

**Project Title:**

Technical Support to Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Mission

**Project ID:** 123729

**Annual Progress Report**

January 2021- December 2021

**PROJECT SNAPSHOT**

Date:	5 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Award ID:	130409
Project ID:	123729
Project Title:	Technical Support to Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Mission
Project Start Date:	24-08-2020
Project End Date:	23-7-2023
Donor:	Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Mission, Govt of Karnataka
Implementing Partner:	UNDP
Total Project Budget (all years):	INR 197091144/USD 2779847
Core Resources:	106 (Original target of 108 has been revised)
Non-Core Resources:	
Government contribution:	
<b>Project Brief Description and Outputs:</b>	
<p>UNDP is providing technical support to the Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Mission (KSRLPS - Sanjeevini) to implement the National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP). KSRLPS - Sanjeevini is set up as an autonomous society named Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (KSRLPS-Sanjeevini) and involved in implementing objectives of NRLM with the larger objective of reducing poverty and creating livelihood opportunities for rural population. Through this project UNDP is transferring its technical experience gathered over partnership with national and state level programs. Through this project UNDP is setting up a project management unit, partnerships, knowledge management systems and making innovation to support implementation efforts of KSRLPS- Sanjeevini. UNDP is supporting KSRLPS – Sanjeevini in its agenda of inclusion of the poorest of the poor through transformation of the groups of rural women into empowered, self-reliant community organizations consists of four stages of development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) Social mobilization, community institution and capacity building</li><li>(ii) Financial inclusion</li><li>(iii) Livelihood promotion/skill building and</li><li>(iv) Convergence</li></ul> <p>as clearly defined in the NRLM scheme document</p> <p>The project objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Institutional Strengthening to support the KSRLPS, Government of Karnataka to become a provider of high-quality technical assistance in the field of rural transformation and livelihoods promotion within the state.</li><li>2. Livelihood Support to operationalize the Annual Action Plan, and the implementation of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) activities from the state to the block level.</li><li>3. Innovation and Partnerships to identify, nurture and support innovative ideas from across the different states to address the livelihood needs of the rural poor. Leveraging UNDP’s implementation experiences and best practices developed at the national level (NRLM) and state level (SRLM) engagements.</li></ol>	

4. Project Management Support to establish an effective project management unit at the state level that develops key systems and processes for coordination, management and concurrent monitoring of the programme.

List of focus States/districts

Karnataka	Gadag	5 Blocks
	Tumkur	4 Blocks
	Uttar Kannada	4 Blocks
	Bijapur	4 Blocks
	Bagalkote	3 Blocks
	Koppal	3 Blocks
	Yadgir	3 Blocks
Total	7 Districts	26 Blocks

**Overall Project Quality Rating** (mark on the scale of 1 to 5 as per the following criteria): 3

Exemplary (5) *****	High (4) ****	Satisfactory (3) ***	Poor (2) **	Inadequate (1) *
All outputs are rated High or Exemplary	All outputs are rated Satisfactory or higher, and at least two criteria are rated High or Exemplary	One output may be rated Poor, and all other criteria are rated Satisfactory or higher	Two outputs are rated Poor, and all other criteria are rated Satisfactory or higher	One output is rated Inadequate, or more than two criteria are rated Poor
Budget 2021		USD 507000		
Expenditure 2021		USD 407451.39		
Delivery %		80.36%		

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## **ACRONYMS**

NRLM – National Rural Livelihood Mission

SRLM - State Rural Livelihood Mission

KSRLPS – Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society

NRETP - National Rural Economic Transformation Project

FPO – Farmer Producer Organization

SHG – Self Help Groups

SMMU – State Mission Management Unit

DMMU – District Mission Management Unit

TMMU – Taluka Mission Management Unit

PMU - Project Management Unit

## 1. Executive Summary

*The executive summary is a concise brief on the progress towards the project outputs during the reporting period. The section also includes key implementation challenges, lessons learned and way forward. It is also suggested to include key financial information, such as expenditure for the reporting period, cumulative expenditure and a delivery rate against budget. (Suggested length - 400 words maximum)*

The project has been able to add value to KSRLPS Sanjeevini's work in its different thematic verticals. The State PMU placed through UNDP and working in the KSRLPS - Sanjeevini SMMU has contributed in making an effective Annual Action Plan and also diving the implementation through coordination with district and block levels.

Innovative interventions like the Santhe platform made possible pioneering interventions such as creation of online registry of SHG/Artisans and a online space for SHG and handicraft products. The intended value chain analysis will give a direction to producer groups and FPOs to identify top commodities and also to adopt business plans developed as a product of the study.

The partnerships developed between KSRLPS – Sanjeevini and different development agencies (Govt and NGO) and organizations have been adding value to KSRLPS Sanjeevini through voluntary expertise sharing, guidance and network building.

The project has completed the institution strengthening process and looks to engage in more value add activities and partnership and network building in the coming year 2 and 3. The consultants that are placed have integrated well and various capacity building measures will be taken up to increase their contribution and impact. Similarly knowledge products such as case studies and best practices will be captured and developed to ensure the learnings are shared within and outside the state.

## 2. Project Background

*The background should be a short introductory of the project. The situation analysis and the objective sections of the Project Document can be referred to for this section. Also include an up-to-date overview of changes in the context and situations. (Suggested length - maximum half a page)*

The Karnataka State Government is implementing the DAY-NRLM program in phases through Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (KSRLPS ) in the name of "Sanjeevini". With the larger objective of reducing poverty and creating livelihood opportunities for rural population KSRLPS Sanjeevini is engaged in different activities such as strengthening SHGs/ CBOs/federations/Livelihood Collectives, establishment of linkages and promotion of livelihoods.

UNDP carries the experience of setting up the NMMU for NRLM program. In addition, UNDP has been partnering with various government departments at national and state level to remove the barriers to livelihood promotion exist at all levels – micro (village-district), meso (state) and macro (national)

In this context the State government of Karnataka partnered with UNDP to bring to bear UNDP's experience to quickly transfer the technical know-how gained at the national and state level working

across the country on this flagship schemes. UNDP is providing Technical Support to KSRLPS - Sanjeevini to implement NRETP in three NRETP districts: Tumkur, Uttara Kannada and Gadag and in 13 more blocks in 4 other districts.

The four main components of the project are:

**Component 1. Institutional Strengthening** – To support the KSRLPS, Government of Karnataka to become a provider of high-quality technical assistance in the field of rural transformation and livelihoods promotion within the state.

**Component 2. Livelihood Support:** The Annual Action Plan operationalized through the technical support staff. This is leading to effective implementation of the NRLM activities from the state to the block level, including support to the mobilization, formation of institutions of the rural poor, financial inclusion, enterprise development and skill training support, credit linkages, access to markets etc.

**Component 3. Innovation and Partnerships:** This component identifies, nurtures and supports innovative ideas from across the different states to address the livelihood needs of the rural poor. UNDP is bringing on board implementation experiences and best practices developed at the national level (NRLM) and state level (SRLM) engagements to encourage cross learnings and transfer of successes in other states that can be customized to the needs and development agenda of the Karnataka government.

**Component 4. Project Management Support:** This component is to establish an effective project management unit at the state level that develops key systems and processes for coordination, management and concurrent monitoring of the programme.

The project has achieved considerable success despite challenges thrown up by the COVID19 pandemic. The project management unit set up is almost completed at all three levels – state, district and blocks. 92 positions have been filled and two positions are on hold.

Similarly, a web platform “Santhe” along with 2 apps have been created to act as registry of SHGs and artisans across the state. registry enables SHGs and Artisans to register with their contact details and also upload their product information as per predefined categories and template. Thus creating a online space where interested customers can view these products and contact the SHGs/artisans to facilitate further transactions. This initiative has added value to the non-farm livelihood efforts of KSRLPS Sanjeevini. Several partnerships have also been initiated with development agencies such as World bank, ecommerce platform such as Flipkart.

### 3. Project Performance and Results

#### 3.1. Contribution towards Country Programme Outcome

<b>CPD Outcome:</b> By 2022, institutions are strengthened to progressively deliver universal access to basic services, employment, and sustainable livelihoods to the poor and excluded, in rural and urban areas			
Indicator(s):	Baseline: 0	Target(s): 10	<b>Achievement(s):</b>
<b>CPD Output/s: 2.1:</b> Models with large-scale replicability, integrating employability, skilling, employment and entrepreneurship targeting women and poor people are developed			
Indicator Indicator 2.1.2: Percentage increase in the ownership of enterprise by women from marginalized communities.	Baseline: No data	Target(s): 10 additional	<b>Achievement(s):</b>
<b>Description of output level/outcome level <u>results achieved</u> in 2021:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance the technical and program management capacities of KSRLPS – Sanjeevini in different thematic areas at various levels skilled professionals have been identified, selected, and deployed at the state, district, and block level.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Status: Total positions - 108,                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working: 79, Selected and ready to join: 17, Advertised &amp; to be interviewed: 7, Dropped: 2, Positions on hold: 2</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Market Assessment and Value Chain Research: A technical support agency (TSA) has been selected to conduct a holistic value chain study of high value farm &amp; non-farm commodities in 13 blocks of 3 NRETP districts.</li> <li>The 6 month study is in progress and at the end will provide value chain development strategies with practical action points and value addition scope involving women entrepreneurs.</li> <li>A web platform "Santhe Kaushalkar" along with 2 mobile Apps have been created to act as registry of SHGs/artisans across the state.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 500+ products from 70+ SHGs of 8 pilot districts have been uploaded on this platform so far.</li> <li>900+ Sanjeevini functionaries have been trained on use of the Apps.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Several partnerships have also been initiated with development agencies such as World Bank and ecommerce platforms.</li> </ul>			
<b>Means of Verification</b> Contract issued to the IC's and technical support agencies Web platform – Santhe kaushalkar <a href="https://santhe.kaushalkar.com/">https://santhe.kaushalkar.com/</a>			

### 3.2. Progress towards Project Results/Outputs

Project Output I: Institutional Strengthening				
Indicator(s)	Baseline	Target(s)	Achievement(s)	
Identification, selection and placement of Individual consultants to strengthen the thematic verticals and administrative areas of Sanjeevini KSRLPS		106 (Revised)	97 ICs have been recruited placed, out of which 5 are yet to report, 2 positions have been advertised and 2 positions are on hold.	
<b>Description of project output level <u>results achieved</u> in 2021:</b> ToRs for all approved 108 positions were prepared after getting KSRLPS - Sanjeevini inputs. The positions were advertised through UNDPs website and shortlists were prepared. Interview panels consisting of UNDP and KSRLPS - Sanjeevini functionaries was constituted to finalise the consultants at block district and state level.  The selection process was delayed due to the pandemic situation during the first half of the year but 90% of the planned positions have been filled at block, district and state level. Consultants have been placed in all the verticals of KSRLPS Sanjeevini – Farm and non farm Livelihood, financial inclusion, social development, capacity building, communications, IT at state, district and block levels. In administrative areas such as Human Resource, procurement and accounts consultants have been placed at the state level.				
Overall Output Status (mark the output on the scale of 1 to 5 as per the following criteria): 3				
Exemplary (5) *****	High (4) ****	Satisfactory (3) ***	Poor (2) **	Inadequate (1) *
The project is expected to over-achieve targeted outputs and/or expected levels of quality, and there is evidence that outputs are contributing to targeted outcomes	The project is expected to over-achieve targeted outputs and/or expected levels of quality	The project is expected to achieve targeted outputs with expected levels of quality	The project is expected to partially achieve targeted outputs, with less than expected levels of quality	Project outputs will likely not be achieved and/or are not likely to be effective in supporting the achievement of targeted outcomes
Means of Verification: Consultant master list verification.				

<b>Project Output II: Livelihood Support</b>			
<b>Indicator(s):</b>	<b>Baseline:</b>	<b>Target(s):</b>	<b>Achievement(s):</b>
Operationalize the Annual Action Plan			All recruited consultants have prepared their work plan aligning to and working towards Sanjeevini's annual action plan and got approval by

			their supervisors. They are working as per these action plans.	
Support implementation of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) activities from the state to the block level.			Consultants have been placed on in the program verticals of KSRLPS Sanjeevini,	
Targeted livelihood investments - Value Chain analysis to identify top 6 Agri and horti commodities in 3 NRETP districts			Agency has been chosen and consultant position advertised.	
<b>Description of project output level <u>results achieved</u> in 2021:</b>				
<p>Consultants have been placed on in the program verticals of KSRLPS Sanjeevini at state (25) , district (3) and block levels (65+) ensuring support to NRLM team in implementation.</p> <p>A ‘Value Chain Analysis’ (VCA) to identify top 6 crops (3 Agriculture+ 3 Horticulture crops) in each NRETP districts (Tumkuru, Gadag and Uttara Kannada). The study will provide the following outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Report on methodology and documentation of the process</li><li>• Report on policies and regulations @National, state and district level. A document to serve like a Manual for FPOs</li><li>• Value Chain Analysis report for 3 Agri and 3 horticulture crops- including stakeholder mapping produce market mapping.</li><li>• Identification of Clusters in the target districts.</li><li>• Report on gap identification in Capacity building of PG women members. (actual v/s target)</li><li>• Strategic Business plan development for selected commodities to be used at PG and FPO levels. Strategic business plan prepared for each value chains with the collective’s structure from village to district within NRLM framework.</li><li>• Recommendations (intervention matrix).</li></ul> <p>This will enable the Farm livelihood team to formulate strategies for promoting farm-based livelihoods and also promote viable and profitable FPOs in the NRETP districts and beyond.</p>				
Overall Output Status (mark the output on the scale of 1 to 5 as per the following criteria): 3				
Exemplary (5) *****	High (4) ****	Satisfactory (3) ***	Poor (2) **	Inadequate (1) *
The project is expected to over-achieve targeted outputs and/or expected levels of quality, and there is evidence that outputs are contributing to targeted outcomes	The project is expected to over-achieve targeted outputs and/or expected levels of quality	The project is expected to achieve targeted outputs with expected levels of quality	The project is expected to partially achieve targeted outputs, with less than expected levels of quality	Project outputs will likely not be achieved and/or are not likely to be effective in supporting the achievement of targeted outcomes
Means of Verification: KSRLPS - Sanjeevini AAP.				

Project Output III: Innovation and partnership				
Indicator(s)	Baseline	Target(s)	Achievement(s)	
Online registry for SHG/Artisan products		Achieving state wide coverage and onboarding 1000+ SHGs	Creation of platform, development of training modules, initiation of registering, product onboarding and training of field level functionaries.	
Partnerships developed with other development agencies			Partnerships with development agencies, private orgs and academic institutions facilitated.	
Description of project output level <u>results achieved</u> in 2021:				
The Santhe platform has been developed as a registry of SHG/artisans and to provide an online space for their products. UNDP has developed SHG profiling platform targeting onboarding 1000 SHGs across Karnataka. The SHG Profiling Platform is a digital software cum website developed with an objective to digitally empower the SHGs by showcasing the products in an online platform to enhance their business. The same is handed over to KSRLPS for further onboarding work. UNDP team has provided online workshops to State, District and block levels.				
Number of Categories			14	
Number of Sub-Categories			88	
Product Templates			1107	
Total Products Uploaded by SHG/Artisans			504	
Materials 3			370	
Total SHGs			72	
Total Artisans			807	
Total Users/Buyers			77	
Total Number of products uploaded in the portal			857	
Total Number of products Accepted in the portal			504	
Total Number of products Rejected in the portal			353	
Several partnerships have also been initiated between development agencies such as World bank, ecommerce platform such as Flipkart and KSRLPS and Sanjeevini. These partnerships are helping Sanjeevini to strengthen their thematic work.				
Overall Output Status (mark the output on the scale of 1 to 5 as per the following criteria): 3				
Exemplary (5) *****	High (4) ****	Satisfactory (3) ***	Poor (2) **	Inadequate (1) *
The project is expected to over-achieve targeted outputs and/or expected levels of quality, and there is evidence that outputs are	The project is expected to over-achieve targeted outputs and/or expected levels of quality	The project is expected to achieve targeted outputs with expected levels of quality	The project is expected to partially achieve targeted outputs, with less than expected levels of quality	Project outputs will likely not be achieved and/or are not likely to be effective in supporting the achievement of targeted outcomes

contributing to targeted outcomes				
<b>Means of Verification: PMU details Sate, district and blocks</b> <b>Santh portal: <a href="https://santhe.kaushalkar.com/">https://santhe.kaushalkar.com/</a></b>				

Project Output IV: Project Management Support				
Indicator(s)	Baseline	Target(s)	Achievement(s)	
An effective project management unit at the state level.		A comprehensive and robust monitoring and evaluation system will be established develops key systems & processes for coordination, management and concurrent monitoring of the programme.	The PMU at state level is completely set up as with consultants working in all thematic areas and administrative areas of KSRLPS Sanjeevini.	
<b>Description of project output level <u>results achieved</u> in 2021:</b>				
The State PMU has been able to provide technical expertise in the thematic and administrative areas of KSRLPS Sanjeevini.				
Overall Output Status (mark the output on the scale of 1 to 5 as per the following criteria): 3				
Exemplary (5) *****	High (4) ****	Satisfactory (3) ***	Poor (2) **	Inadequate (1) *
The project is expected to over-achieve targeted outputs and/or expected levels of quality, and there is evidence that outputs are contributing to targeted outcomes	The project is expected to over-achieve targeted outputs and/or expected levels of quality	The project is expected to achieve targeted outputs with expected levels of quality	The project is expected to partially achieve targeted outputs, with less than expected levels of quality	Project outputs will likely not be achieved and/or are not likely to be effective in supporting the achievement of targeted outcomes
Means of Verification: Sate PMU details. All consultants at state PMU have been provided extension to their contracts demonstrating their value add to the organization.				

## 4. Project Risks and Issues

*This section identifies and analyses project risks and issues that:*

1) had an impact on project deliverables<sup>1</sup> (quality, schedule, etc.) During the reporting period, or  
 2) were newly identified during the reporting period and are being addressed by the project (in the case of risks, “addressed” means to mitigate their effects or decrease the likelihood of impact, and in the case of issues, how to resolve them).

**Brief overall narrative of project risks and issues:**

The covid19 pandemic affected most of the working period causing delays in the recruitment process. Similarly, it also caused delays in the training of field functionaries on the usage of Santhe platform leading to slower rate of SHG/artisan registration and product info upload. Bringing about coordination between existing KSRLPS - SANJEEVINI team and consultants placed through UNDP

**a. Updated Project Risks and Actions**

*Project Risk 1: COVID 19 1<sup>st</sup> and second waves –*

*Actions taken: Recruitment through virtual interviews, online trainings and consultations.*

*Project Risk 2: Coordination between KSRLPS - SANJEEVINI and NRETP (UNDP) consultants.*

*Actions taken: Addressing concerns and timely coordination with KSRLPS - SANJEEVINI – Sanjeevini leadership.*

*Project risk 3: Further waves of COVID 19*

## 5. Lessons Learned

*This section should capture the lessons learned to ensure on-going learning, knowledge sharing and communication within the organisation and with the partners/donors. It should include analysis on the following contents:*

- 1) Key project successes and factors which supported these successes;*
- 2) Difficulties encountered and measures taken to overcome these difficulties;*
- 3) Analysis on what could have been done differently / better to attain the project results;*
- 4) Recommendations to improve future programming.*

*(Suggested length – half a page to 1 page)*

Identifying and recruiting consultants with technical expertise proved to be a challenging task. Also embedding consultants in existing teams and achieving acceptance of new team members also proved to be difficult.

This is being overcome by creating platforms for open discussions and addressing concerns through working with top leadership of KSRLPS Sanjeevini.

Similarly creating online platforms like “Santhe” to capture crucial information like SHG/artisan information and enabling them to use technology products is also a uphill task. Comprehensive training modules were prepared and training and capacity building efforts have been carried out at state, district and block level. The ground level functionaries have been trained and supported to achieve understanding of the technology-based platforms and to ensure collect of information.

<sup>1</sup> A deliverable is defined as the result of an activity or in other terms the product which contributes to the achievement of project outputs).

## 6. The Way Forward/ Key Priorities for 2019

*This section should summarize the achievements, challenges and lessons learned as well as explain the way forward, including relevance of the project and necessary revisions that will be made to the project and plans of the upcoming reporting period. Any funding gaps, resource requirements as well as further partner engagement plans can be specified in this section. This should include any modifications that need to be made to indicators, baselines, targets as well data collection and monitoring to track progress*

*If this is a Final Report and if applicable, also mention on sustainability of the project and/or plans on future projects that may supplement / scale up the achievements of this project.*

*(Suggested length – half a page to 1 page)*

1. Consultations Series – Strengthen Enterprise Promotion -
  - Bringing together subject matter experts and institutions related to different aspects of enterprise promotion.
  - build a strong enterprise promotion strategy that focusses on crucial aspects such as Branding, packaging, marketing, compliance, e-banking for
  - Prepare a strategy document to guide KSRLPS Sanjeevini's livelihood promotion efforts.
2. Developing partnerships
  - With other development agencies such as NGOs to bring in expertise.
  - With Govt Departments and organizations for convergence in order to bring benefits of
3. Corporate partnerships:
  - To bring in expertise and possible CSR collaborations.
  - Marketing avenues for SHG products as corporate gifts
  - Voluntary employee engagement, etc
4. Partnerships with private orgs for Ecommerce, branding and marketing.
5. Partnerships with Academic institutions
  - Institutional internship arrangements for KSRLPS Sanjeevini – With institutes of repute and relevance: Design, Marketing, communication, IT etc.
6. Santhe portal
  - Working with KSRLPS Sanjeevini to achieve state wide coverage of Santhe portal across all districts
7. Capacity building of consultants
  - Understanding capacity building needs of consultants and to arrange capacity building exercises like trainings and webinars to increase project impact.
8. Creating of knowledge products –
  - Incorporating lessons from experience and communicating consistent and significant messages at both a policy and operational level.

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- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Invest in a variety of products and services to enhance the generation and use of knowledge and communications as a key tool for enhancing the quality of the program.</li></ul> |
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