

Chinmaya Organization for Rural Development (CORD) (2016-2018)

Project: Institutionalizing and empowering small and marginal women farmers in hill agriculture through systematic investment

Footprint: Kangra District, Himachal Pradesh, India

Beneficiaries: 500 small and marginal farmers belonging to the poorest sections of society

Through the Award, the Chinmaya Organization for Rural Development (CORD) proposes the overall development of the marginalized sections of society. The project has multi-fold objectives of poverty alleviation by increasing income, food security, nutritional benefits, health and sanitation by improving the socio-economic status of remote and rural populations. The project aims to systematically organize women farmers in the hilly state of Himachal Pradesh for integrated farm and allied sector activities. The women farmers will collectively institutionalize themselves to create a forum for recognition and empowerment; not only in the field of production but also to enter the market as a potential, empowered entrepreneur.

The core activity under this project is the System of Crop Intensification; which will be strengthened with soil testing, organic manure, cash crops/cereal crops, pulses, oil seeds, pasture land development and backyard dairy and poultry. These activities aim to improve individual household food security and socio-economic status of the women farmers. Additionally, the families will be supported to use the generated food, income and knowledge resources appropriately for improving nutrition situation of women and young children.

The project is expected to benefit 500 marginal and small women farmers (selected from CORD facilitated Women Groups) to be organized into 40-50 women farmer groups and local governance level women farmer groups in one specific development block in Kangra district.