

Press Release

Launching the pioneer project on Rural Non Farm Sector (RNFS) in Odisha

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‘There is a paradigmatic shift from the welfare based employment schemes to the capacity building programmes in the RNF sector’, said Dr. Ambika Prasad Nanda, State Programme Officer, UNDP in his key note address in the workshop organised by Centre for Youth and Social Development (CYSD) in partnership with CUTS International, Rajasthan. **This workshop was organised to launch an innovative project titled ‘Insight into Indian States’ in Odisha supported by UNDP, New Delhi.** The project aims at creating a coherent, user friendly, sustainable and interactive web portal depicting successful and not so successful practices adopted in the selected central sponsored and State sponsored programmes & schemes of RNFS in selected states (Odisha, Karnataka, Assam and Rajasthan).

Prof. (Dr) Anup Kumar Dash, Professor in Sociology, Utkal University Odisha and Board Member, CYSD formally inaugurated the workshop and welcomed the participants. Other dignitaries present in the inaugural session included Sri Jagadananda, Former State Information Commissioner; Sri Debaraj Behera, Mission Manager, NRLM and Sri.Ambika Nanda, UNDP. Sri. Madhusudan Sharma, Project Coordinator, CUTS made a presentation on project overview, objectives, activities at national and state level. Sri Jayadev Dakua, Senior Programme Manager coordinated the overall proceeding.

Sri Jagadananda figured out the crucial disconnects between the schemes and the target group for whom such schemes aim at. Prof. Dash urged for the formulation of a user friendly interface that would display the success stories as well as the critical gaps of the intervention programmes in the RNFS.

The session on the RNFS scenario in the state was chaired by Sri P. K Sahoo, Chairman, CYSD. Ms. Seema Gupta, Programme Manager, CYSD opened the panel discussion by providing an overview of the RNFS scenario in Odisha. Mr. M.C Sahu, AGM, NABARD; Mr K K Jha, Dy. Chief Executive (Marketing), ORMAS; Sri D. Nandy, Deputy Director, Directorate of Textiles and Handloom; Mr. Abdul Hai. OBDA shared their experiences and briefed about the enormous ongoing programmes/schemes/initiatives undertaken by their respective agencies in Odisha. In the end, Ms. Jai Shree Soni, Project Officer, CUTS summed-up the entire proceeding and thanked the participants. Workshop was attended by more than 40 participants from Government, CSOs/NGOs, research & academic institutions, media, etc.