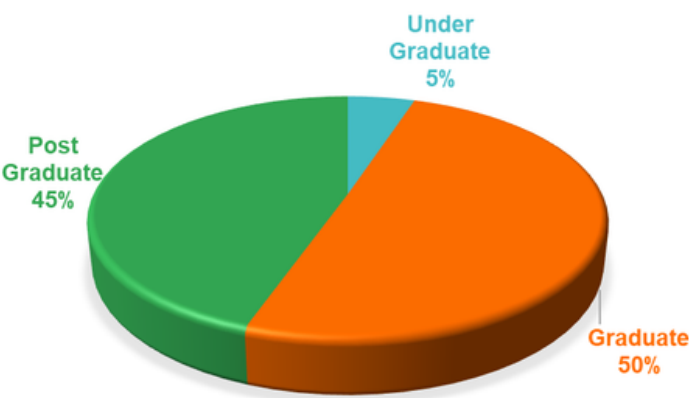


VIII. Human Resources

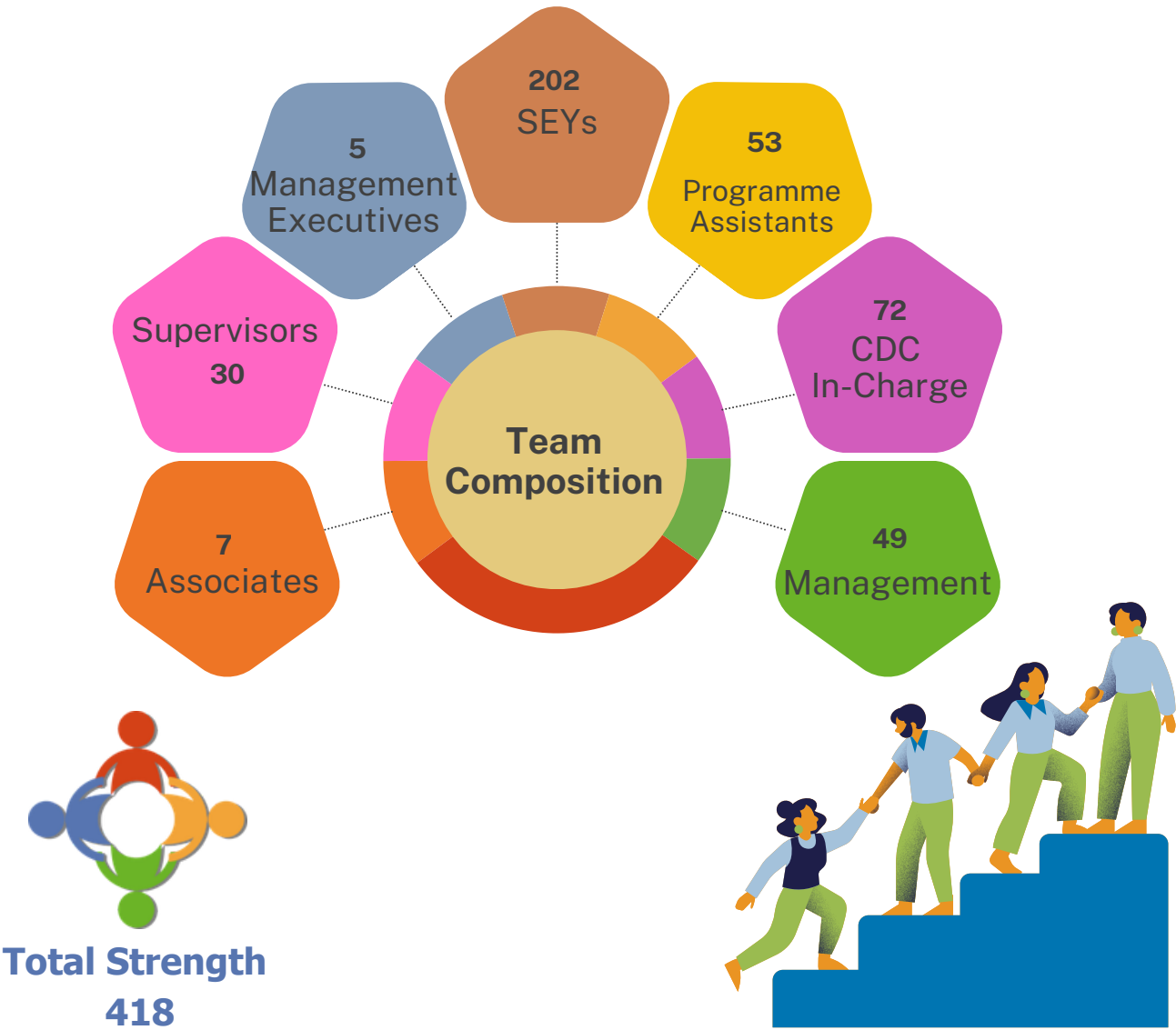
Functional Expertise*



Educational Background*



*Excludes Cattle Development Centre (CDC I/Cs)



RECOGNITIONS



Alliance Bioversity – CIAT Science Week, Vientiane, Laos

Dr. Rajashree Joshi represented BAIF, as a partner of Alliance Bioversity and CIAT, at the Science Week held in Vientiane, Laos.

GIZ Leadership Academy & AgSys Regional Forum on Agrifood Systems Transformation, Lusaka, Zambia

Mr. Rakesh Warriar, Regional Director – East, participated in the Leadership Academy and the 2nd AgSys Regional Forum hosted by GIZ.



FAO Global Agrifood Biotechnologies Conference, Rome, Italy

Dr. Sachin Joshi represented BAIF at the FAO Global Agrifood Biotechnologies Conference at FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy.

UN Food Systems Summit, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Mr. Viswadev represented BAIF at the 2nd UN Food Systems Summit Stocktake (UNFSS+4) held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



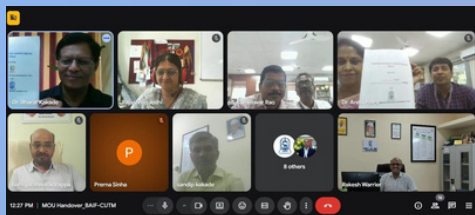
UNFCCC COP30, Belém, Brazil

Mr. Shrinivas Kulkarni and Mr. Abhishek Pandey represented BAIF at COP30 held in Belém, Brazil.

National Gopal Ratna Award

Mr. Dilip Kumar Pradhan, BAIF Livestock Technician from Angul district of Odisha received the National Gopal Ratna Award 2025 (1st position) under the Best Artificial Insemination Technician category, from Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel and Shri. George Kurian, Hon'ble Ministers of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India, in New Delhi.





November 28, 2025: MoU signed between BAIF and Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) School of Leadership, Odisha for cooperation in rural development including agriculture, livestock management, empowerment, environment and climate change, along with knowledge exchange, curriculum design, internships, placements, joint projects and research initiatives.

January 12, 2026: Agreement signed between BAIF and the Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services (AH & VS), Odisha, for the supply of goat frozen semen doses for genetic improvement in the state.



January 15, 2026: The BAIF-implemented Focussed Development Programme, supported by HDFC Bank, was inaugurated at Kuchinda, Sambalpur, Odisha, by Mr. Rabi Narayan Naik, Hon'ble Minister, Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department, Government of Odisha, in the presence of officials from the Agriculture and Veterinary Departments and HDFC Bank representatives.

January 23, 2026: BAIF Odisha received the Best Implementing Partner Award at a CSR meet organized by Vedanta Limited in Jharsuguda, Odisha, in the presence of Mr. Harmeet Sehra, Head CSR, Vedanta Aluminium, Odisha, Mr. Naresh Kumar, Associate CSR Officer and other members from the CSR team.



March 26, 2026: 3rd Advisory Board Meeting of BAIF Institute for Sustainable Livelihoods and Development – East Region was held virtually to review progress and discuss priorities for strengthening sustainable rural development initiatives across the region.

BISLD Programme Coverage



Visitors



April 18, 2025: Mr. Kalunge Gorakh Waman, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Sambalpur Forest Division, visited the Community Seed Bank at Burda, Bargarh district, Odisha, under the CROP4HD project.



June 15, 2025: A Bikash Mela was organised by Odisha Rural Development and Marketing Society (ORMAS) at Kalli Padia, Keonjhar, where the project team showcased the DMF-supported Orchard Plantation Project. Mr. Vishal Singh, IAS, Collector and District Magistrate, Keonjhar, and Mr. Somendra Panigrahi, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Keonjhar, visited the stall and appreciated the team's efforts.



December 23, 2025: On the occasion of Kisan Diwas (National Farmers' Day), a farmer gathering under Project BASUDHA, supported by Hindalco, was organised at Hirakud, Sambalpur, Odisha. The event was graced by the Chief Guest, Ms. Puspanjali Panda, OAS, Sub-Collector, Sambalpur.

APPEAL

BAIF has been committed to sustainable rural development for nearly six decades of its operations. BAIF's valuable contributions to improving livelihoods of rural households have been recognised in various national and international platforms. Our innovative models and participatory community empowerment approaches have shown pathways to holistic development which have been adopted outside the Organisation as well as for replication. The hallmark of these models is integration of livelihood and quality of life resulting in enhanced living standards.

BAIF is recognised by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India u/s 35 (1) (ii) of the Income Tax Act 1961 for Scientific Research. Contributions made to BAIF for carrying out research activities will be eligible for deduction under income tax. BISLD is a Charitable Institution under the provisions of Section 12A (2) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Donations made to BAIF Livelihoods will be eligible for benefit of deduction under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

We request contributions to the maximum extent possible for the noble cause of empowering rural communities and in the process, building a self-reliant, progressive and prosperous India.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

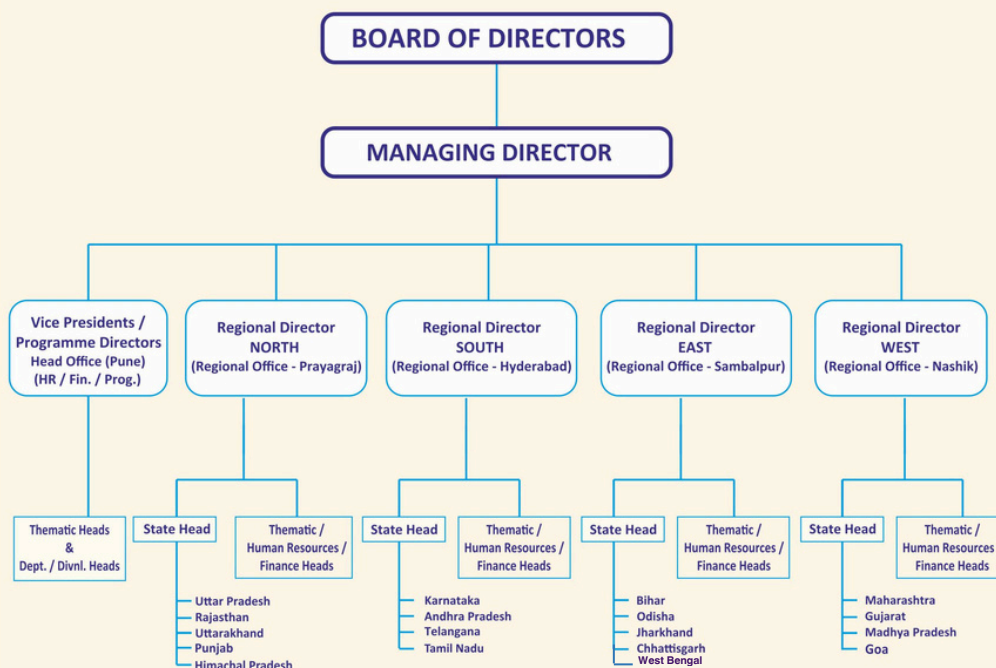
The dedication and perseverance of team members – our core strength have been the cornerstone of BAIF's impactful programmes. The generous support from our esteemed partners and sponsors is gratefully acknowledged which has enabled us to enhance our outreach and impact. The valuable guidance from senior management provides deep insights into both strategic and operational aspects of the programme. Last but not the least, the cooperation and trust from the communities we work with is gratefully acknowledged without which the programmes would have just remained as activities.

ANNUAL REPORT DESIGN

Ms. Prerna Sinha, Project Officer

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Organogram



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Mr. Sandip Kakade

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Mr. Bipin Sahu

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Ms. Manisha Sahu

Member

Invitee 1

Invitee 2

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Last Cover Page

Centre: Mr. Mihir Pradhan and his wife Mrs. Saraswati Pradhan with their dairy animals under the Livestock Development Programme.

Clockwise from top-left: Ms. Harapriya Sahoo with vegetables cultivated through improved farming practices; A trained drone pilot demonstrating drone-based nutrient and pesticide application under FDP; Ms. Chandrakanti Patel in her trellis farming plot adopting scientific crop management practices; Ms. Nirasi Ping from Kuchinda with goats supported under the Focused Development Programme (FDP).



**BAIF Institute for Sustainable Livelihoods and Development
Odisha**

