

Community Managed Micro Irrigation Scheme

Background

It is clear from several studies and reports, including a set of recommendations given by Shri Bibek Devroy, Niti Ayog member in his report to “*Chief Minister’s Committee for the Development of Jharkhand*” highlighted that minor and small-lift irrigation schemes are more suitable, as they are economical to construct and have low gestation period that do not involve any major land acquisition issues or displacement of population. There is urgent need of provision of right kind of policy and institutional support to the schemes for scaling up. Building on these recommendations and reports from various practitioners following is the summary of the lessons from past experiences around promoting irrigation focused on small and marginal farmers:

- The first generation micro-lift irrigation and other small irrigation schemes have created a huge aspiration pull for this programme,
- SHG women able to mobilize entire community and make plans for small irrigation,
- Women’s groups supported by technical experts can develop necessary proposal for Govt. financing,
- Procurement and availability of quality pipes, pump sets etc. is a challenge for women’s groups,
- Community groups provide all possible support to technical persons to execute simple irrigation schemes.
- Post implementation O&M system and trained people are key to continued operation of the schemes with examples of many of them which are running for over 20 years now.
- Closing of schemes have been a problem with lack of interest in filling/checking filled MBs and final settlement.

The state level focus to really scale up these successful efforts have been lacking in the past, which can be corrected now. This large scale expansion of the community based irrigation systems can be layered on the strong social mobilization base created in the state by NGOs and the JSLPS. The NRLM intensive blocks where universalization of SHGs has been completed can be ideal locations to demonstrate this approach.

Pilot on Micro-Irrigation Scale-up: Aimed at developing Agriculture Production Clusters (APCs)

The Government of Jharkhand seeing the need for reducing monsoon dependency of agriculture production and to give impetus to farm prosperity has sanctioned an ambitious pilot grant of Rs.100 Cr. to SRLM (JSLPS). The focus of the block-grant is to demonstrate at scale the potential of micro-irrigation schemes in securing livelihoods for small-holder families and in developing robust “Agriculture Development Clusters”. The APCs are cluster of Gram Panchayats or the entire block which takes up intensive agriculture production in Kharif-Rabi-Summer in large scale; thereby attracting large market players both for inputs and output. These clusters become hub for agriculture driven growth attracting different service providers including livelihood services e.g. mechanization services, storage and transportation, weather insurance, credit, etc. The key driver of the APCs will be robust production which will be ensured by irrigation support to farming families. It will build on existing skills of farming families, market demand of agriculture round the year in local and distant markets. The effort builds on the extensive social mobilization, early demonstration of agriculture based livelihoods in the area.

Based on the idea JSLPS has selected six blocks in the first phase viz., Angara (Ranchi), Gola (Ramgarh), Khunti (Khunti), Jama (Dumka), Bengabad (Giridih) and Satbarwa (Palamu).

Operationalization Strategy:

This initiative calls for three strategic shifts in the approach to take up irrigation in large scale:

- Shift in focus from large river based centralized water management to decentralized, small-scale schemes with local water management.
- Stronger community driven engagement in identification of sites and post-implementation operations and maintenance.
- Designing and linking focus of irrigation with robust and sustained livelihoods for small-holder families, i.e. focus on production clusters right from conception of the programme.

The implementation strategy will focus upon solving the following key challenges:

- Proper site selection keeping in view social and technical feasibility,
- Issues related to quality of implementation in remote and low population density areas,
- Technical support required for design and implementation on the ground,
- Post implementation:
 - Locally driven O&M,
 - Linking with intensive agriculture development.

The strategy will revolve around three pillars:

1. Creating State Irrigation Execution Cell (SIEC) in JSLPS:

The State Irrigation Execution Cell will develop implementation protocols, model prototypes and material specifications and procurement procedures. It is to anchor large scale implementation across all pilot blocks. All key installations could be executed through Vendor contracts, e.g. solar pump installation and pipe-laying could be done by supplying vendors on ground in co-ordination with community yet the SIEC will provide technical oversight and proper implementation by supporting block level Irrigation Facilitation Teams (i-PFTs),

2. Involving Community:

SHGs and VO will be involved in forming water user associations (WUAs) from among its members. The WUA's involvement in proper site-selection, implementation of small-civil works on the ground and post-implementation usage by its members. VO may be involved in programme closure by taking part in social audit of implementation.

3. NGOs / JSLPS Block team:

Support Federations/ VOs to build awareness for the programme and post implementation to make productive usage of the assets created with involvement of women in farming.

I. Implementation Steps:

A. LI Systems Location Identification, Viability Analysis and Project Approval:

1. Gram Panchayats and Village Organizations (VOs), with the support of the Block level i-PFT, will identify potential areas with a demand for lift irrigation systems (based on geographical location viability as well as need of farmers in the proposed catchment area and strength of community organization),
2. VOs will assist the farmers in the proposed catchment area to form Water User Groups (WUGs) and submit demand proposal for Lift Irrigation system to the respective Gram Panchayat,
3. Gram Panchayat will forward the proposal received from the VOs to the Block level i-PFT who will in-turn forward it to the State Cell,
4. The Block i-PFT, with support of the State Cell, will undertake a detailed socio-technical viability study (DPR) of the proposed LI system locations within 2-weeks of receiving application from respective villages. The DPR outcome will be shared with the VO/WUG, Gram Panchayat as well as the State Cell.
5. For projects that are socio-technically viable as per the DPR, the State Cell shall process for approval within 2- weeks of receiving DPR.

B. Monitoring:

- a) Throughout the life-cycle of implementation of the project, the State Cell will deploy various SMART monitoring tools for continuous updates on work progress at various locations. The i-PFT will closely monitor project progress on technical parameters as decided by the State Cell.
- b) There will be a monitoring committee constituted of members of VO, Panchayat representative / Ward member and SHG-Federation to closely monitor the construction process and scheme installation by vendors so as to ensure that the design and quality specifications are met,
- c) The Gram Panchayat will facilitate the conduct of a social audit before project closure.

C. Post installation usage, O&M & Agriculture Intensification, Diversification:

- a) The i-PFT will conduct training for the WUGs for community-led usage and O&M of the Lift Irrigation systems and will continue to support them,
- b) The G-NGOs and JSLPS Grassroots teams will facilitate formation of Agriculture Production Clusters (APC) across the block. Each APC will comprise of 300-400 farmers spread over 1-2 panchayats. APCs will facilitate its members (small / marginal farmers) to adopt improve production technology and access fairer markets. The focus would be to create support systems for the farmers so as to enable them undertake farming of high value crops for major part of the year. Community Based Organizations and JSLPS will provide comprehensive support to the APCs, including training on production technology and linkages with services of markets.
- c) The Gram Panchayat will make efforts to connect APCs with different government agencies such as Agriculture Department, ATMA, KVKs to access government programs and schemes for improved agriculture development.

Salient Roles of the State Irrigation Execution Cell (SIEC) would be as following:

- Selection of Pilot blocks based on the availability of Strong People's collectives who would lead the process,
- Develop implementation protocols, model prototypes and material specifications and procurement procedures,
- Anchor large scale implementation across all pilot blocks. All key installations could be executed through Vendor contracts, e.g. solar pump installation and pipe-laying could be done by supplying vendors on ground in co-ordination with community.
- Technical oversight and implementation by supporting block level Irrigation Facilitation Teams (i-PFTs).

Block i-PFT Team Composition and Role

The Block level i-PFTs will comprise of 3 Professionals (1- Block Manager and 1-Technical Supervisors) and 10-Community Field Supervisors.

In the first phase 6 blocks are to be taken hence (6 blocks @ 12 positions) 72 positions needed to be filled up. Number of positions increases proportionately with the increase of the number of blocks undertaken.

Terms of References for State Project Coordinator for irrigation-Project Facilitation Team (i-PFT)

Position Sl. No.1 (1 position)

1. Consultant-Block Project Manager

A. Key Roles and Responsibilities

Overall lead responsibility for successful execution of the entire scheme in the block lies with the Block Manager.

The Block Manager would be critical nodal point of daily communication between the State Irrigation Execution Cell (SIEC) and all field implementation stakeholders.

Following are some of the indicative tasks of the Block Manager:

I. Rendering Support to Village Organisations (VOs) and Water User Associations (WUA):

- 1) Responsible for creating initial awareness meetings amongst Village Organizations about the new initiative and triggering process of LI site identification and associated WUG selection by VOs,
- 2) Receive applications from Village Organizations / Gram Panchayats for lift irrigation schemes and provide prompt response by initiating DPR preparation process
- 3) Supporting VOs to carry out social audit concurrently during implementation phase as well as during project closure,

II. Regarding Identification, Induction & Monitoring Work of Community Field Supervisors:

- 4) Supporting VOs with broad guidelines regarding selection of Consultant-Community Field Supervisors,
- 5) Organizing induction process of the Consultant-Community Field Supervisors. To also be present as a training resource for various capability building sessions for Community Field Supervisors,
- 6) Supporting the Consultant-Community Field Supervisors to lead the process of capacity building and supporting WUGs for understanding their role as a collective, managing the funds they receive, carrying out civil works and also post implementation community-led usage/O&M
- 7) Providing comprehensive support to & monitor on a daily basis the work of the 10 Consultant-Community Field Supervisors

III. Regarding Supporting the Consultant-Technical Supervisor:

- 8) Providing comprehensive support to the block team as well as guide on technical terms to the Consultant- Field Supervisors.

9) Monitor and supervise on a daily basis work of the Consultant-Technical Supervisors

IV. Regarding coordinating with the Vendors:

10) Coordinating with the vendors for equipment installation and start-up in places where the WUG has successfully completed the civil works

V. Other Key General Tasks:

11) Responsible for timely coordination between various stakeholders such as gram panchayat members, federation members, government officials and state irrigation execution cell

12) Monitoring of progress of initiative in block on a day to day basis and submit status update to the State Irrigation Execution Cell

13) To regularly visit the intervention site locations to monitor progress and provide guidance to the concerned stakeholders

14) To provide Government with regular feedback regarding good practices and learning's from this scheme as a key input for scaling-up scheme in other parts of the State.

15) Any other tasks that may be needed to make the project successful

B. Reporting

The Consultant-Block Programme Manager should report to the Lead, State Irrigation Execution Cell for all official purposes.

C. Compensation:

A consolidated amount of Rs.35,000/- per month would be offered towards consultancy fee. The consultancy fee shall be fixed and annual increment may be considered only after completion of 12 months, as per the HR Rules of JSLPS.

D. Duration of the assignment:

The initial contract will be issued for period of six months which may be renewed as per the performance and project needs. However, the project need to be completed in a five years' time period.

E. Qualifications and Experience:

Masters in any stream and a minimum of 3 years post qualification relevant experience.

Candidate having experience of works in the state of Jharkhand would be given preference. Knowledge of Hindi/local language will be an added advantage.

2. Consultatnt-Technical Supervisor

A. Key Roles and Responsibilities

Responsible for providing comprehensive technical support to the Water User Groups in the block

1. Vet Technical Feasibility of schemes proposed by the Water Users' Groups/VOs
2. Assist Community Field Supervisors in the preparation of Detail Project report (DPR).
3. To review the prepared DPR before forwarding it to State for further steps
4. Provide technical support for implementation to WUA for small civil-structures such as wells, pump house etc.
5. Supporting technical capacity building of Community Field Supervisors and assisting them on a regular basis in technical aspects of their work
6. Supervise execution by approved vendors deployed by State Execution Cell
7. To regularly visit the intervention site locations to monitor progress and provide technical guidance to the concerned stakeholders
8. Post implementation to provide training to WUGs on technical aspects of O&M
9. Any other tasks that may be needed to make the project successful

B. Reporting

The Consultant-Technical Supervisor, should report to the Consultant-Block Programme Manager for all official purposes.

C. Compensation:

A consolidated amount of Rs.30,000/- per month would be offered towards consultancy fee. The consultancy fee shall be fixed and annual increment may be considered only after completion of 12 months, as per the HR Rules of JSLPS.

D. Duration of the assignment:

The initial contract will be issued for period of six months which may be renewed as per the performance and project needs. However, the project need to be completed in a five years' time period.

E. Qualifications and Experience:

The incumbent should be either having the degree in civil/agriculture engineering with a minimum of 1year post qualification experience or should possess with diploma in civil engineering with a minimum of 2 years post qualification experience. Candidates having experience of works in the state of Jharkhand would be given preference. Knowledge of Hindi/local language will be an added advantage.

3. Consultant-Community Field Supervisors

Each Community Field Supervisor will directly work with farmer's groups to implement 15-15 LI schemes. Since each of the selected blocks would have 100 LI schemes, 6 Community Field Supervisors will be placed in respective block. They will be hired by JSLPS and then provided training by the Block Manager and Technical Supervisors.

A. Key Roles and Responsibilities

Their role will be to very closely provide comprehensive socio-technical support to the Village Organization (VOs)/Water User Groups (WUGs) throughout the lifecycle of the project under the constant guidance of the Consultant-Block Programme Manager and Technical Supervisors. Chalking out roles for VOs/WUGs towards social audit of the programme and assuming handing over of the project after completion is also to be expedited by the Consultant-Community Field Supervisors.

B. Reporting

The Consultant-Community Field Supervisor, should report to the Consultant-Block Programme Manager for all official purposes.

C. Compensation, Qualification & Experience:

A consolidated amount of Rs.15,000/- per month would be offered towards consultancy fee. The consultancy fee shall be fixed and annual increment may be considered only after completion of 12 months, as per the HR Rules of JSLPS.

D. Duration of the assignment:

The initial contract will be issued for period of six months which may be renewed as per the performance and project needs. However, the project need to be completed in a five years' time period. It is envisaged that the i-PFT would require the services of Community based Field Supervisors for approximately 25 days in a month. Based on their performance the contract would be renewed for a further term as per the requirement of the project.

4. Consultant-Accounts Executive

JSLPS is seeking application from qualified candidates for the above-mentioned position on a long-term consultancy basis.

- Implementation of operational strategies;
- Organization of accounting and procurement processes;
- Support to accounts, financial planning and logistical services;
- Support to office maintenance and assets management;

A. Key Roles and Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the accounting operations of the scheme.
- Participation in the formation and implementation of financial plans
- Preparation of all monthly financial reports
- Provide reporting and budgeting as required by senior management
- Instrumental in handling the entire system of receipts and payments/budgets etc.
- Calculation, deduction of TDS and preparation of statement for TDS returns.
- Preparation of financial reports/presentation as per requirement on time to time.
- Implementation of the effective financial control.
- Transparency in keeping Registers, Records & Reports.
- Collecting PFT staff absentee, travel expense, communication expense and other expense incurred by the scheme functionaries and make payment on time.
- Receives Material Purchase Requisition from program team, reviews on order status and forwards the same to the procurement unit.
- Prepares Purchase Orders and forwards the same to the procurement unit for review and for further approval of Chief Executive Officer.
- Verifies the Material Received Notes (MRN) with Purchase Orders and suppliers Invoices and reports the discrepancies to procurement unit.
- Coordination with vendors, contractors regarding materials
- Maintains the data base, files and records of the accounts and procurement matters.
- Undertake any other assignments, which may be assigned by FM-SRC/SPM Finance.

B. Reporting Officer:

The Consultant-Accounts Executive should report to the Finance Manager, SRC, JSLPS for all official purposes.

C. Duration of the assignment:

The initial contract will be issued for period of six months which may be renewed as per the performance and project needs. However, the project need to be completed in a five years' time period.

D. Compensation, Qualification & Experience:

- Minimum M. Com or PG degree in commerce/finance or CA Inter or CMA Inter with computer knowledge in handling internet, MS Office and tally software.
- Minimum four-years working experience in relevant field.
- The working exposure of rural development sector with the government organisation would be preferable.
- A consolidated amount of Rs.35,000/- per month would be offered.

E. Work Station:

Office of the State Resource Cell-JSLPS, 3rd Floor, FFP Building, HEC Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand

Note:

- The applicant should be well conversant with the use of computers in words processing spreadsheets for data compilation, basic analysis, internet use and presentation.
- The applicant should be able to tour extensively for support and supervision of the project blocks and villages.
- The remuneration shall be fixed and annual increment shall be considered after 12 months completion as per JSLPS HR rules.
- The tenure is extendable as per rules and scheme guidelines as per preference.

It is mandatory to mention the Year of Passing the Degrees, Current and Past Employment dates on your resume along with proof of documents, without which application will be rejected.

-----X-----