

## **Annexure II**

### **Impact Evaluation Report for LEDP-Mushroom 2.0**

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| <b>Basic Information</b>                                            |                                                                                |
| Name of the RO                                                      | <b>WEST BENGAL</b>                                                             |
| Name of the Project                                                 | <b>LEDP-MUSHROOM</b>                                                           |
| Scheme (MEDP/ LEDP)                                                 | <b>LEDP</b>                                                                    |
| Sector (Farm/ Off-Farm)                                             | <b>OFF-FIRM</b>                                                                |
| Activity                                                            | <b>TRAINING,CREDIT<br/>LINKAGE,ENTREPRENEURSHIP<br/>DEVELOPMENT</b>            |
| Date of sanction by ROCHSC                                          | <b>10.01.2024</b>                                                              |
| Duration of the project                                             | <b>2 YEARS</b>                                                                 |
| <b>Part A-Implementing Agency (IA) Details</b>                      |                                                                                |
| Name of the IA                                                      | <b>DASPARA NABADISHA EDUCATION &amp;<br/>WELFARE SOCIETY</b>                   |
| Type of Implementing Agency                                         | <b>NGO</b>                                                                     |
| <b>Proposal Details</b>                                             |                                                                                |
| <b>Scheme/Proposal Specific Details</b>                             |                                                                                |
| Number of participants                                              | <b>120</b>                                                                     |
| Social/ Economic Category of the beneficiaries                      | <b>SC-14 , ST-01 , OBC-13 , GENERAL-68<br/>MINORITY-24</b>                     |
| Number of batches                                                   | <b>5</b>                                                                       |
| <b>Outcome of MEDP/ LEDP</b>                                        |                                                                                |
| Number and % of participants which have set up units                | <b>65%</b>                                                                     |
| <b>Number and % of participants wage employed</b>                   | <b>11 &amp; 9%</b>                                                             |
| Number and % of participants self-employed                          | <b>75 NOS. &amp; 62.5% (approx)</b>                                            |
| Average increase in monthly income after training (Indicate % also) | <b>Income before Training -00<br/>Income after Training-<br/>3500(average)</b> |
| No. and % of participants credit linked (individual/ group mode)    | <b>72 , 60 %</b>                                                               |

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| Whether there is a tie-up for marketing? (If yes, indicate physical/ e-marketing) | <b>Yes , Physical</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| No. and % of participants covered under social security schemes                   | <b>55%</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Indicate the adoption of digital banking mode by trainees</b>                  | <p>. Approximately 85% of the trained beneficiaries (around 102 participants) have adopted digital banking facilities for their financial transactions. During the project period, beneficiaries were encouraged to operate bank accounts, use ATM facilities, UPI-based digital payments, mobile banking, and online transaction facilities.</p> <p>Digital banking awareness helped beneficiaries to receive financial benefits, manage savings, make business-related payments, and maintain transparency in their mushroom cultivation enterprises. The adoption of digital payment systems has also supported rural women entrepreneurs in becoming more financially independent and connected with formal banking services.</p> |
| Marks obtained as per the Outcome Matrix for MEDP and LEDP                        | <p><i>(As per Annexure I of circular No. 158 dated 18 July 2023)</i></p> <p><b>90</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Financial DetailsAmount in ₹</b>                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Total Financial Outlay (TFO) of the Project</b>                                | <b>8,97,895.00</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| IA Contribution                                                                   | <b>44985.00 5% (approx)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Grant sanctioned by RO/ HO                                                        | <b>8,52,000.00</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Actual Grant released by the RO                                                   | <b>4,65,230.00</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Activities and Deliverables of the Project</b>                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Indicate how the project was monitored and efforts taken to popularize it</b>  | <p>The LEDP Mushroom Cultivation project was implemented with a systematic monitoring and follow-up mechanism by Daspara Nabadisha Education &amp; Welfare Society (DNEWS NGO).</p> <p>The project was monitored through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Regular field visits by the project team to assess progress of beneficiaries.</li> <li>➤ Continuous interaction with trainees through community meetings, telephone follow-up, and personal visits.</li> <li>➤ Practical session monitoring during training programmes.</li> <li>➤ Assessment of mushroom production</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                |

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|                                                                                                         | <p>activities established by beneficiaries after training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Guidance on production management, disease prevention, harvesting, packaging, and marketing.</li> </ul> <p>For popularization of mushroom cultivation as a sustainable livelihood activity, awareness was created through village-level meetings, SHG networks, local community mobilization, and beneficiary interactions.</p> <p>Demonstration units were developed to provide practical exposure and motivate rural women towards mushroom entrepreneurship. Continuous technical guidance and handholding support encouraged beneficiaries to adopt mushroom cultivation as a source of income generation.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Actual Deliverables of the Project</b>                                                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Successfully trained 120 rural beneficiaries through 5 batches on scientific mushroom cultivation techniques.</li> <li>➤ Provided comprehensive practical and theoretical training covering mushroom production technology, bed preparation, spawn management, environmental control, harvesting, post-harvest handling, packaging, and marketing.</li> <li>➤ Around 65% beneficiaries established mushroom cultivation units after completion of training.</li> <li>➤ 75 beneficiaries (62.5%) adopted self-employment activities through mushroom cultivation.</li> <li>➤ 11 beneficiaries (9%) received wage employment opportunities through mushroom production-related activities.</li> <li>➤ 72 beneficiaries (60%) were credit linked through individual/group mode for strengthening their livelihood enterprises.</li> <li>➤ Increased awareness regarding low-cost entrepreneurship opportunities among rural women.</li> <li>➤ Developed local mushroom producers capable of generating additional household income.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Whether Exposure visit of the participants was undertaken?<br/>Feedback from the exposure visit.</b> | <p>Yes, an exposure visit was organized for the trained beneficiaries to provide practical understanding of successful mushroom cultivation practices.</p> <p>The participants visited mushroom production units and observed advanced cultivation</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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|                                                           | <p>techniques, production management, hygiene practices, packaging methods, and marketing strategies.</p> <p>The exposure visit significantly increased the confidence of beneficiaries and motivated them to adopt mushroom cultivation as an income-generating activity. Participants expressed that practical observation helped them understand commercial production methods and encouraged them to improve their own units.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p><b>Any notable achievements/milestones reached</b></p> | <p>Major achievements and milestones of the project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Successful completion of LEDP Mushroom Cultivation training for 120 rural participants.</li> <li>➤ Creation of skilled rural women entrepreneurs through livelihood-oriented training.</li> <li>➤ More than half of the trained beneficiaries started mushroom cultivation units.</li> <li>➤ Development of self-employment opportunities with an average additional income generation of approximately ₹3,500 to ₹4,000 per month among active beneficiaries.</li> <li>➤ Strengthening of financial inclusion through credit linkage and digital banking adoption.</li> <li>➤ Promotion of sustainable livelihood options requiring low investment and limited space.</li> <li>➤ Improved confidence, entrepreneurial skills, and economic participation of rural women.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Impact Analysis</b>                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p><b>Economic Impact</b></p>                             | <p>The project generated a positive economic impact by transforming beneficiaries from unskilled individuals into trained mushroom entrepreneurs.</p> <p>Before intervention, most participants had limited livelihood opportunities and no income from mushroom-related activities. After receiving training and technical support, beneficiaries started mushroom cultivation at household and small enterprise levels.</p> <p>The average income generated by active beneficiaries increased up to approximately ₹3,500 to ₹4,000 per month, contributing</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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|                                                            | <p>towards improved household income, financial stability, and livelihood diversification.</p> <p>The project also encouraged beneficiaries to reinvest earnings for increasing production capacity and expanding their mushroom enterprises.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Social Impact</b>                                       | <p>The project created significant social impact by promoting inclusive livelihood opportunities among rural communities, particularly women beneficiaries.</p> <p>The intervention strengthened community participation, encouraged women entrepreneurship, improved confidence and decision-making ability among participants, and promoted collective learning.</p> <p>The project also supported beneficiaries from SC, ST, OBC, minority, and economically weaker sections, ensuring inclusive development and equal livelihood opportunities</p>                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Educational Impact</b>                                  | <p>The project enhanced technical knowledge, practical skills, and entrepreneurial understanding among beneficiaries.</p> <p>Participants gained knowledge on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scientific mushroom cultivation techniques</li> <li>➤ Spawn selection and management</li> <li>➤ Production process and hygiene practices</li> <li>➤ Disease control measures</li> <li>➤ Harvesting and storage methods</li> <li>➤ Packaging and marketing approaches</li> <li>➤ Enterprise management skills</li> </ul> <p>The training created positive behavioral changes by encouraging beneficiaries towards self-employment, innovation, and adoption of modern livelihood practices.</p> |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p>Attach some High-quality photographs of the Project</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |





Feedback of the participants/ beneficiaries participated in the project

1. **"MINA KUMARI SINGHA"**  
"The LEDP mushroom training provided us practical knowledge and confidence to start mushroom cultivation at our household level."
2. **ARUNA MAHANTA**-*"Before joining this programme, I had no technical knowledge about mushroom cultivation. Now I can independently manage production activities."*
3. **SABANA**-*"The training helped me to create an additional source of income for my family."*
4. **ANJALI SINHA***"Practical demonstrations and follow-up support from DNEWS NGO helped us solve cultivation-related problems."*
5. *"Mushroom cultivation is suitable for*

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|                                                                   | <p><i>rural women because it requires less investment and limited space.”</i></p> <p>6. <b>ROTIKA SINGHA</b>-“<i>The exposure visit improved our understanding of commercial mushroom production and marketing.”</i></p> <p>7. <b>MINA SIDHHA SARKAR</b>-“<i>The project motivated us to become self-dependent and start our own livelihood activities.”</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Whether the project has been visited by senior officer/s from RO? | <p>Yes ,</p> <p>20.08.2024 &amp; 03/10/2024</p> <p>Shri Amlan Dash,DGM,NABARD,WBRO</p> <p>Shri Vikash Kumar,AM-NABARD-WBRO</p> <p>➤ Amlan Dash is senior officer..tar sathe add on kore likhe din Shri Vikas Kumar AM also visited the project</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Feedback of the officers regarding the project.                   | Very Good                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Key challenges faced during the project</b>                    | <p>. The major challenges faced during implementation were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Initial hesitation among some beneficiaries regarding adoption of mushroom cultivation</li> <li>➤ Limited previous technical knowledge among rural participants.</li> <li>➤ Requirement of continuous guidance during initial production cycles.</li> <li>➤ Market availability and price fluctuation challenges.</li> <li>➤ Limited investment capacity of some beneficiaries.</li> </ul> <p>However, regular monitoring, technical support, and handholding assistance helped beneficiaries overcome these challenges.</p>           |
| <b>Any learnings/ key highlights from the project</b>             | <p>The key learnings and highlights of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Practical-based skill training creates better adoption and sustainability.</li> <li>➤ Mushroom cultivation is a suitable livelihood option for rural women due to low investment and quick return.</li> <li>➤ Continuous post-training support is essential for successful enterprise development.</li> <li>➤ Credit linkage and market support increase the sustainability of livelihood activities.</li> <li>➤ Women beneficiaries demonstrated strong entrepreneurial capacity when provided with proper technical guidance.</li> </ul> |

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| <p>Whether the project location has been geotagged (with coordinates).</p> | <p><i>Demonstration Unit in case of LEDP</i></p> <p><b>Yes</b>, the demonstration unit was established and maintained as a practical learning centre for beneficiaries.</p> <p>The demonstration unit helped participants understand scientific cultivation practices, production management, and problem-solving techniques through practical exposure.</p>                                              |
| <p><b>Any suggestions/ ideas, etc. by RO/ IA</b></p>                       | <p>Continued handholding support may be provided for sustainability of mushroom enterprises.</p> <p>Advanced refresher training may be organized for existing growers.</p> <p>Market linkage, branding, packaging, and value addition activities may be strengthened.</p> <p>Formation of beneficiary groups/producer groups may be promoted for collective marketing and better bargaining capacity.</p> |

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