

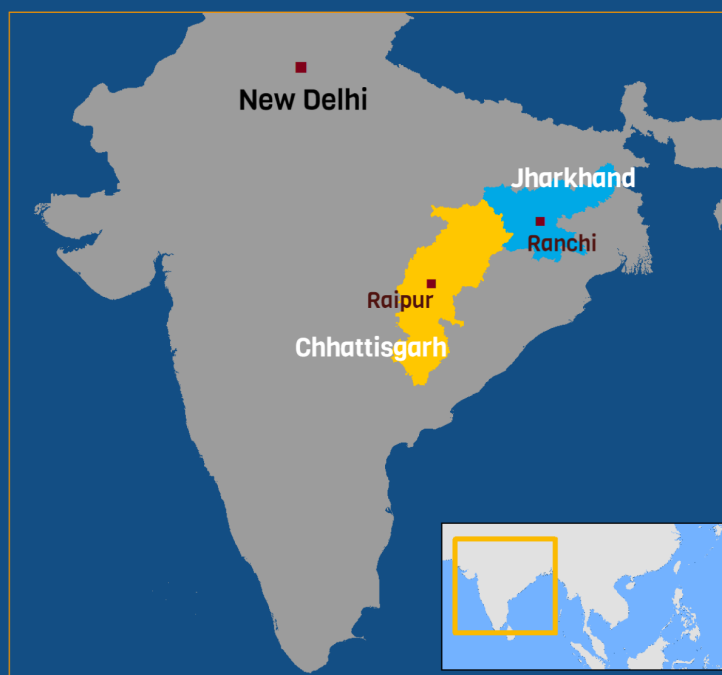


Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation

Impact evaluation of the India Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme (JCTDP)

The programme



The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IFAD concerning the delimitation of the frontiers or boundaries, or the authorities thereof (Map courtesy of IFAD)



Coverage

Covered the tribal communities, particularly vulnerable groups and scheduled castes of the two Indian states of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh

Started in 2001 and was closed in 2010 (Chhattisgarh) and 2012 (Jharkhand)

Reached **490,000** beneficiaries and **86,000** households living below the \$1.25 per day poverty line



Objectives

- (i) Empower and build capacities of tribal grass roots associations and users' groups
- (ii) Enhance livelihood through activities that generate sustainable increases in production and productivity of land and water resources
- (iii) Generate alternative sources of income outside of agriculture, particularly for the landless

The JCTDP impact evaluation

An evaluation assessing the impact of the IFAD-funded programme in the two contiguous Indian states...



...using quantitative techniques and combining them with the qualitative component of the evaluation (mixed-method approach)...

... applying a "with and without" approach, the data being collected from a sample of both the communities (more than 8,000 households) that benefitted from the programme (WITH) and the ones which were not reached by the programme (WITHOUT)



Main evaluation findings



By the end of the programme, less people within the target group were living under the poverty line (\$1.25), as compared to those the programme did not support. Beneficiaries have higher monthly incomes and paddy productivity.

Positive results in terms of community mobilization and empowerment and micro-finance development. Establishment of land and water structures, on-farm activities and organization of various types of technical and awareness trainings.



Strengths

OBJECTIVES PARTIALLY MET

The programme met some of its objectives in terms of women's empowerment, enhancements in paddy production and productivity, and grass-roots institution-building

COMMITMENT TO TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT

The JCTDP was highly relevant to the context, and IFAD and the government showed continued commitment to tribal development

GOOD INNOVATIONS

The programme design included some interesting innovations such as the creation of tribal development societies, the introduction of a process to extract carbon credit under a Clean Development Mechanism, and other initiatives

Areas for improvement

COMPLEX DESIGN IN A FRAGILE CONTEXT

The programme's complex design, covering two states under one loan, created challenges in implementation, constraining long-term impact in terms of food security and improved livelihoods. Limited results are also partly attributable to the fragility context of the two states.

SHARPER TARGETING NEEDED

More attention to diversification of development approaches, taking into account the heterogeneities of the different groups and their specific requirements, and a sharper targeting would have generated enhanced results

INSUFFICIENT SCALING UP

On the whole, IFAD could have taken a more proactive approach to identifying pathways for scaling up some of the positive features of the programme

Recommendations

1

Design for context

Projects should be continuously exposed to adjustments that take into account changing context or the introduction of new operational corporate policies. This should be done especially for projects that have not yet crossed their mid-point in implementation. In the case of JCTCDP, a fragility analysis should have been the standard practice of design.

2

Convergence with government programmes

All projects should clarify how aligned they are with the government priorities and programmes in the agricultural sector. Concerned technical ministries at the central level should also participate in the design of projects and be involved in their implementation.

3

Sustainability strategy

All projects should be designed to ensure better sustainability of benefits. An exit strategy shall always be explicitly formulated, which would clarify the roles and responsibilities of national and state governments, IFAD, communities and other partners.

4

Monitoring & evaluation

All projects should be designed on a theory of change to ensure better outcomes and facilitate M&E activities. Baseline surveys should be undertaken as soon as possible, which would include proper control and comparison groups.