



A Study on Finding Impact of Producers Group in Strengthening
Livelihoods of Rural Poor HH Participating in Mahila Kisaan
Sashaktikaran Pariyojana in Latehar District in Barwadih Block of
Jharkhand

At

Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society

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Introduction

Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS) is supporting the rural poor to enhance the livelihood activity since 17th July 2009.

Community Based, Producers Group (PG) of rural poor was formed, which function in connect with some other institutions like produces company, supportive cooperative, SHGs and others. The Producers Group being a business group is meant to perform certain function in order to compliment the allied structures or institutions.

JSLPS working on two Major Projects. One is Johar and other one is MKSP.

In Barwadih block Formation of Producer Group in 19 Villages and working on MKSP in 19 Villages. This block is running the Project on NRLM, SSM, JOHAR, MKSP, DDUGKY.

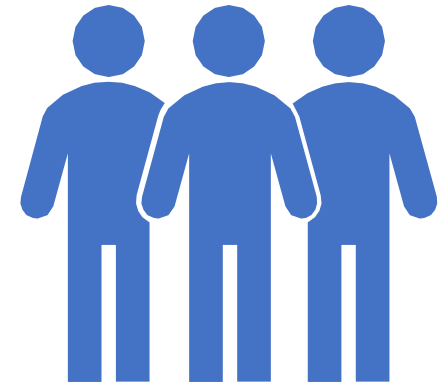
Here Total staff members are 14 and Resource person are 8.

Total Cluster are 3: Barwadih, Chipadohar, Betla.

Livestock Service Centre (LSC) for Johar Project and Rural Service Centre (RSC) for MKSP Project was also established.

Literature Review

- Percentage of women among marginal farmers (38.7%) is higher than that for large farmers (34.5%) in 2004-05. 67% rural men, accept the importance and role of women in agriculture in rural areas. (GOI, 2007)
- The total area cultivated under marginal holdings increased by only 13.9%. (source: Government of India, 2010)
- The demand for medicinal plant in India to meet both domestic and export market comprising 162 species, is expected to increase at about 15 to 16% between 2002 and 2005 (CRPA, 2001)
- The poor prefer the community saving group is consistent with other more specific studies where the saving groups are called rotating saving and credit association. (ROSCA) (LMP, 2004).
- The NSSO (1999) data estimated a decline of 0.38 percent per annum in CPRS at the all India level.
- Improvement in status of the farmer is possible only through diversification and commercialization of their agricultural activities. Producer Group is a means to bring together the small and marginal farmers and other small producers in the local communities to build their own business enterprise that will be managed by professionals. Awareness of services provided like loans and inputs was 100% but lower on other business and most (94%) considered it a service provider and did not expect dividends (87%). The understanding of the role of the company was poor (35%) as was satisfaction with commercial activities (29%) though satisfaction with irrigation management was high (74%) (Esham and Usami, 2007).



Literature Review



MKSP project mainly work on the Medicine Plant there are biodiversity-based livelihoods. Highly demand on the make medicine. Farmer income increase by the medicine plant cultivation. Medicine plant cultivation of cash crops with expanding production in the same area. Arya Vaidya sola (AVS), Kottakal in Kerala is an example of business and traditional medicine service combined. Protection of Tradition of traditional knowledge. (Annual Report of MKSP 2014)

The conversion of socio- cultural traditions knowledge into livelihood means and economic opportunities. The development of medicinal plants based economic incentives is being increasingly applied to enlist greater participation of people in conservation of forest ecosystem. (Annual Report of MKSP 2014)

The livelihood changes in Northwest Bangladesh: pattern and processes (LMP 2004) report, which is based on a comprehensive survey of actual livelihood changes of households, found evidence of positive changes in some asset values such as medicinal plant, collection of minor forest produce, livestock, education and social capital that were related to participation NGOs activities.

Objective of the study

Learning objective: to understand the JSLPS's mode of supporting farmers in the forest produce and medicinal plant to enhance the income of the villagers.

Objective 1: To find out the impact of producers groups in strengthening livelihoods of rural poor households, participating in Mahila Kisaan Sashaktikaran Pariyojna.

Objective 2: To understand the challenges faced by the Producers Groups and to suggest necessary recommendations to enhance their income and better livelihood.

Material and Methods

Study Setting

Out of 24 districts of Jharkhand state, Barwadih block of Indergarh district was selected for study. It is the only block where Rural Service Center (RSC) were formed one year before.

Study Design and Sampling Procedure

The study focuses on the livelihood pattern of the farmers of Barwadih block.

Two stage sampling method was adopted.

In the first stage by random selection 6 Producers group were selected from 19 PG formed in the Barwadih block of Indergarh district.

In the second stage, 10 members of each of the 6 PGs have been selected for study. Hence total sample size for the study was 56 (in one PG members were less) for all 6 selected producer group.

Tool Development

Following research tools were developed for quantitative and qualitative study keeping the focus on the following aspects. Tools were approved from JSLPS and also consent from the PG members before interview.

- Interview schedule for primary data collection.
- Check list for FGDs
- Personal interview and discussion to develop case study
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Profile of Studied Producers Group (PG)

Village Name	PG Name	Total Members of PG	Sample taken for study.
Nawadih	Shakti Aajeevika Utpadk Samuh	60	10
Chungru	Anjali Aajeevika Utpadk Samuh	64	10
Amdiha	Amdiha Aajeevika Utpadk Samuh	64	10
Baridohar	Pari Aajeevika Utpadk Samuh	50	10
Lupungkhar	Kiran Aajeevika Utpadk Samuh	40	10
Rabdi	Hriyali Aajeevika Utpadk Samuh	58	6

Rural Service Centre

- This is the Rural Service Centre of MKSP.
- Their office is Amdiha village covering 19 Producer group in 19 adjoining villages.
- Services provided by PGs are: Goat vaccination, Medicine for animal, Medicine Plant seed and Training for cattle rearing and collection of medicinal plant.
- RSC office also work support the farmers for collection of medicinal plant and product and give the service for NTFP collection.
- Total Budget of MKSP is INR 19.73 lacs in a form of corpus fund for one RSC.



Case Study

Sarita Devi is a P.G Member

- She Join PG in 2018.
- She has taken medicinal plant of Tulshi seed (50 gram) and Lemon grass @INR 50/- and INR 2400/- respectively from PG.
- Sold Tulshi seed of 45 Kg @ Rs 500 per kg and thus earned 22500 for it by selling it to Rural Service Center (RSC). Though she doesn't earned much from lemon grass.



Sahodry Devi

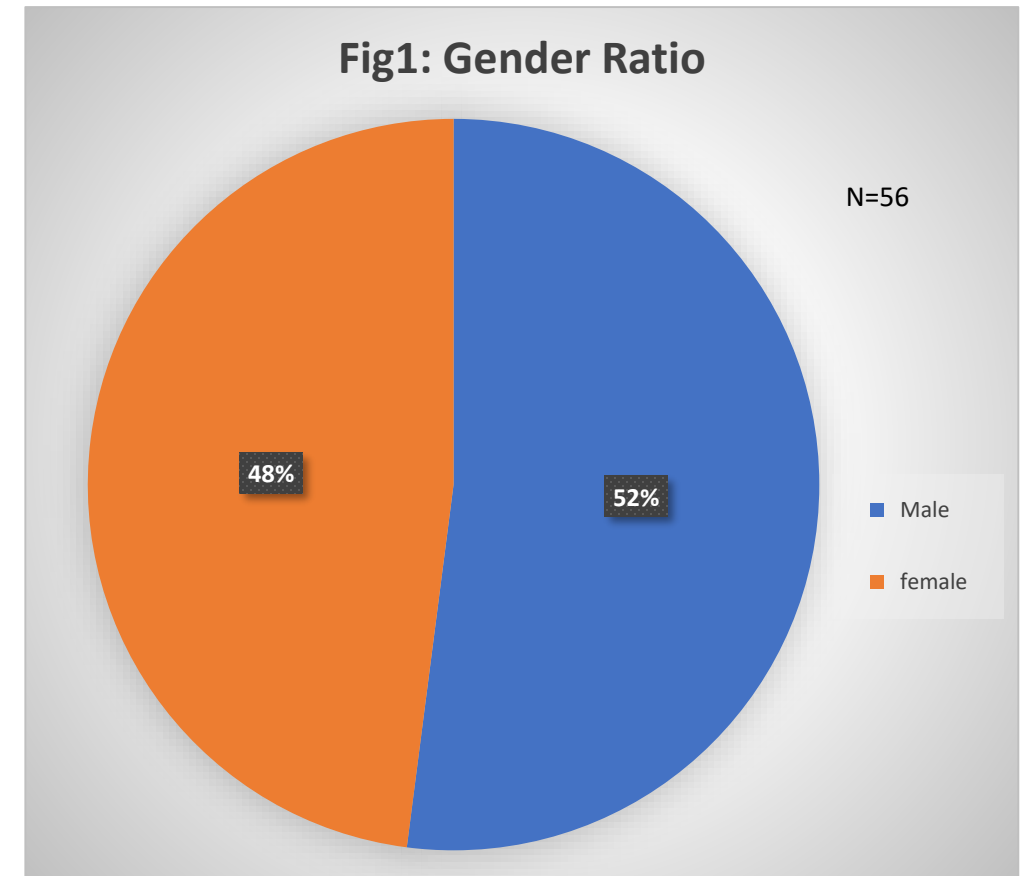
- She sold forest produce of 87 kg in FY 2018.
- Non timber forest produce doesn't need any capital investments. It need willingness, interest and hard work
- She earned INR 5000 to 6000/- per session through selling of forest produce. Though highest income she has done from selling the NTFP was INR 12000/- per session.
- Seeing the high return of NTFP , middle man (non tribal) came in and they purchased the produce in low rate from the women like Sahodry Devi and sell it higher rate to the weekly market (hat).
- Purchasing of NTFP by Producer Group is the only solution to get the real cost of produce and actual benefit.



Major Findings

Gender Ratio

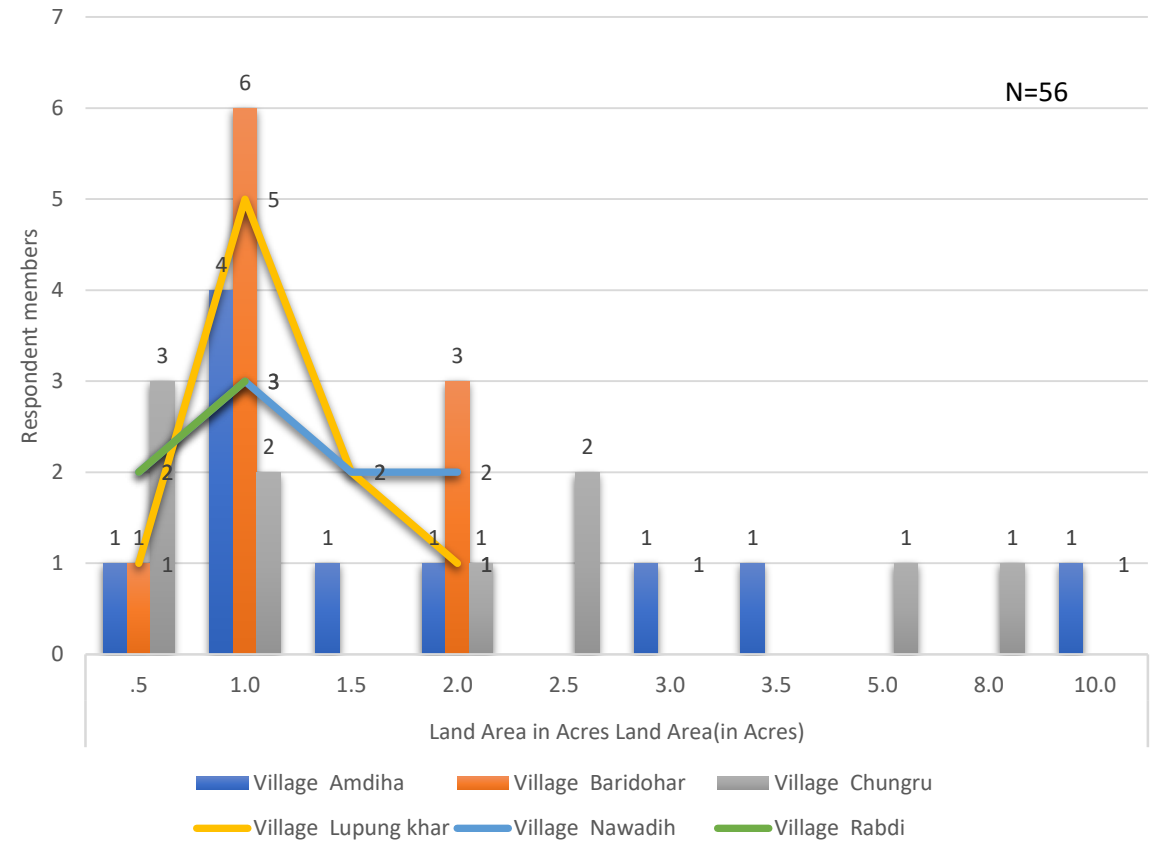
- Average Male: Female ratio is 52: 48.
- That is good sex ratio.
- Every family join to the Self Help Group
- They involve in the PG work.
- Women are empowered and found quite aware about importance of the formal education.
- Women of the SHGs were also help in taking financial decisions making in their respective family.



Available land

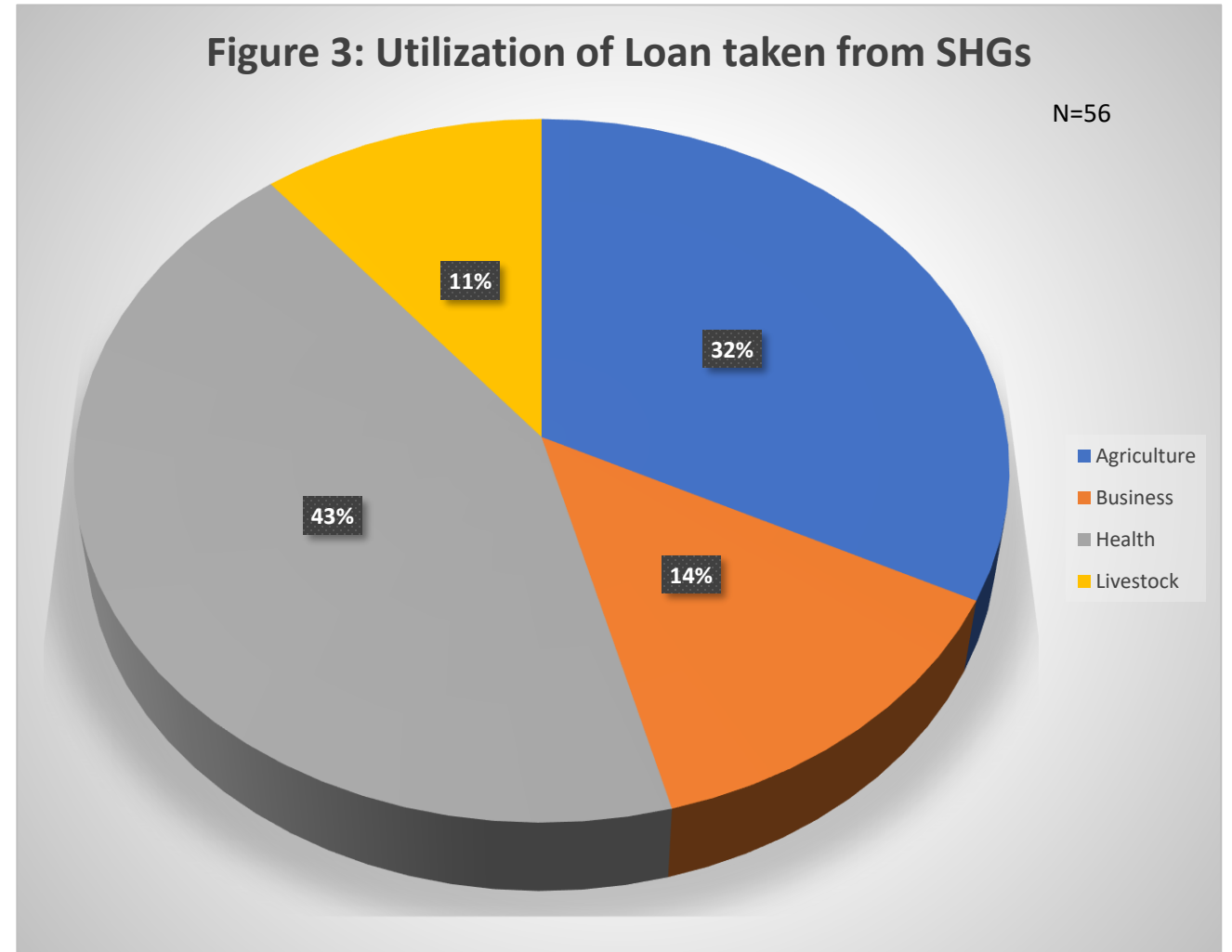
- 6 villages in 6 PG.
- Majority of the land are upper land.
- Majority of the farmer are doing their rainfed farming.
- Irrigation facility is not there.
- Farmer use chemical fertilizer.
- Farmer have minimum 1 acer of land and there are no landless farmer.

Table 2: Comparison of land holding in 6 Villages



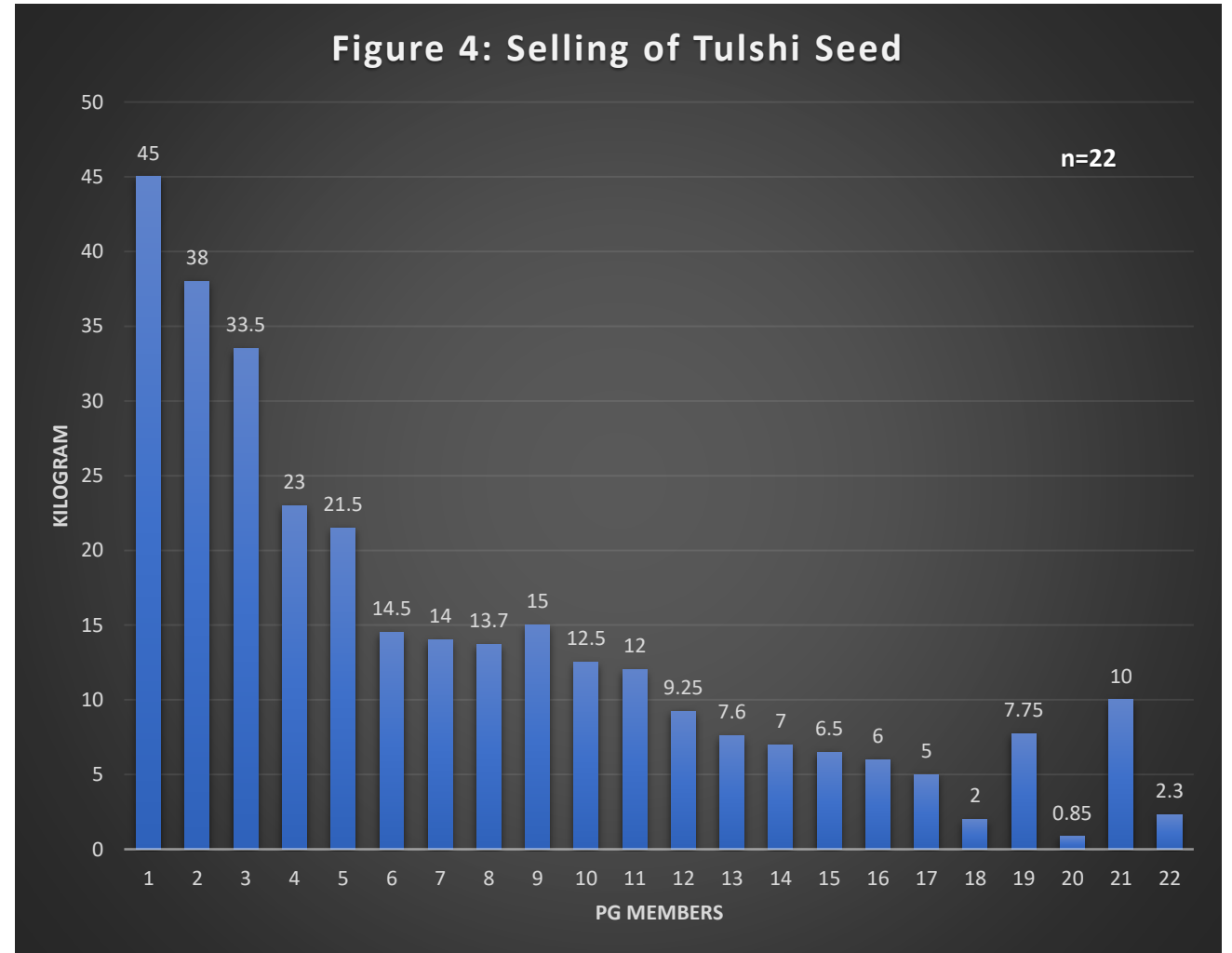
Utilisation of Loan

- Around one-third (32%) of the loan taken from SHGs are used in agriculture purpose
- Little more than two-fifth (43%) of the loan taken from SHG were used in health care
- Around one-tenth (11 %) is used the loan to purchase of livestock
- 14% loan were used to start new business.



Medicinal Plant (Tulshi Seeds) for benefited by 22 PG members (Amdiha Village).

- 5 Members sold Tulshi Seeds 21- 45 kg @ 500/- per Kg
- 6 Members sold Tulshi Seeds 12-14 kg @ 500/- per Kg.
- 7 Members sold Tulshi Seeds 5-9 kg @ 500/- per Kg.
- 3 Members sold Tulshi Seeds 0.85-2 kg @ 500/- per Kg.



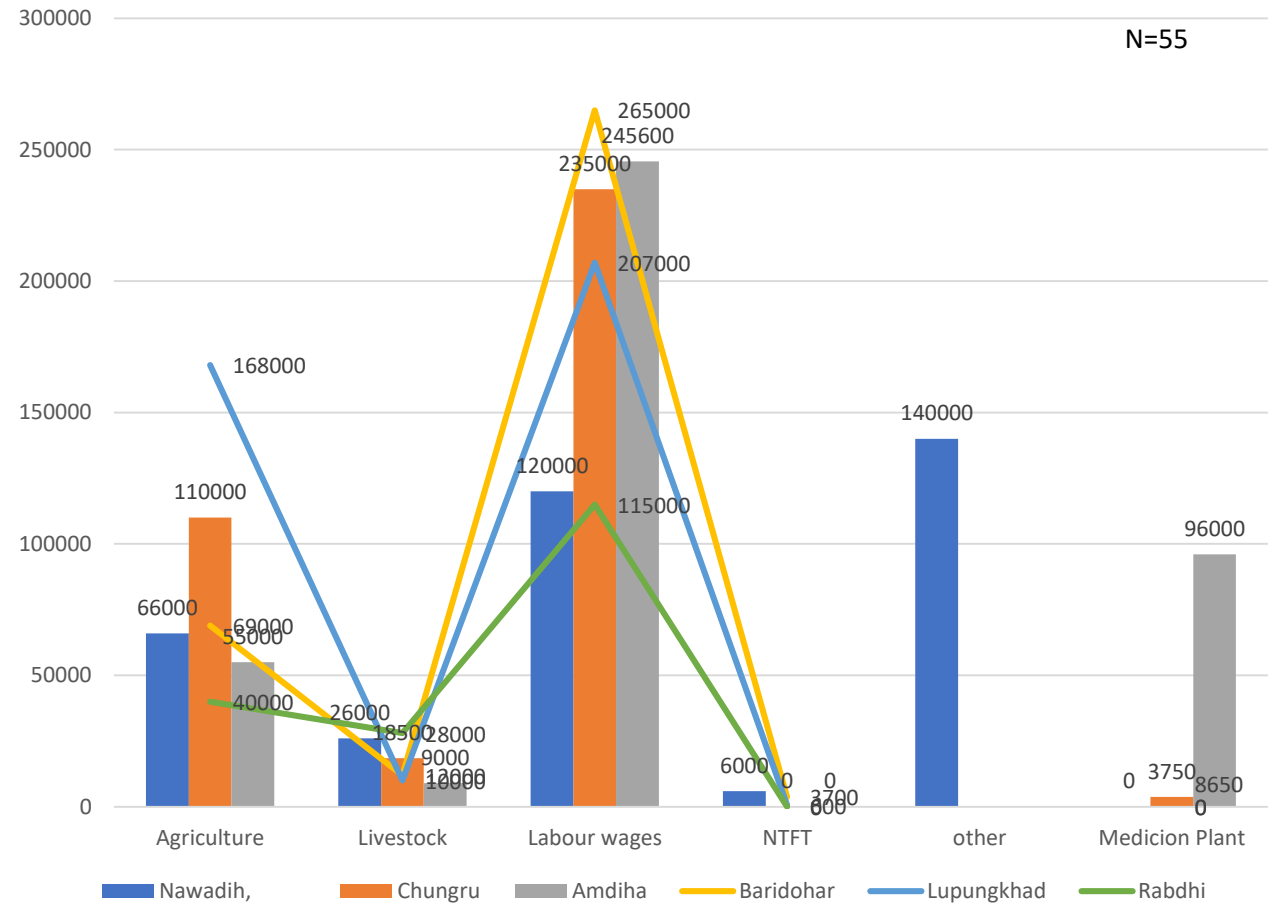
Source of Income

- Income from wages labour is the main source of livelihood in majority of the villages.

Village wise classification stated that:

- Amdiha got major benefit from medicinal plant.
- Major source of income of Chungru village is from Agriculture, Livestock and Wages Labour.

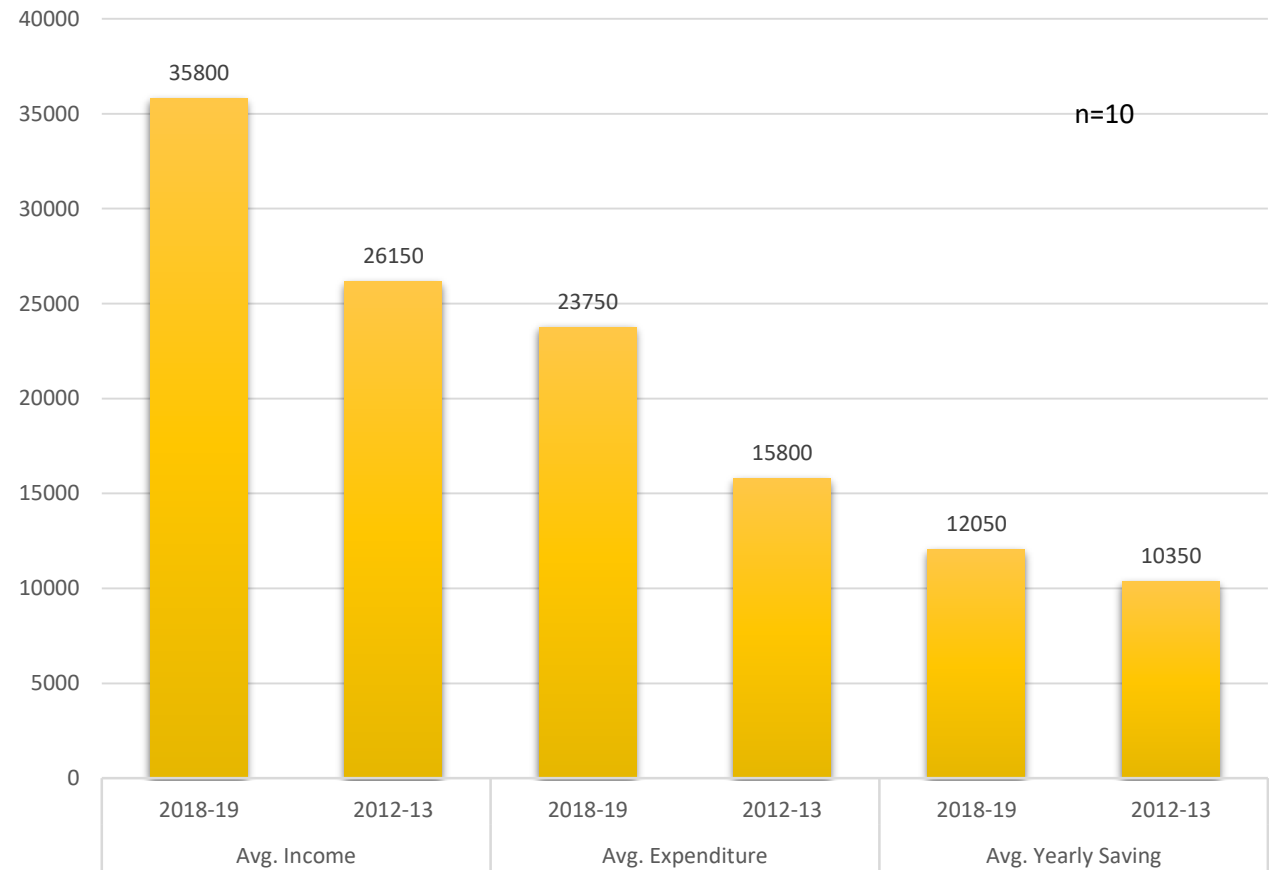
Figure 5: Source of Income



Nawadih Village

- This village fall under the forest area.
- Mostly depend on forest produce
- This village get maximum benefit of NTFP
- They main livelihood are Agriculture, forest produce, small business and wage labour respectively.
- Majority of them fall under the category of ST (65%) followed by general caste.
- Calculation of earning was done on their income from forest produce, Agriculture and wages labour.

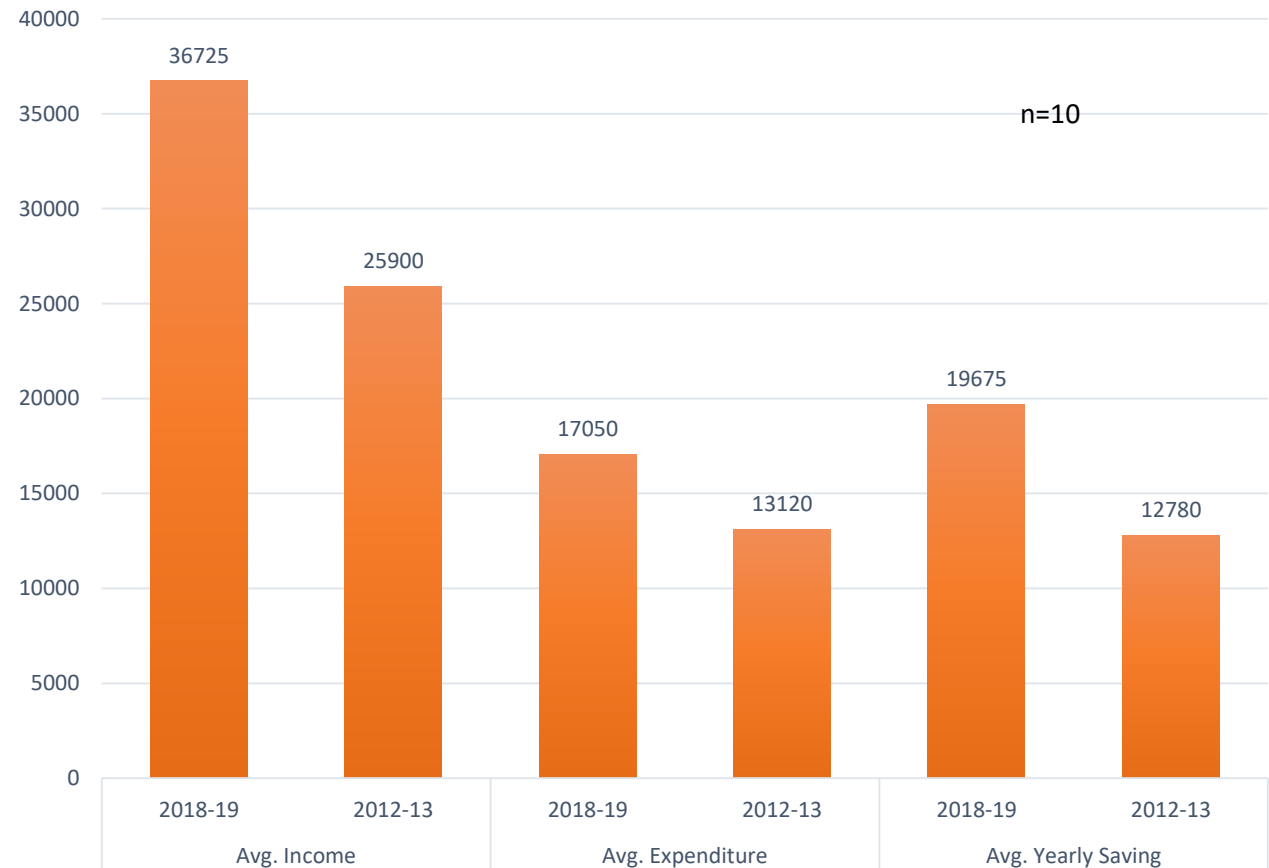
Figure 6: Income, Expenditure & Savings in INR per HH per year of Nawadih



PG of Chungru Village

- This Village is surrounded by Forest, people majorly depend on the forest produce and Agriculture.
- They sells Forest product like Hare, Bahera, Koroya etc. in Chipadohar weekly market (hat), which is around 20 km from the village.

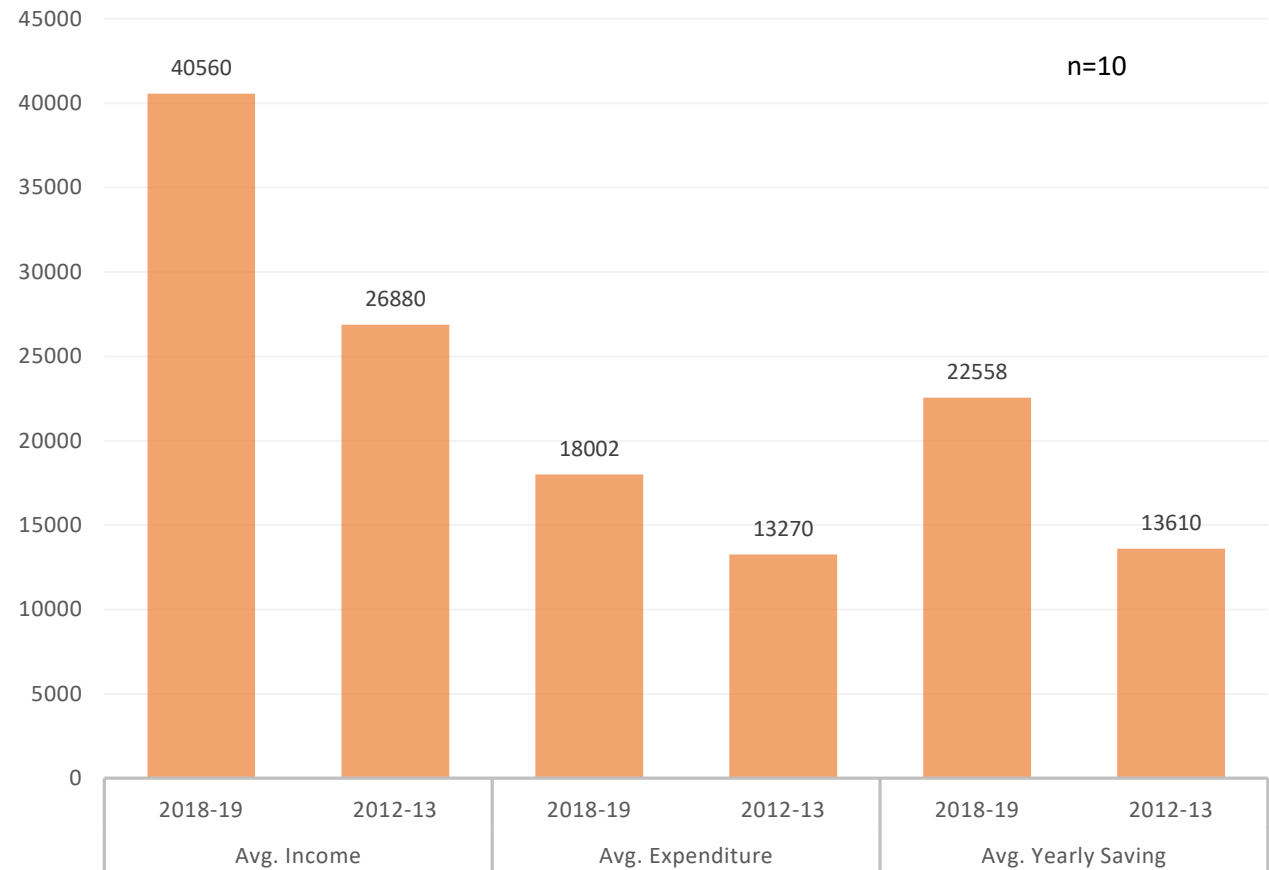
Figure 7: Details of Income, Expenditure & Savings per HH
Chungru



PG of Amdiha Village

- RSC centre is opened in Amdiha Village IN 2018.
- Women got earning up to INR 4000 to 22000 per session from Tulshi cultivation.
- Major source of income is from medicinal plant, labour Wages and Farming.

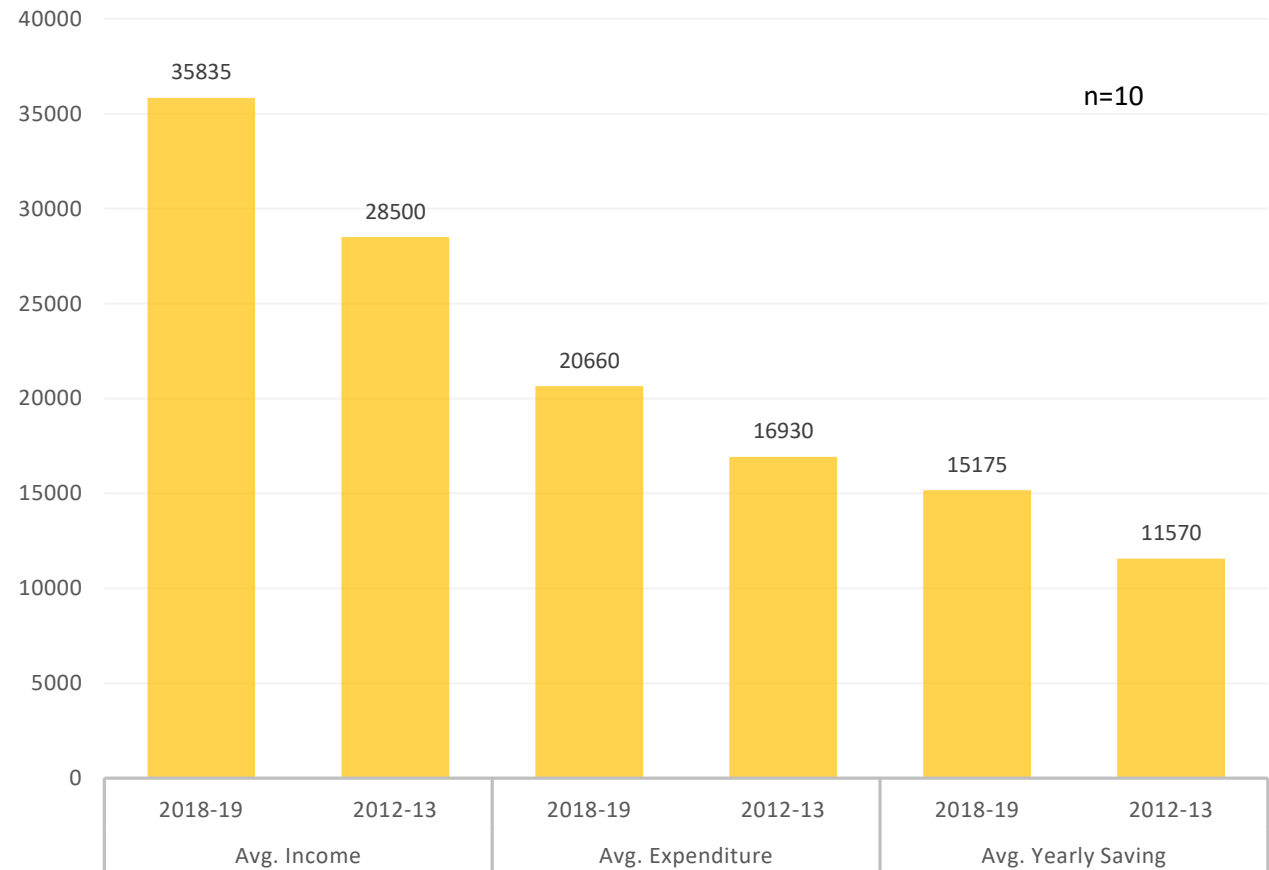
Figure 8: Income, Expenditure & Savings per HH per year of village Amdiha



PG of Baridohar Village

- This village is surrounded by Forest.
- They sells Forest product in Chipadohar.
- Tulshi and Pamarosa were cultivated by very Few people.

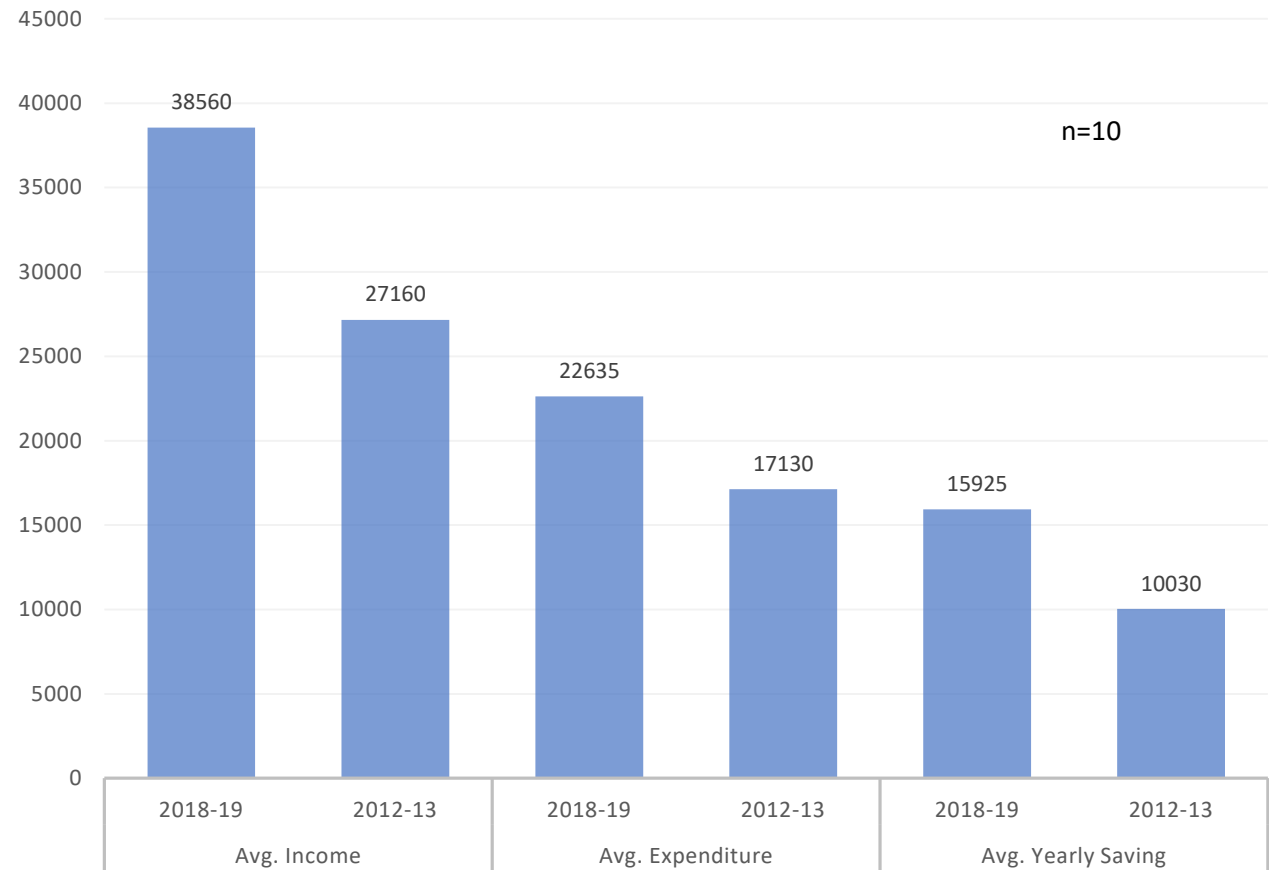
Figure 9: Income, Expenditure & Savings per HH per year of Baridohar village



PG of Lupungkhar Village

- Most people of this Village are dependent on farming followed by collecting medicinal plant and wage labour.
- Yearly Saving of more than 10000.
- Income source of Agriculture and Labour wages.

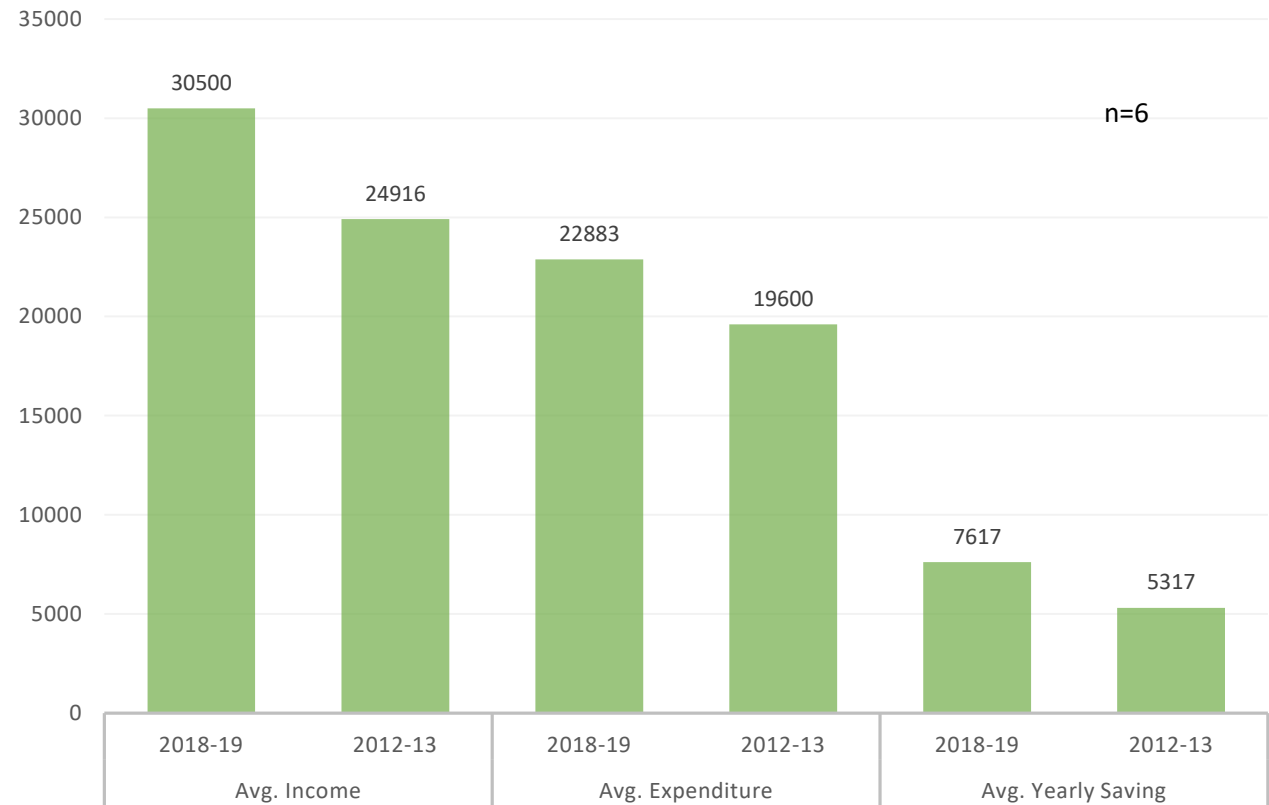
Figure 10: Income, Expenditure & Savings per HH of Lupungkhar village



PG of Rabdi Village

- As the number of members surveyed is less compare to other PG villages hence than income and saving is less.
- Major source of income is from farming which is also rainfed, followed by wages labour.

Figure 10: Income, Expenditure & Savings per HH of Rabdi village



Comparison of income, expenditure and saving in six PG villages

- PG of village Amdiha have maximum income and saving.
- The reason for the increase in saving at PG of Amdiha village is due to selling of Tulshi.
- The next highest income and saving is of PG of Chungru village. As Chungru village is situated in forest and majorly depend on the forest produce and Agriculture.
- Other village PG like Baridohar has also fair among of income and saving. Hence PG which is nearer to forest, they collect more forest produce and earn more compare to the PG which are away from the forest.
- The villages which are far from forest area are majorly depend upon agriculture work and wages labour.

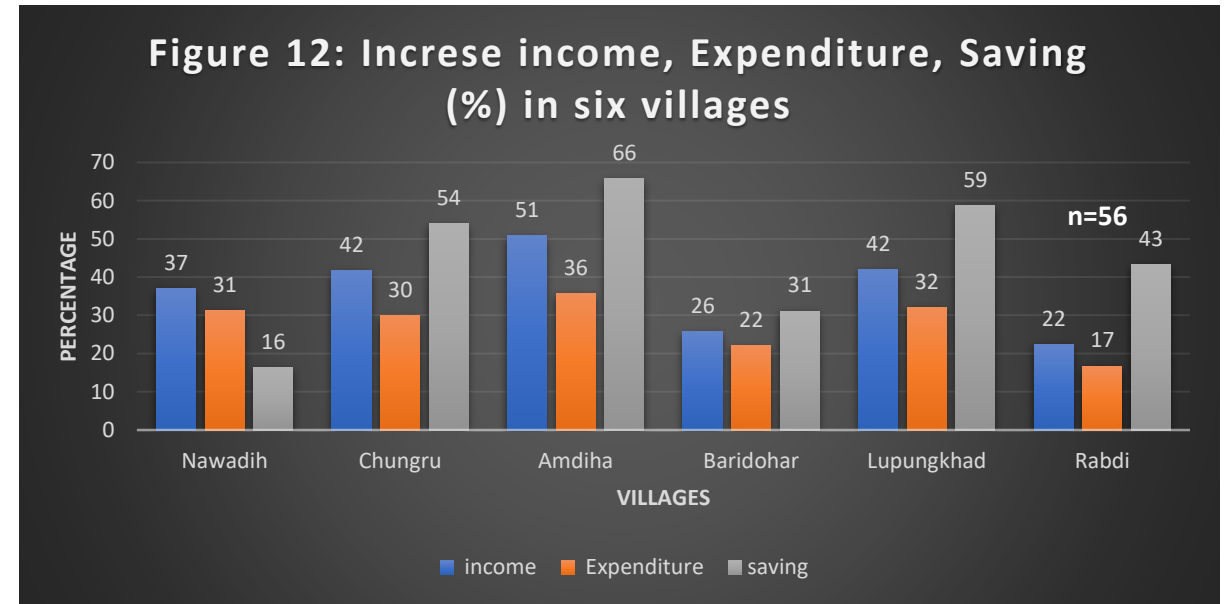
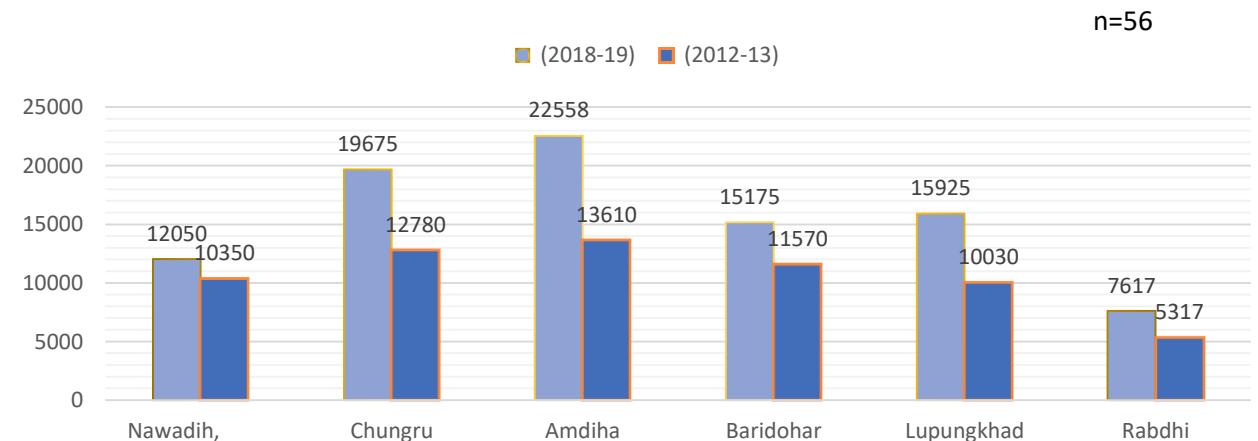


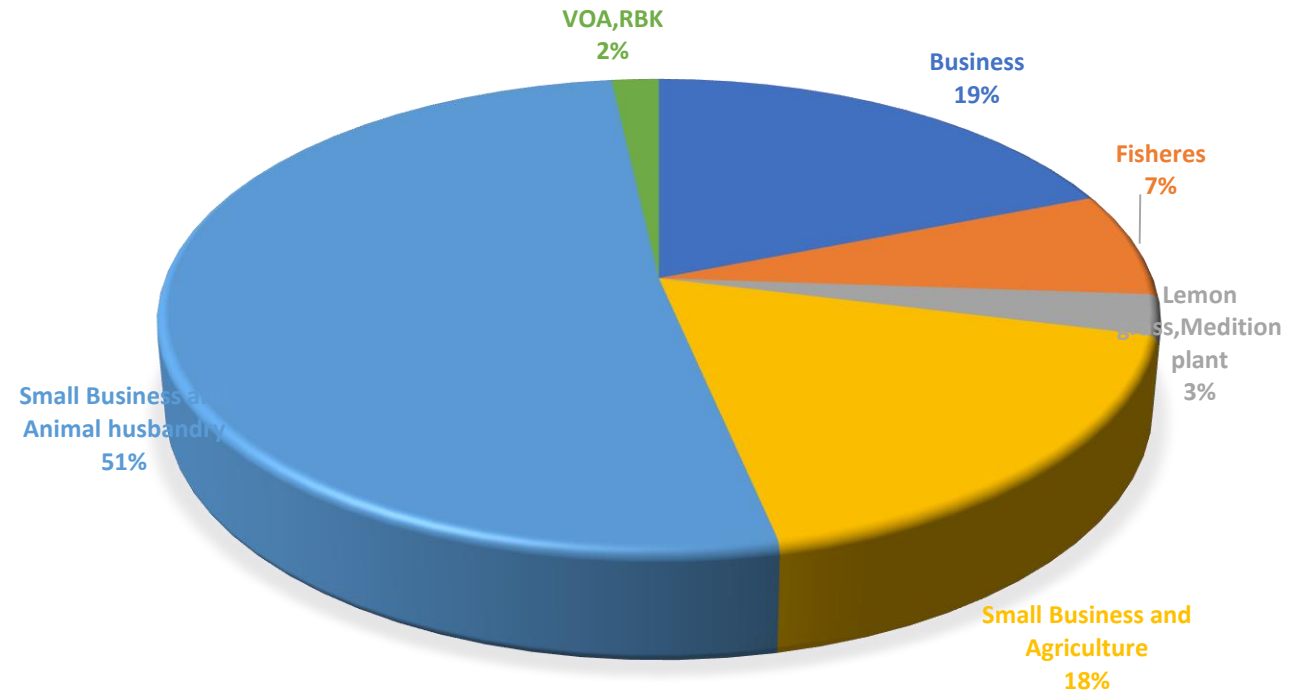
Figure 13: Comparison of saving among different PG in INR



Need of Training for PG Members

- Half (51%) of the PG members desire to have training on Animal husbandry and on small industry like achhar, candle, and other household industry.
- Around one-fifth (19%) and 18% interested to start small business and improved farming and hence need training on it.
- Fisheries, planting medicinal plant are also the priority of training.

FIGURE 13: NEED OF TRAINING FOR PG MEMBERS



Challenges

- Farmers are not fully aware of benefit from Medicine Plants and the value of non timber forest produce.
- PG are not collecting all product of NTFP hence middle men are taking advantage of it and purchasing medicinal plant at low rate directly from the farmers.
- Farmer are not aware of forward linkages of NTF Produce and Medicine Plant to the market.
- The geographical area is so far from RSC, hence forest produce not reaching to Rural Service Center (RSC) in the right time.

Conclusion

Producer Group was started just one year before.

The Members have lack of knowledge and unaware of the benefit of medicinal plant and forest produce and it's correct market price

Income of the farmers could be increased to many folds by Cultivating the Medicine Plant.

Proper training, monitoring and handholding support from JSLPS is necessary to create interest and to enhance income of the farmers.

Proper selection of land and medicinal spices as per the land type is necessary to grow medicinal plant. Soil testing and humidity test support is necessary to maximize the benefits of the farmers

PGs are in initial stage. Proper nurturing is necessary to minimize the problems of the farmers.

Suggestions

- More people should be involved in collecting forest produce and growing medicinal plants. It will enhance their income and better livelihood.
- Proper soil testing and humidity testing should be carried out with the support of JSLPS so that suitable medicinal plant should be grown.
- According to the Soil of that area, the cultivation of aloe Vera Plant will be very good. Therefore, aloe Vera should be added to the medicine plant.
- Proper training, exposure visit to the successful PG and awareness will help the farmers for more involvement and commitment.
- Small household industry such as Candle making, achar making and others similar type of activities will add to the income of the villagers.
- NTF Products collected by the farmers should be procured by PG to sell it to Rural Service Center. It will not only reduce the presence of middle men, but also will support to get the actual price of NTF product as well as medicinal plants to the farmers.

Further study is suggested after 5 years of intervention to understand “The impacts of the JSLPS interventions in the tribal areas which should be analysed from the four key Dimensions, economic, political and institutional, socio culture and environment.”



Thank You