



Annexure I

Ultra Poor Program: Phase II Scoping Study – Orissa



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I. Synopsis:

The present Scoping study is to initiate the Expansion Phase of the Ultra Poor Program in KBK Districts (Koraput, Balangir and Kalahandi) of Orissa State that will enable SKS to upscale its learnings of Graduation Pilot in Narayankhed. Medak District, AP.

District Overview

- i. The present study is a follow up of the earlier study¹ of Jharkhand and Orissa conducted to map and understand the feasibility of each State with regards to expansion of the Ultra Poor Program
- ii. The study found that Koraput is appropriately positioned to take up expansion compared to the ongoing Graduation Pilot in facets like targeting, livelihood support interventions and graduation process.
- iii. Both primary data (from the field) and secondary data are analyzed to objectively to locate the potential Ultra Poor Branch covering 1200 households in Koraput DT.
- iv. Wide range of GO-NGO interaction sessions were held along with SKS MFI Area Manager for effectively targeting the Branch location vis-à-vis the parameters to select Branch area.

Density of Poverty

- v. Koraput district is one of the most backward and poverty stricken districts in India and is part of KBK (Koraput; Balangir; Kalahandi) districts tagged as Ultra Poor districts.
- vi. Koraput has 52% tribal habitation in all the blocks and 84% of all households are living BPL and tribal BPL is as high as 93%. The district has 11 blocks, out of which 4² are double cropped with assured irrigation, 2 are highly industrialized blocks³ leaving 5 blocks to choose from.
- vii. Further short listing within the rest of 5 blocks⁴ based on poverty and techno economic parameters⁵ led to zeroing down to Boipariguda, Dasmantpur and Lamtaput blocks,.
- viii. The other two blocks⁶ of first selection study could not stand the 2nd round of targeting due to heavy insurgency of radicals, making it physically difficult to run the program continuously.
- ix. The three blocks listed above have sizeable tribal population and meet the parameters for Ultra Poor Program

Enabling Environment

- x. The Government line functionaries like DRDA and Block Development Officers are very supportive and encourage such NGO initiatives
- xi. The ultra poverty indicators are striking, widely spread and deep rooted so as to require institutional mechanism to understand and address these concerns.

¹ Report of First visit attached. In brief, it makes recommendation for SKS to move to Orissa and specifically Koraput district.

² Koraput, Kundra, Borigumma and Kotpad Blocks

³ Laxmipur and Simliguda Blocks

⁴ Baipariguda, Dashmantpur, Bandugaon, Naryanpur, Lamtaput

⁵ Geography, Demography, Livelihoods, Civil Society Initiatives, Literacy, Health, Logistics, Law & Order, BPL Density

⁶ Naraynpatna and Bandugaon



- xii. Besides health, social development, financial education and livelihoods, there is need to include literacy component as female literacy is as low as 3% in some blocks.
- xiii. Tribal ultra poverty is critical intervention area while the other ultra poor segments especially Scheduled Castes need to be taken into confidence for even spread of interventions across all sections of ultra poor in the villages.
- xiv. While Government is supportive, no direct financial assistance can be expected for NGO activities and Government works with the premise that if NGOs mobilize grants, the government would extend all moral support to run the program.

Livelihoods

- xv. Land based livelihoods are promising along with NTFP and nontraditional livelihoods like mushroom cultivation and horticulture can be good options.
GOI: Tribal Land Transfer Act, 2003 can stand in good stead as each tribal household who have settled for 25 years in the same habitation would get 10 acres of forest land in their name.
Human Resources and Field Level personnel are found to be available in Koraput district for Field Assistant and other cadres at grass roots level.

Areas of Concern

- xvi. Radical problem is persistent but there is reporting of only stray incidents in the areas the NGOs are operating.
- xvii. Logistics, Human Resources and Livelihoods are three critical challenges for successful implementation of the Ultra Poor Program. Targeting process should involve inclusion of whole village due to high poverty density and lack of non poor in the tribal habitations. Tribal village connectivity is a critical challenge in operations side.
- xviii. Migration is widely prevalent requiring customization of our service products to stem stress migration by tribal households during summer.





II. Context

The Present Scoping study is located in the context of moving from **Research Phase** to **Implementation phase** taking learnings of the Graduation Pilot in Narayankhed and replicating the model in Koraput District of Orissa State. This move is part of 5 year **Strategic Business Plan** to upscale the Ultra Poor Program in Jharkhand, Orissa, and Karnataka besides AP.

Specific Objectives of the Study:

1. To get first hand information about Koraput District with regard to Ultra Poverty indicators, leveraging information and local opinion from Government and civil society organizations
2. To map the potential area for Ultra Poor Branch operations in terms of geographical location vis-à-vis the ultra poor indicators covering 1000 to 1200 ultra poor households with specific focus on ultra poor tribal households.
3. To learn about the initiatives of Government and NGO sector with regards to livelihoods support and socio economic development of the Ultra Poor in the district.
4. To interface with the community directly to measure the intensity of ultra poverty and leverage opinion from the community with regards to critical ultra poverty factors.
5. To prepare Strategic Business Plan with specific road map and time lines for operationalizing the Koraput Ultra Poor Program Branch



Demographies

Key Information and Statistics of Koraput Dt.,



No., of Households	2, 84, 876
Population	11, 80, 637
Male	5, 90, 743
Female	5, 89, 894
Rural	9, 82, 188
Urban	1, 98, 449
SC Population	1, 53, 932 (13%)
ST Population	5, 85, 830 (50%)
Population (0-6)	2, 00, 689 (13%)
Literacy	24%
Female Literacy	10%
Functional Illiteracy rate	96%
Working Population	2, 38, 421 (40%)
Main workers	90, 144 (15%)
Marginal workers	1, 48, 277 (25%)
Non workers	3, 51, 473 (60%)
Cultivators	58, 282 (24%)
Agriculture Laborers	1, 35, 169 (57%)
Workers in household industries	5, 318 (2.2%)
Non agriculture labor	39, 832 (16.7%)
Average Household size	4.0
Urban population %	16.8
Sex ratio (female per 1000 males)	999
Sex ratio (0-6 years)	983
Sex ration SC	1006
Sex ratio ST	1018



Predominant economic activities prevalent in the district: Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy of the people of the district. Traditionally people take up agriculture along with animal husbandry, collection of minor forest produces, petty business and transport operations. Of late, farmers have switched to vegetables, spices, sugarcane and maize cultivation.

Major food/Commercial and Plantation / Horticulture crops: Coffee and cashew are emerging as major commercial plantation crops. Along with coffee plantation, other activities like sericulture, oil palm, mango, guava, citrus, banana, commercial vegetables, spices like ginger / turmeric etc. are also being taken up on moderate scale. In addition to these, there is good potential for medicinal and aromatic crops, spawn production unit, cattle breeding farms, organic /exotic vegetable production and coffee processing in the district.

Additional feature of the district relevant to credit estimation:

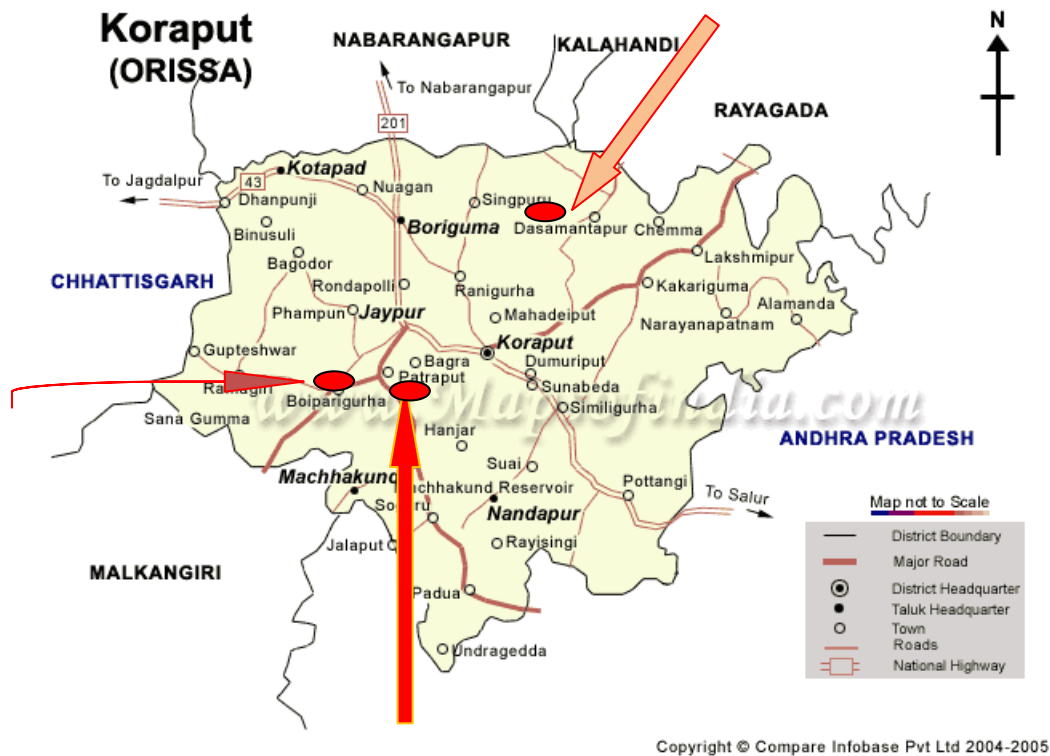
a. **Tribal Sub Plan Areas** - The whole district belongs Tribal Sub Plan area with ST & SC population at 50.67% and 13.41% of total population as per 2001 census.

b. **Assistance under BRGF and Biju KBK** - Funds have been allotted under these two schemes for infrastructure development in the district from 2007-08.

c. **National Watershed Development Project in Rain fed Areas (NWDPPRA)** - The project is in operation from 1990-91 in each block covering 10 watersheds envisaging treatment of 25004 ha. The thrust of the programme is an awareness building, training, soil conservation measures, treatment of drainage line, production system and livestock-management. The programme implementation has been effective and increased the recharge level in the project area. The project has changed the face of rural Koraput in the operational area through provision of water conservation, curbing soil erosion, rise in water tables etc.

Other factors affecting the district rural economy: Soil erosion continues to be a threatening feature in the monsoon throughout the district. Depletion of forest resources has made this problem graver. Majority of the farmers practices shifting cultivation. Shifting Cultivation - commonly known as 'Podu' has further added to the soil erosion problem and has led to decline in productivity of land. With depleted forest cover and soil erosion at a dangerous pace, water recharging takes place at a low rate and therefore, ground water table is badly affected. Standard of tribal life of the district is traditionally linked to forest economy. Depletion of forest cover has caused reduction in the volume of minor forest produce and thus the income of the people living in the forest areas has taken a declining trend over the years.

Area Map



Proposed Blocks as per Ultra Poverty Ranking and Selection

III. Local Government and Non - Government Organizations

Government Organizations				
Name of Department	Personnel & Designation	Strengths & Critical Inputs		
DRDA, , Koraput	Rajanikant Sahoo, Ast., Project Director, Gram Panchayats Suresh Chandra Padi, Ast., Project Director, Training Mr. Pahad Babu, APD training 9437207260	Blocks recommended for UPP	Strengths	Critical inputs
		Lamtaput and Dasmantpur along with parts of Koraput Block & Baipariguda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribals in high density • No serious radical operations • Supportive local Government Functionaries • Existing SHG activities • High Poverty density • High incidence of stress migration • Scope for diversified livelihood activities • Supportive government policies and actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitations are reasonably connected • Scheduled castes also exist in good no., along with tribals • Government is committed to support UPP initiatives morally and may not be financially • Banks are weakest linkage with only Utkal Gramin Bank operating in two blocks • Not much political interference • OTLP (Orissa Tribal Livelihoods Project) is partly covering Koraput and Dashmantpur and not in Lamtaput • Nandpur, the adjoining block neighboring Vizag dt of AP is radical prone
BDO, Lamtaput	B.P. Mandal, Block Development Officer	Lamtaput	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banmariput, Kumrinandam, Tikarapad, kamran Bandhan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mali communities are well advanced and do not constitute ultra



			<p>are recommended villages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mali community , forward caste farmers are more hard working • Tribals are mostly migratory and not stable • It is difficult to work with land less tribals for their unstable stay in villages • Villages are well connected except some sub habitations • Good mix of tribal and Scheduled caste population • Potential vegetable growing villages in this Block • Promised support to UPP in whatever scheme from Government • NREGA is being implemented actively 	<p>poor though they respond well to livelihood interventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cashew plantations provide major summer livelihoods • Pipal, a medicinal plant is grown in this block which is of high value • Pine apple plantations are also there • Out of 15000 HH 12000 HHs are BPL • 15 gram Panchayats are there of which 7 are critically poor and predominantly tribal • Scheduled caste population and tribal live harmoniously • Not an OTRLP Block • No petrol Bunk for 50 kms.
BDO, Dashmantpur	Achutanand Kuahar, Block Development Officer Dashmantpur	Dashmantpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Block is highly skewed with farthest gram Panchayats at 150 km • High poverty incidence with predominantly tribal habitations • Morum soils (eroded laterites) with little support for fertile 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village connectivity is very difficult especially during monsoon season when streams overflow bridges • Block of high distant villages • Far from Koraput district HQ • Difficult to retain team



			agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High incidence of stress migration in summer • Cashew, eucalyptus, local paddy and vegetable growing are major livelihoods • Literacy is 6.6% • Lulla, Laikaphulbeda, Gadiguda are potential GPs recommended for UPP 	in such difficult terrain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BDO is cooperative and promised all help • It is OTRLP Block • Real Poverty Block with logistics bottlenecks(no petrol bunk for 50 kms) • No radical issues
Non Government Organizations				
CYSD; District Office, Koraput; Field Office: Boipariguda	Prapul Maharana, District Coordinator	Boipariguda Lamtaput Nandpur Dashmantpur Narayanpatna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYSD is working with 52 NGO net work on community development • Interested to support UPP in all possible ways in Boipariguda • OTLP is operational in Boipariguda and helpful for such initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYSD being large NGO with good rapport with government can help UPP better way • Radical problem is not hampering the NGO work in Boipariguda • They are more into education and environment issues • Good support envisaged
Koraput Farmers' Association, Koraput	Sarat kumar Patnaik, CEO Satyanarayan Chowdhury, Executive	Dashmantpur Lamtaput Koraput	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have field office in Lamtaput working in 11 out of 15 GPs • Partners of Orissa Forest Sector Dev Project • Young professionals with good rapport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend not to work with Mali villages which are not ultra poor • No radical issues • They can be of good help if we decide upon Lamtaput block

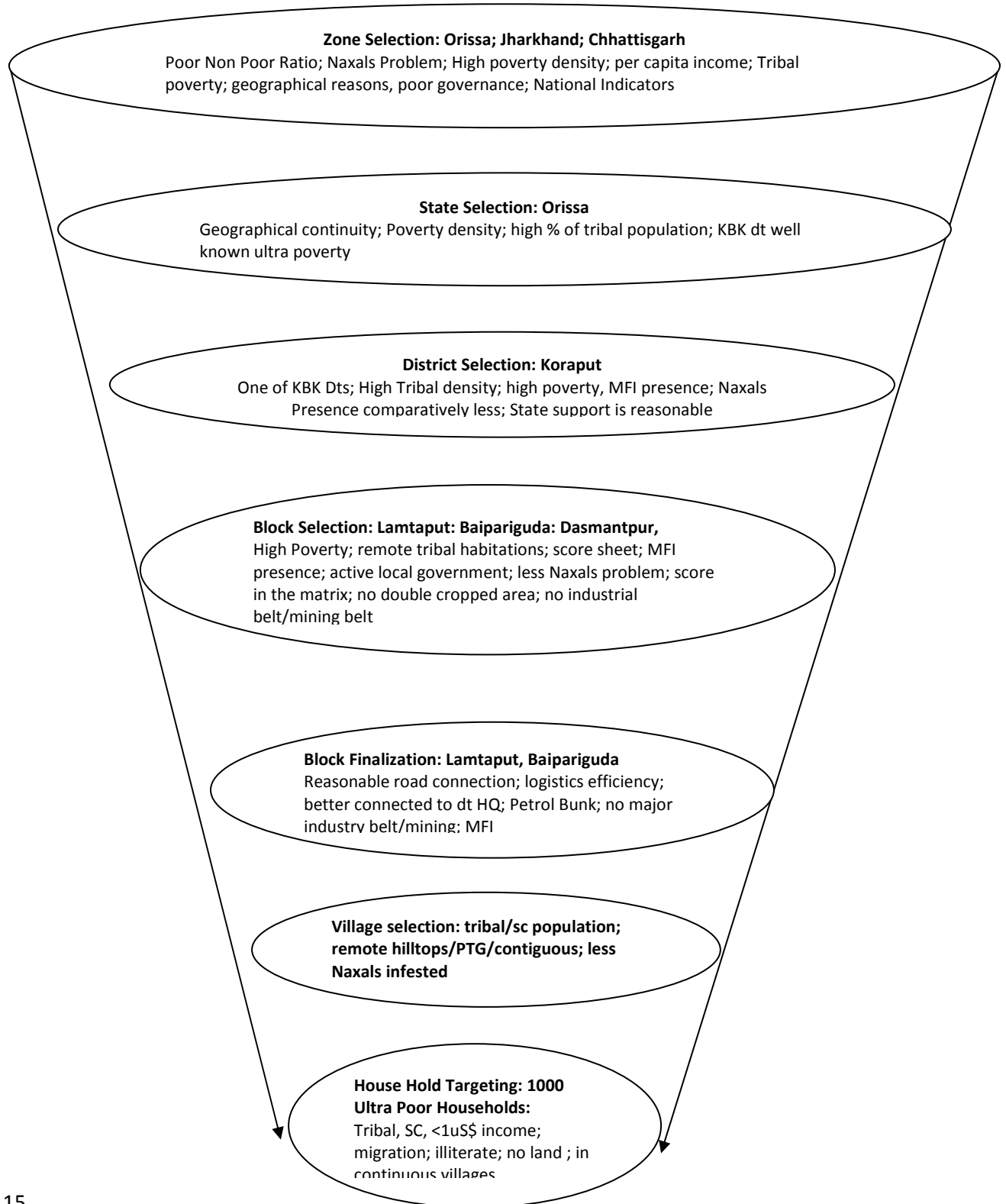
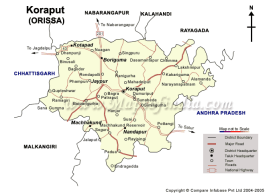
			with tribals	
Integrated Development Society, Dashmantpur	Upendra Pani Satyanarayan Rana Extension Officers	Dashmantpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend Lulla, Pindapadar, Dashmant Pur, Murkari and Preajabeda Padan GPs • Have good rapport with local villagers • Have field office at Dashmantpur • Also running grain banks and campaigns against podu cultivation • Diarrhea is a recurring calamity in this area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have good local support and are managing problems like far away petrol bunks • CEO is living in Bhubaneswar • Facilitated our tribal habitation visit • Strongly recommend to work in Dashmantpur block
SOVA(South Orissa Voluntary Action), Koraput	Balaji, Coordinator & Team	Koraput Simliguda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in areas of Livelihoods, health and sanitation, basic education and governance and Humanitarian Assistance • Partners of Christian Children Fund and is one of the biggest NGO's in the Orissa • Their work concentration is in Koraput, Simliguda, Borigumma, Pattangi and Jeypore blocks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend UPP to work in Koraput and Kundra blocks and parts of Simliguda • Have good expertise in mushroom sector of livelihoods • Long standing partners of CCF with livelihoods approaches • SOVA is one NGO with scientific approach to development like employing bare foot workers for 10 to 15 families each • Promised all support

				to UPP
Pragati, Koraput	Prabhakar Adhikari, CEO	Koraput Simliguda Nandpur Dashmantpur Lamtaput	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working in the areas of environment, community development and recipients of national awards Strongly recommend working with other NGOs as net work Strongly work with DRDA and consortium of NGOs on SRI Paddy cultivation and other livelihoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report that they have presence in majority of the blocks but very token presence is appearing Not very deep rooted work except in environment Simliguda and Koraput blocks are their forte which are not in our interest due to our indicators on ultra poverty Good NGO for information
SPREAD, Koraput	Bidyut Mohanty, CEO	Lamtaput Nandpur Pattangi Simliguda Narayanpatna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend not to work in double cropped blocks like Kundra Kappad, Borigumma Koraput Work with land less tribals In Reserve forests in forest villages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NGO with worn out funds and donor driven It is having good approach to rights issues as we could make out from CEO Good NGO for information They work strongly with Government
Lepra Society, Koraput	Sumitra Dhal, District Coordinator	Dashmantpur Lamtaput Narayanpatna Bandugaon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on Leprosy, TB, Malaria and HIV Have good presence in the district and have spread to all the corners of the district Can be a good 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promised all support in health related activities Can train our HFAs in locally contextualized tribal specific health issues

			health RSO in our work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have recommended to go to remote blocks as non remote blocks are fairly well covered by NGO and Government health systems
Harsha Trust, Koraput	Bismoyi Mohapatra, CEO Tripathy, Local Coordinator	Koraput Jeypore Nandpur Lamtaput Malkangiri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners of SRTT RSO for BILT CSR Have good livelihoods work in farm forestry, plantation, lift irrigation, medicinal plants Have formed Pipe Management Committees to protect irrigation Kundra Block watershed program with NABARD with 1000 ha 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend us to work in Lamtaput, Nandpur, Jeypore and Malkangiri blocks Can be good supporters in understanding tribal livelihoods Seem to be working in non challenging and non remote areas Are also partners for MSRF
NABARD,	AK Parhi, DDM, Nabard, Koraput (Teleconferencing)	Boipariguda, Lamtaput, Dashmantpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has total district outreach Liaison with government and NGO along with Banks Prefers these blocks for their poverty and backwardness Our approach to selection of Block is well appreciated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not prefer Dashmantpur as it is far away from Dt HQ Otherwise interested in Lamtaput and Boipariguda blocks Promised all out help in our work

IV. Matrix of State, District and Branch Selection

Cascading Geography-Mapping the Boundaries of the Ultra Poor Branch:



Matrix of Block Selection

Indicator/Block Score in (.....)	Bori gum ma	Das mant hpur	Lax mip ur	Ban dug aon	Nara yanp atna	Patt angi	Na ndp ur	La mta put	Boip arig uda	Jeyp ore	Kotp ad	Siml igud a	Kora put
1.Geographical													
A. Topography (plain 1/Hilly2)	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1
B. Type of land(fertile1/averg2)	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1
C. Irrigation (yes0/no 2)	0	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	0	0	2	0
2.Demographies													
a.ST Population in %(.50 2;<50-1)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1
b.SC Population in %(>10-1;<10-0)	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3.Stress Migration													
a. Seasonal <3months (1)>3months 2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
4.Livelihoods Opportunities/Employment Generation													
a. Primary sector/asset based/seasonal wage labor (1) b. Secondary sector/animal (2)based; c. Tertiary sector/services(2); d. NTFP based (3) e. Cities and towns/mining/industrialization based (0)	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	3
5.Presence of NGO/GO Projects(yes-1;No-0)	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Contd...

Indicator/Block Score in (.....)	Bori gum ma	Das mant hpur	Lax mip ur	Ban dug aon	Nara yanp atna	Patt angi	Na ndp ur	La mta put	Boip arig uda	Jeyp ore	Kotp ad	Siml igud a	Kora put
6.Health services availability (y-0;No-1)	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0
7..Lliteracy													
i.Male >25%1;<25%2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1
ii.Female>10%1;<10%2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1
8.Gen HH status BPL/ Minimum needs food/shelter/clothing(avg-1;below average:2)	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
9. Logistics efficiency													
a. Average village to village distance(>10km0;<10km1)	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
B.Road connectivity (yes1; no: 0)	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
c.Petrol Bunk(yes:1;no0)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		1	1
d.Distance to Bank(.10km1;<10km2)	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
10.Law& Order/Radical problems Serious 0;normal;1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Total Score (max 25)	14	23	23	21	22	20	22	23	23	17	19	22	17

Indicator	Score /Marks	Logic
<i>1.Geographical</i>		
<i>D. Topography</i>	plain 1/Hilly 2;	Hilly areas are more prone to poverty
<i>E. Type of land</i>	Fertile 1; Average:2	Fertile soils reduce poverty
<i>F. Irrigation</i>	Yes: 0; No 2	Assured irrigation creates livelihoods
<i>2.Demographies</i>	a.ST Population in %(.50 2;<50-1)	Tribals are normally ultra poor/dt is predominantly tribal >54% population
	b.SC Population in %(>10-1;<10-0)	SC Population ; Normally poor and constitute 10% population
<i>3.Stress Migration</i>	a. Seasonal <3months (1)>3months 2	Seasonal migration in summer when water for Agril is not available; long migration indicates landlessness
<i>4.Livelihoods Opportunities/Employment Generation</i>	a. Primary sector/asset based/seasonal wage labor (1) b. Secondary sector/animal (2)based; c. Tertiary sector/services(2); d. NTFP based (2) e. Cities and towns/mining/industrialization based (0)	a. Primary sector/asset based and seasonal wage labor are definite sources of income hence low poverty b. animal husbandry based livelihoods are like sheep and goats indicate high degree poverty compared to land ownership c. Tertiary sector services indicate landless nests and dependent on improbable wages hence higher degree of poverty d.NTFP is purely forest dependent livelihoods driven by tribals and poverty is striking in the people dependent on this sector e. cities and town based livelihoods are migratory resulting in higher living standards and lowest in poverty score
<i>5.Presence of NGO/GO Projects</i>	(yes-1;No-0)	NGO presence gives synergetic poverty practices compared non NGO areas
<i>6.Health services availability</i>	(yes-0;No-1)	Lack of basic health services result in ultra poverty
<i>7..Llitracy</i>	i.Male >25%1;<25%2; ii.Female>10%1;<10%2)	Illiteracy is correlated to ultra poverty; Female Illiteracy is higher but relates to poverty
<i>8.Gen HH status BPL/ Minimum needs food/shelter/clothing</i>	avg-1;below average:2	General Poverty indicators with negative correlation

9. Logistics efficiency	a. Average village to village distance(>10km0;<10km1)	Scattered villages make the program in efficient and cluster with <10 km is cost effective case load wise
b.Road connectivity	yes1; no: 0	Hill top and non road able habitations make outreach very high cost
c.Petrol Bunk	Yes: 1; no: 0	Petrol Bunk indicates manageable logistics
d.Distance to Bank	>10km1;<10km2	Bank services indicate better scope for Poverty Reduction
10.Law& Order/Radical problems	Serious 0; normal 1	Serious radical problem areas are found to be very inefficient areas for poverty work
Total Score (max 25)		

Rank Ordering the Block as per Selection Criterion

Score	Rank Order	Blocks
23/25	I	Laxmipur, Lamtaput Dashmantpur, Baipariguda
22/25	II	Naraynpatna, Nandpur, Simliguda
21/25	III	Bandugaon,
20/25	IV	Pattangi
19/25	V	Kotpad
17/25	VI	Koraput; Jeypore
14/25	VII	Borigumma,

Purposive selection of Blocks

1. Logistics Efficiency
2. Distance from District HQ
3. NGO Presence with community development
4. Coverage of two blocks instead of one



VII. Key Findings & Strategic Choices

Branch Location:

Based on the objective selection criterion adapted, the following strategic choices are recommended

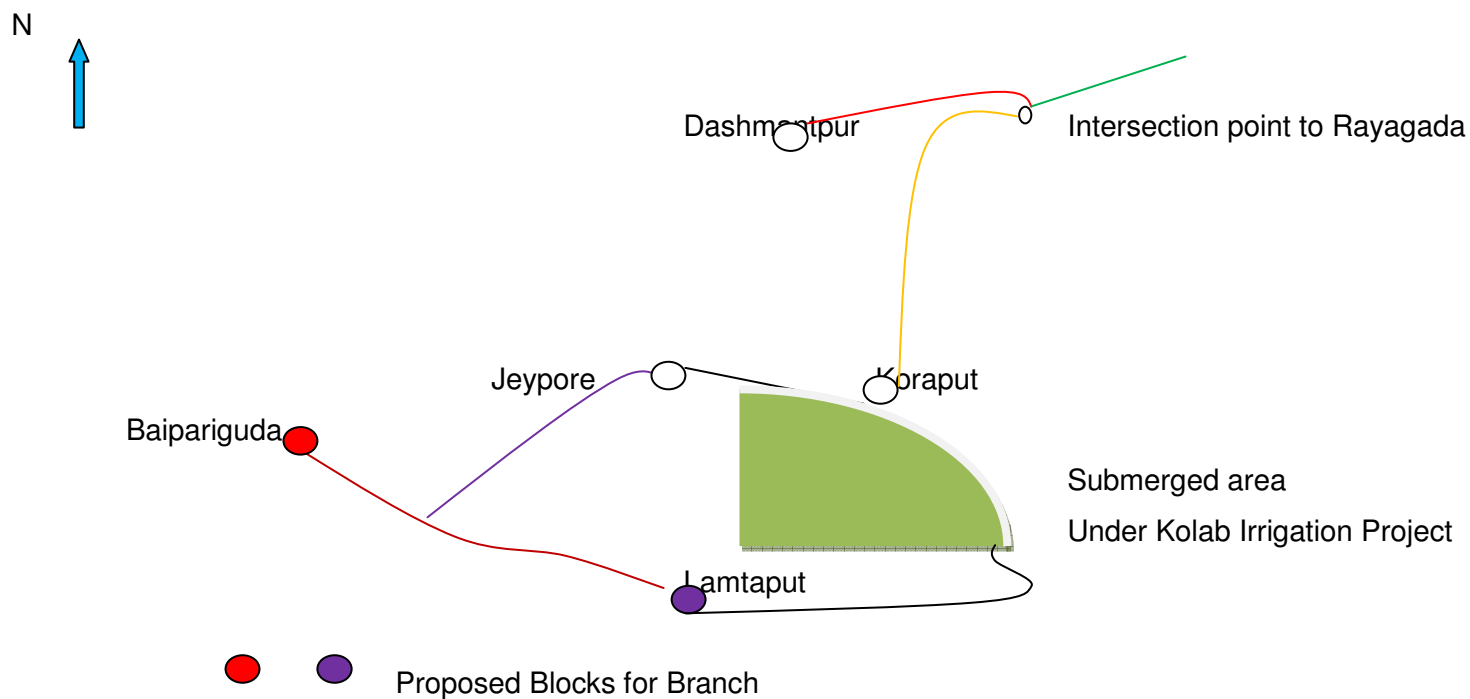
Option I:

Lamtaput and Baipariguda Blocks combined with Jeypore as Branch HQ (score 23 out of 25)

Exclusion: Laxmipur is excluded as it is fairly industrialized block though it scores 23 marks out of 25

Logic:

Purposive selection of Lamtaput and Baipariguda being adjoining Blocks separated by stretch of 20 km forest. Jeypore makes a triangle with Lamtaput and Baipariguda blocks.



Cluster Centers:

For operational ease we shall have cluster centers each in Boipariguda and Lamtaput from where the FAs and HFAs operate.

Option II

Lamtaput Block with Lamtaput as HQ

Logic:

Full concentration of one block; operational ease and proximity of villages to Branch HQ

Limitations:

Lamtaput has no facilities like petrol bunk or courier. District HQ will be far away from Branch HQ for coordination at district level

Option III

Dashmantpur Block with Dashmantpur as HQ

Logic:

Remote and deserves UPP due to high degree of Ultra Poverty prevalence combined with backwardness

Limitations:

No petrol bunk within 50 km making our operations very difficult

Inter village connectivity is very difficult and some FAs may have to travel more than 40 km every working day

Far away from District HQ

Difficult to find good field level workers and attrition rate may be very high

Purposive Selection of Branch Operational Area:

By and large the entire Koraput DT including Koraput district head quarter's town and Jeypore have ultra poverty indicators to suggest setting up Branch. But within 11 blocks the chosen Branch area blocks of Lamtaput with Baipariguda have the following advantages within the 3 short listed blocks

1. Logistics efficiency: Lamtaput is having outreach to its habitations with fair connectivity, making it operationally efficient to have Branch
2. Poverty indicators are strikingly ultra poverty indicative and hence there is no compromise in ultra poor focus by working in this block compared to any other block
3. Baipariguda has CYSD presence and good quantity of civil society interface work has gone in making it a purposive inclusion with 3 to 4 Gram Panchayats.
4. Also Baipariguda and Lamtaput combined two blocks give opportunity to work with two Block Development Offices for wider and diversified convergence opportunities

Hence the study recommends inclusion of

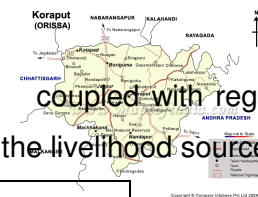
Lamtaput and Baipariguda blocks for Ultra Poor Branch area finalization. Further selection of villages shall be followed up with objective Gram Panchayats selection criterion.



VIII. Insights into

a. Livelihoods:

Koraput DT is predominantly tribal with >54% tribal population. But degradation of forests beyond ecological revival coupled with regular recurrence of drought followed by cyclones has pushed the district as one of the poorest in the world. The following are the livelihood sources.



Agriculture			
Crop	Scope	Livelihoods intervention	Remarks
Paddy	Rain fed and irrigated	SRI Paddy cultivation	Good scope
Vegetable cultivation	Limited to irrigation tracts	Mini kits	Good scope
Timber crops	Eucalyptus and casuarinas'	Nurseries and plantations	Longer gestation
Cashew and Horticulture	Natural preference	Nursery, plantation, intercrops	Longer gestation
Minor millets and maize	Hill tops, slopes and rain fed	Block cultivation; crop insurance	Rain dependent
Forest	NTFP	Value addition, marketing and value chain creation	State support needed
Animal Husbandry	Goats, sheep and milch cattle; poultry	Goat banks, sheep farms, dairy	Tribals are migratory and need stronger interventions
Non Farm sector	Mushrooms, handicrafts, small trade	Skill development	Intensive interventions required
Tribal Land Transfer	Good scope actively being implemented	Can develop Livelihood Action Plans around it Bio village concepts	Can work well in the given Koraput situation
Non conventional energy	Good scope as most of the tribal habitations are not electrified	Solar lighting, Appropriate technologies	High potentiality for such interventions
Vocational skills	Adolescent vocations skills are having good scope	Tyloring, bamboo weaving, crafts	Long term interventions required



b. Social Development:

SHG mobilization: At its nascent stage and high potential for development.

Bank Linkages: are at the lowest ebb and need a complete fresh look.

Government Linkages: subsidized rice scheme is fairly well implemented. Old age pensions and other linkages are yet to take a deep root

Alcoholism: Tribal culture is strongly into alcoholism and it is the most challenging bottle neck

Gender Issues and Women empowerment: Tribal women drive the household and need full development interventions

Child care and Family Development: Needs non traditional approaches

c. Financial Education:

Tribal micro finance is unique and mostly non monetized barter systems prevail. Tribal lives are centered on shanties and tribal haats. There is high potential for financial education interventions.

d. Literacy:

Literacy forms the hard core intervention as tribal illiteracy is as high as 80% and female illiteracy is as high as 94%. Without literacy interventions meaningful Ultra Poverty interventions are not conceivable

e. Health/Hygiene and Medical Care:

Health infrastructure is very poor and tribals mostly depend on local herbal medical practitioners or quarks. Very strong health interventions with local para medical community workers cadre need to be built up.

Doraput village – Story of De- Tribalization

Doraput is a hill top village of 11 households in Male Gram Panchayats of Lamtaput Block. The village tribals informed that theirs was a big habitation, generations back but due to de-Tribalization for work, as forests have denuded and lands have eroded, have shrunk the habitation to present size. UN electrified with one hand pump to meet all the water requirements, 4 km trekking is required to reach road point.

The Dora, Komar and Gowd tribals migrate to faraway places for work and have not heard of any government schemes like NREGS. They dry mango pulp and mango kernel for consumption during rainy days.

Cashew pickings in summer give reasonable income for two months. It is hard to believe that their children can go to school for next generation also.

If there is no intensive approach to livelihoods and development, this habitation will join one of the 54 habitations in Koraput which are officially labeled as **Un- i habituated Tribal Hamlets**

Within one generation!



IX. Resource Linkages & Markets:

Being a resource poor state and district Koraput throes formidable challenges in terms of resource linkages from State.

OTRLP:

Orissa Tribal Livelihoods Project is being operated in 7 blocks out of 11 in Koraput funded by World Bank, DFID, IFAD and Japan Bank of International Development.

Two⁷ of the three blocks preferred for UPP fall under this Program

OFSDP:

Orissa Forest Sector Development Program is actively implemented in Koraput with assistance of World Bank. Watershed development, plantation programs and nurseries are the activities.

NREGS:

Orissa is high potential NREGS Implementation State. The linkages with this program need to be strengthened

Public Distribution Schemes:

Orissa state in general and Koraput in particular are pro actively reaching out 25 kg of rice per month at Rs.2 per kg to nook and corner of the District. Similarly old age and destitute pensions are also effectively reaching the deserving cases.

Bank Linkages:

With 36 Bank Branches catering to 1.1 million populations who are predominantly tribal living in hill tops and remote villages, Koraput is one of the poorest Banked districts in India. The Branch net work is also highly skewed mostly catering to urban and industrial areas. The proposed blocks that targeted for UPP have one Utkal Gramin Bank branch in each block catering to more than one lakh population and widely distanced habitations. (In Dasmantpur block farthest gram Panchayats is 140 KMs away from Block HQ)

Ballapur Industries Limited:

The American sponsored paper manufacturing hub is providing lot of livelihoods through promotion of agro forestry plantations, nurseries. They are having very good CSR component and potential convergence with UPP is possible.

Rural Development Institute:

American based NGO works on Land as an asset to the Poor and their Micro Land approach in tribal areas need to be studied and potentiality exists for convergence.

MSRF: Dr. M S Swaminathan Research foundation is actively working in the District on thematic area of Ecology and Eco Fragile zones. Potential convergence is possible with them in livelihoods spheres for tribals.

⁷ Dasmantpur and Baipariguda Blocks

Research Stations:

Simliguda has Krishi Vignana Kendra sponsored by Indian Council of Agriculture Research is known for training in agriculture and horticulture. Similarly Indian Coffee Board in Koraput is good resource center.

Major Irrigation Projects:

Match kand, Kolab and Indrāvati Projects are major power and irrigation sources

Markets for UPP:

Being one of the poorest and backward districts of India, Koraput is a formidable market for Ultra Poor practices with high potentiality for upscale. In fact the logic of zeroing down to certain blocks is not with the premise that the other blocks are well to do but to tailor our program to reach the neediest amongst the poorest.

While Government is supportive, is not resource provider and leveraging resources in terms human; physical and financial are key challenges in this District.



Domini Mitili village in Dashmantpur Block:

Stress Migration is way of life

Total tribal population of Gadaba community, Domini Mitily is one of the poorest villages in India. Habitation of 60 Households, tribals migrate to far away cities like Kurda and Chennai for work.

To supplement and extend rice consumption days, each house hold eats mango kernel powder as staple in one square meal and subsidy rice in the 2nd square meal every day. This way they extend rice consumption days from one week to two weeks.

Un electrified, totally unhygienic habitation with no drains and safe drinking water facility.

Children hardly go to schools and accompany parents to long journeys of migration.

Agriculture is lone livelihoods provider with soils deeply eroded and denuded, giving reduced harvest year after year.

All inhabitants were seriously mal nourished and seem to do not know what they want or how they progress from ultra poverty.

Targeting the ultra poor can best way be done by targeting the non ultra poor and include rest of the village under UPP, provided we find non ultra poor at all!

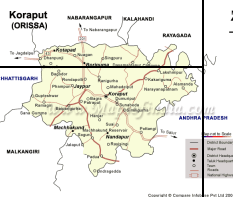
The village is hardly 2 km from Dashmantpur, the Block HQ and at this reach, remote tribal habitations located 130 km from Block HQ must be totally forgotten by all service providers.

Jogaro Mudili, tribal women heading the family says migration can be only solution as her 3 acre deeply eroded land hardly gives any grain.

SWOT Analysis: Koraput Dt., Ultra Poor Program Initiatives

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
High density poverty making the interventions meaningful with global potentiality for learnings and out reach	Structurally and historically neglected district with deep rooted poverty	Forest based and agri based livelihoods	Floods and droughts are recurring
High Tribal density gives good focus on tribal poverty issues	Illiteracy is very high	Tribal communities are soft community to work with	Tribal alcoholism makes development interventions difficult
Good presence of civil society organizations and their experiences	Radical infested district	Responsive tribal women based development interventions	Naxals on and off give Band calls and declare no man zones hampering our Center meetings
Supportive State line departments	Over exploited forests and highly eroded soils	Horticulture and agro forestry have high potential opportunities	Police combing ⁸ is common risk
Natural and forest resources and scope for good livelihood support interventions	Village connectivity is very poor	New land ownership acquired with TLT Act gives good scope for land based livelihoods	Government policies like ban of Naxals make work risky
Fairly connected road up to Block Center	Poor infrastructure in terms of medical, education and Banking	Emerging urban markets in Koraput and Jeypore; demand for fruits and vegetables in industrial towns	Prices for NTFP are highly volatile with risky business propositions
On going good programs like subsidized rice schemes	Poor communications in terms of tele and e communications	PESA Act	HIV is spreading with migration workers
Being neighboring district for AP geo graphical continuity is possible	High degree of stress migration to far away cities	Organic farming with tribals being by default organic and marketing organic products	De-tribalization is a serious threat

⁸ Police combing is checking the particular patch of area for the presence of anti-incumbent and they search houses, offices and other business establishments in the area. There is risk involved in police misbehavior or cross fire

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Macro livelihoods projects like OTRLP, OFSDP	Natural hazards like malaria, Diarea and Goiter	Herbal and Medicinal plants have high scope	
Fair political leadership at state level making bureaucracy accountable		LEPRA is good health resource organization with potential convergence	
SKS MFI has reasonable presence		NABARD and SIDBI can converge effectively with UPP	
Supportive central government Acts like Tribal Land Transfer Act 2003			
Wide and diversified livelihood activities including NTFP; agro forestry and non farm sector			
District is well connected to other parts of the country by road and rail			
High rainfall and good agro climate			
Natural Resources rich district ⁹			
Potential irrigation hydro schemes			

⁹ Natural resources include bio diversity with rich flora and fauna, fertile forest lands, minerals and favorable agro climate