

बिहार BIHAR

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क्रमांक 3135 तिथि 18.10.2016 मूल्य 1000/- सीट सं. 1/1000
क्रेता का नाम व पता 296
आवासीय क्षेत्र, पटना
ओम विजय कुमार, मुद्राक विक्रेता
ल० सं०-25/87, समाहरणालय, पटना

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into between

The "Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society" (BRLPS/JEEViKA), VidyutBhawan, Annexe-II 1st Floor (Southern Wing), Bailey Road Patna, hereinafter called the First Party, which term and expression shall mean and include, unless repugnant to the context, its successors, assignees, administrators of the First Party

and

Aga Khan Foundation (India) hereinafter called the Second Party, which term and expression shall mean and include, unless repugnant to the context, its successors, assignees, administrators of the Second Party.

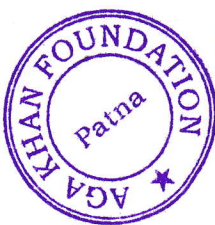


RECITALS

The Aga Khan Foundation (India) and its sister organization the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) have a long history of implementing community-based natural resource management and livelihood programs in some of India's poorest geographies. AKF has been active in India since 1978 and AKRSP since 1985. Interventions are currently underway in over 2500 villages in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Livestock investment is a priority activity, with ongoing projects on small ruminant productivity improvement in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Both AKF and AKRSP have a strong understanding of the rural livelihoods sector, including working with SHGs, and credible partnerships with state and national governments.

The Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) and the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) have been working in Bihar since 2008. In addition to activities related to strengthening smallholder agriculture (landless vegetable gardens, promotion of kitchen gardens for nutrition security, group irrigation), AKRSP is currently implementing a large-scale drinking water and sanitation intervention, converging with the government's priority Ganga Action Plan (*NamamiGange*) and Clean India Mission (*Swachh Bharat Mission*). Innovative community owned drinking water supply systems have been established with decentralized stand-posts to cater to clusters of households, considerably minimizing women's work in collection of water from distances. Linked with this are community-managed systems for regular testing of drinking water. Facilitating access to sanitation facilities, and thereby contributing to the dignity and health of women is another core activity in Bihar. Skill building initiatives for adolescents, particularly girls, is another priority activity in the state, contributing to both the social and economic empowerment of adolescent girls. Other initiatives include early childhood development and improving the quality of learning and teaching in primary grades. Building community institutions to manage and sustainably take forward interventions is a cross-cutting theme across all interventions. In addition to its work in rural Bihar (districts Muzaffarpur and Samastipur), the Aga Khan Foundation is also implementing urban development interventions in the Phulwarisharief and Danapur blocks of Patna. While AKRSP (I) has its Regional Office in Muzaffarpur, the Aga Khan Foundation (India) has its state office in Patna.

The Aga Khan Foundation (India), through its Project Mesha initiative, supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, seeks to transform and improve the quality of life of landless and marginal farming households in four blocks of District Muzaffarpur, Bihar, through improvements in small ruminant production, increasing and strengthening the role of women in the small ruminant value chain and demonstrating an implementation model that can be expanded at significant scale in other districts of the state.



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Bihar Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (BRLPS), is an independent society under the Department of Rural Development, Government of Bihar. The objective of the Society is to improve livelihoods by enhancing the social and economic empowerment of the rural poor.

ARTICLE – I

OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

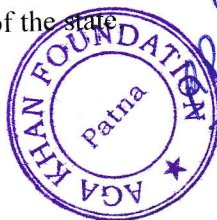
1. The Aga Khan Foundation (India), with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, proposes to implement a small ruminant productivity improvement programme in four blocks of district Muzaffarpur, using the institutional platform of Self Help Groups (SHGs), Village Organisations (VOs) and Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) established by JEEViKA, and will provide technical assistance to JEEViKA to replicate and scale-up small ruminant productivity improvement interventions in other districts of the state. AKF (India) agrees to implement the programme as described in Article II.
2. The project will be implemented in partnership with JEEViKA Bihar. JEEViKA will provide facilitative support in enabling Project Mesha staff to identify SHGs established by BRLPS in the four blocks (Bochaha, Musahri, Sakra and Muraul), access available information related to SHG membership, and enable participation of goat rearer SHG members in Project Mesha training and capacity building interventions and in goat rearer producer groups. In addition, BRLPS will permit its staff to participate in the learning and stakeholder forums established at the block, district and state level and appoint a representative as a member of the Project Advisory Committee.
3. No financial support is required from JEEViKA to AKF India.
4. AKF India's implementation of activities in the four blocks of district Muzaffarpur is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
5. The project period would be from September 2016 to September 2020.

ARTICLE – II

DETAILS OF THE PROGRAMME

2.1 Overview

Project Mesha proposes to work directly with over 50,000 women SHG members in the Musahri, Bochaha, Sakra and Muraul blocks of district Muzaffarpur, Bihar, and demonstrate proof of concept of a model for small ruminant development, poverty reduction and women's empowerment, with potential for scaling up to other districts of the state.



Project Mesha will be implemented through a dual strategy of direct implementation support at the community level covering all SHGs established by JEEViKA in four blocks of district Muzaffarpur (352 villages which may increase to work with over 50, 000 women SHG members) and an outreach & technical support intervention, where Project Mesha staff will train and share knowledge and emerging project learning with the BRLPS to facilitate replication of Project Mesha approaches to other districts. Project Mesha will directly benefit 50,000 households in the four blocks. Direct implementation sites in district Muzaffarpur will be developed as demonstration/ immersion areas to facilitate replication and scaling up.

2.2. Key Activities

2.2.1. Development of a model of health services delivery through a cadre of 250 women small ruminant health workers (*pashusakhis*) in the four identified Project Mesha blocks in district Muzaffarpur.

2.2.2. Establishing village level enterprises run by women for goat breeding and feed production in the four identified Project Mesha blocks in district Muzaffarpur. Improved bucks of Black Bengal breed will be provided to *pashusakhis*, to facilitate genetic/breed improvement and at the same time expand the range of services offered by the *pashusakhis*. Improved bucks will be identified from amongst existing herds based on community identified criteria of genetic potential. Project Mesha will prioritise genetic improvement through existing improved local bucks.

2.2.3. Supporting the development of women-led producer groups for goat rearing in the four blocks to increase the role of women in goat marketing. Membership of producer groups will range from 25-30 members, and where all or most SHG members rear goats, producer groups would be co-terminus with SHGs. In other villages, members from 2-3 SHGs would be formed into a goat producer group depending on goat ownership. Efforts will be made to build cohesiveness and affinity among producer group members to facilitate group based activities such as community-led goat insurance, value chain development etc.

2.2.4 Establishment of block, district and state level learning forums to facilitate regular sharing of learning on project implementation with JEEViKA staff at the block, district and state levels. These learning forums will facilitate sharing of the training modules developed for the community and staff, and dissemination of best practices and success stories.

2.2.5 Provision of regular technical support to JEEViKA at the state level through 50% allocation of time of a senior and experienced Project Mesha professional to facilitate replication and scaling up of small ruminant productivity improvement interventions in other districts of the state.



2.3 Expected Output/Outcome

2.3.1. Increase incomes from small ruminant rearing for 50,000 women by an average of 30% in the four Project Mesha blocks in district Muzaffarpur through a comprehensive integrated approach that prioritises reduction in goat mortality to under 10% through regular vaccination and de-worming services and a simultaneous focus on improving the knowledge base and practices of goat rearers on improved management of goat flocks.

2.3.2. Increased empowerment of women at the household and community levels leading to an increased role of women in the goat value chain. The project will focus interventions on training and capacity building of over 50,000 women SHG members on improved management of goat flocks, increased access and control over income from goat sales and an increased role in goat marketing.

2.3.3. Support the adoption of programme approaches and replication to other districts through technical support to JEEViKA. As part of its outreach activities, Project Mesha will provide technical support to JEEViKA to develop a resource pool of 40 BRLPS staff for expansion of the Project Mesha model to other districts. Training of Trainers will be provided on the implementation of the Project Mesha model, improved goat management and rearing practices (feeding, disease prevention, housing etc.) and strengthening of the goat value chain.

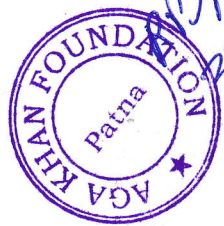
2.4 AKF (India) Project Mesha team in Bihar:


Implementation in the four blocks of district Muzaffarpur will be undertaken by the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) under the guidance of the Aga Khan Foundation (India).

AKRSP and AKF have already recruited and placed a field team in Muzaffarpur and Patna. AKF will also bring in consultants and community resource persons as needed for technical support. A senior AKF professional in the rank of State Programme Manager will provide overall leadership based at Patna. In addition, Project Mesha will provide 50% time of a senior and experienced professional to support JEEViKA in small ruminant productivity improvement strategy and interventions in other districts and facilitate replication and scaling up of small ruminant productivity improvement interventions.

2.5 Timeline and Work plan

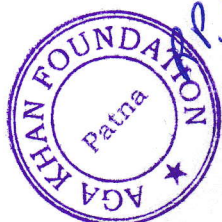
The project duration will be from September 2016 to September 2020 and is expected to benefit over 50,000 goat rearing households in four blocks of District Muzaffarpur, in addition to an outreach and technical support intervention to facilitate replication and scaling up of project approaches in other districts.

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A preliminary work-plan for the project is as follows:

S. No.	Particulars	Year of Commencement/Completion
1	Recruitment of Staff	2016
2	Initial Assessments/ Baseline	2016
3	Formation of Project Advisory Committee and learning forums at block, district and state levels	2016
4	Development of project MIS (computerised, mobile based, real-time data tracking)	2017
5	Development of <i>pashusakhi</i> training curriculum, including entrepreneurial skills development, review and refinement for replication and scaling up	2017
6	Development of the training manual for SHG goat rearers on improved management and rearing practices, review and refinement for replication and scaling up.	2017
7	Identification and training of <i>pashusakhis</i> and their deployment at the field level	2016, 2017, 2018
8	Development of the supply chain for vaccines, de-wormers and the institutional structure for delivery of these services.	2017
9	Promotion of kitchen gardens, fodder cultivation on agricultural bunds and in homestead areas, feed block manufacturing units, piloting of low-cost goat sheds.	2016, 2017
10	Formation of goat producer groups and strengthening their knowledge base on goat rearing and management.	2016, 2017, 2018
11	Promotion and strengthening of goat producer groups	2018, 2019, 2020
12	Training/knowledge support for replication to other districts	<i>Throughout the project duration</i>
13	Policy briefs, learning documents, 2 state and one national level workshop	2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
14	Submission of six-monthly progress report, and half-yearly meetings of the Project Advisory Committee (meetings will be convened alternately in Patna and Muzaffarpur)	2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020



ARTICLE – III

SPECIFIC AREAS OF SUPPORT REQUIRED FROM JEEViKA

Aga Khan Foundation India requires close collaboration from JEEViKA for the success of Project Mesha. The following are the specific areas of support required:

3.1 Coordination between JEEViKA and Aga Khan Foundation (India):

AKF (India) will work closely with the JEEViKA team to implement the project goals. To coordinate effectively between the two organizations; we propose the following coordination structure:

1. Quarterly meetings between the Project Delivery Lead and the CEO of JEEViKA, with a provision of special meetings as per requirement.
2. Creation of a Coordination Committee – which meets at least once every month – comprising of (i) State Project Manager (Livestock) and/or Project Manager from JEEViKA and their core teams (ii) Project Manager/Program Officer from AKF/AKRSP.

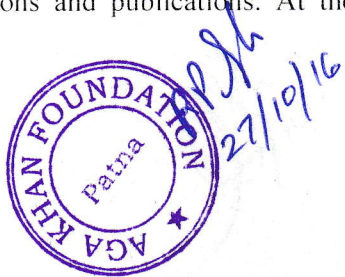
Both Aga Khan Foundation India and JEEViKA will nominate one person each from each side for coordination as soon as the MoU is signed.

3. AKF will share a six-monthly Progress Report with SPM (Livestock), BRLPS including an activity detailing of key activities and the implementation schedule for the next six months.

3.2 Team:

State Level: State Programme Manager, AKF will have full responsibility for regular coordination and dialogue with JEEViKA at the state level. AKF will make available 50% time of a senior and experienced professional (Programme Officer – Training and Policy Outreach) to provide regular technical support to JEEViKA to facilitate replication of small ruminant productivity improvement strategies and approaches to other districts of the state. The Programme Officer (Training and Policy Outreach) will meet with JEEViKA counterpart staff on a monthly basis and jointly finalise the technical support and outreach requirements and time allocation for the coming month. In addition, AKF staff at the state level, includes a Programme Officer for Monitoring and Evaluation.

District Level: At the district level in Muzaffarpur, AKRSP (I) will be responsible for field implementation which will be led by the Project Mesha Team Leader, supported by a team of specialists for (i) small ruminant productivity improvement (ii) gender mainstreaming (iii) institutional development and strengthening (iv) monitoring and evaluation and MIS development (v) communications and publications. At the district level, the Project Mesha Team Leader,



specialist staff and the DPM, JEEViKA and his team, will meet once in a month to review progress, discuss the monthly plan and required coordination to strengthen implementation.

Block Level: A Block Manager will lead and be responsible for block-level field implementation, supported by a team comprising development organisers for technical and institutional aspects, MIS and finance support.

Community Level: Development Organisers will be responsible for community dialogue, identification of *pashusakhis* and cluster paravets, formation of goat rearer producer groups and the roll-out of the training and capacity building for strengthening the knowledge base on goat rearing. *PashuSakhis* will be identified and trained to provide regular preventive health services to goat rearers in the identified project villages.

The Aga Khan Foundation (India)'s State Program Manager/Program Officer will work in close coordination with the JEEViKA State Level Project Manager (Livestock) to deliver desired outputs. JEEViKA would ensure that state level professionals, professionals in the Districts and Blocks as decided, cooperate with AKF/ AKRSP professionals at the respective levels to ensure smooth implementation and replication.

3.3 Operational

1. The designated officers from both parties will undertake regular field visits from time to time to see the program progress.
2. The field teams of AKF/AKRSP will host exposure visits and immersion programs to facilitate sharing of project approaches and strategy.
3. AKF (India) will share the findings of studies and value chain analysis, MIS, and the training manuals on improved goat husbandry practices to facilitate replication to other districts.
4. JEEViKA will nominate a representative to the Project Advisory Committee, and ensure that its staff participate in the learning forums at the block, district and state levels.

ARTICLE – IV

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as granting either party any right, title, license or other interest in any patents, trademarks, copyrights or other intellectual property of the other party.

ARTICLE- V

CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidential information shall mean the confidential information of a Party including but not limited to operational, financial, strategic and technical information including patent, copyright, trade secret, proprietary information, techniques, sketches, drawings, models, inventions, know-how, processes,

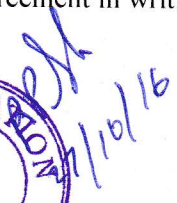





apparatus, equipment, algorithms, software programs, software source documents and formulae related to the current, future and proposed products and the services of a Party (“Confidential Information”). A Party may disclose its Confidential Information (“Disclosing Party”) to the other Party (“Receiving Party”) for purposes of this MOU. In such event the Receiving Party shall not, either during the period of this MOU or following the expiration or termination of this MOU disclose to any person, either directly or indirectly (orally, in writing or by any other means), without the prior written consent of the Disclosing Party. The Receiving Party also agrees not to use or make available any such Confidential Information for the Receiving Party’s benefit or the benefit of others. The obligations of confidentiality imposed by this MOU shall not apply to information the Receiving Party can show (a) was already known to Receiving Party as evidenced by written records, (b) is or becomes part of the public domain through no fault of Receiving Party, (c) is legitimately disclosed to Receiving Party by a third party not under an obligation of confidentiality, (d) is independently developed by the Receiving Party without the benefit of the Confidential Information as evidenced by written records, or (e) is required by law or under the terms of agreement for grants received to be disclosed by Receiving Party, except that Receiving Party shall provide Disclosing Party with prompt notice and consult Disclosing Party prior to any disclosure.

ARTICLE – VI

MISCELLANEOUS

1. This MOU is nonexclusive in nature and does not affect either party’s ability to enter in to agreements or affiliations with other Parties
2. In case of any disagreement or differing viewpoints and interpretations between the parties, attempt shall be made to resolve the dispute through amicable consultations between the parties.
3. If any of the provision of this Agreement is invalid, all other provisions shall remain unaffected thereby. Any gap resulting there from shall be filled by a provision consistent with the purpose of this Agreement and settled by mutual consultation.
4. This MOU shall commence on 27th October 2016, and unless terminated earlier by either Party, shall remain in effect till 30th September 2020.
5. Any matter not covered specifically in this memorandum of understanding may be settled by mutual discussions and agreement in writing thereupon.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereby execute this Memorandum of Understanding in duplicate and acknowledge they are authorized to execute the same.

For BRLPS:



Name: Dr. RAKESH KUMAR SINGH

Title: SPM - LIVESTOCK

Witness

Sumit Kapoor
27/10/16

Name: SUMIT KAPOOR

Title: Project Manager - Livestock

Date: 27/10/2016

AKF (India):



Name: (Raghavendra Prateep Singh)

Title: State Programme Manager

Witness

Md. Rubab Azam
27/10/2016

Name: (Md. Rubab Azam)

Title: Program Officer (Training & Policy Outreach)

Date: 27/10/2016