**PROGRESS REPORT OF KARMI IN COVID-19 PROGRAMME IN KALAHANDI**

The COVID-19 has divested the economies all over the world, creating an unprecedented challenge for mankind. It has badly impacted the migrant worker class who seem to be more vulnerable in the current economy setup. Without a job, house, food, they are marching towards their homeland without any support from the government machinery. Growing demands for opening up of the economy despite a substantial increase in COVID cases. With no social security, the implications on the rural poor and marginalized sections with inadequate economic and social safety nets is severe and will have long term consequences on their lives and livelihood. In this endeavors KARMI undertake many programmes on Awareness and preventive majors in Kalahandi specially in Golaumanda and M.Rampur blocks. Global Giving also contribute some support in this regards and some of the programme also done with the support of Global Giving.

KARMI undertakes the programme like welfare packages in locally relevant sectors, schemes and programs. This needs facilitated to access ongoing social protection schemes and programmes including the welfare package announced by the central and state government to cope with ongoing COVID crisis. It also supported creating the community cadre at the block level, to awareness of the various social protection schemes, Building capacities and supporting the frontline workers and PRI functionaries, Technical support to local administration especially the Gram Panchayat and the Block in accelerating the opening of MGNREGA works with proper preventive measures and, increase uptake of work and Create awareness on social distancing and other preventive measures for COVID 19 among the various target groups.

**Main Task done by KARMI during the COVID-19 period**

1. **Mobilisation:** The important programme during the covid period is to aware the migrant people as well the target people of the area. It is important to take into account the existing governing framework conditions under which these operates. The project team has been provide information about safe from COVID. Social distance and sanitization are the main check of COVID and our project staffs given special emphasis on awareness the target people on them.
2. **Strengthening community access to Social Protection benefits:** Creating a community cadre at the block level, to engage with the influx of migrant workers and other vulnerable households in the identified blocks. The developed rural cadres and they are the main service provider on health, education, public distribution system etc. during the COVID period. They generates strong awareness among communities regarding access to social protection schemes and programmes including the COVID welfare package as well as health safety measures and covered about 1500 families and 75000 people during the 1st phase of the programme.
3. **Capacity Building of frontline workers:** During the COVID period thefrontline workers are mostly ICDS workers, ASHAs, Panchayat (PRI) Secretaries, Ward members, Sarpanchs who are critical in response to COVID -19 have been trained and play stakeholders role with best knowledge on attitudes and behaviors of their communities and are most vested in containing and preventing COVID cases. They are critical stakeholders in the process of addressing challenges associated with COVID -19. It is therefore very important to engage with them and increase their knowledge on the responds to COVID cases.
4. **Support to the Panchayati Raj Institutions and local administration:** Following the above approach the PI will conduct the capacities of the PRI institutions in the identified geographies to analyze the trend of pandemic spread in a specific area and develop readiness plans (at incremental levels) for infection prevention and quarantine facilities preparedness at Gram Panchayat level. The focus will be on number of cases , tracing COVID cases and identifying probable cases, addressing the village level and panchayat level initiatives that need to be carry out and how to link to state responses.
5. **Strengthening decentralized governance structures to link communities with social protection benefits:** The PI will Coordinate and support local administration especially the Gram Panchayat and the Block in accelerating the opening and uptake of MGNREGA works with proper preventive measures. The PI will give specific focus for uptake of works by the most vulnerable groups like migrants household, women headed households, SC/STs, etc. This will be based on the data base that will be evolved through this engagement. The PI will provide technical support to district/block administration in providing authentic information about the decisions of the central, state government and local administration on implementation of MGNREA. Further, coordinate with the government institutions to identify and reach out to the left over beneficiaries of other social protections to accelerate delivery of the benefits. .
6. **Operationalizing the COVID -19 package:** By the close of the Task of state Government in delivery of relief package, essential supplies and psychosocial support for returnee migrants through feasible IT enabled modality, the IP will begin developing the operationalization the project that will collect and channelize the Social Protection Schemes, the IP will process the schemes which is useful for the blocks. The project will evaluate source of funding of these schemes of COVID 19 packages that design knowledge product to avail these packages.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

KARMI properly monitoring all the above activities in two blocks of Kalahandi districts of Odisha in a smoothly and achieved a lot. The target people who returning form destination in safe and provided necessary rason and food materials in needy time and necessary arrangement made with govt. and global giving and other agencies support and more than 15000 people got proper treatment and save from COVID 19.