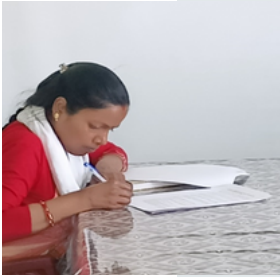




MLINDA CHARITABLE TRUST.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Jharkhand

## **1. The Mlinda Theory of Change:**

People have the right to improve their lives and livelihoods through economic development and growth. This process is already happening at great speed. Without a significant change from current behaviours, this rapid growth will do irreversible damage to the global environment. For development to be environmentally sustainable, it requires a shift from carbon intensive energy production to green energy. The shift to sustainable modes of production and consumption is a systemic challenge. Our solutions must also be systemic, offering solutions to the core flaws of the existing system. This requires a response that ranges from the local (access to finance, markets, and skills) to the national and international (funding for capital intensive energy projects). This shift requires a response that is also catalytic, triggering and precipitating a change beyond its immediate and direct reach. This means a response that can be replicated at scale by a wide range of actors. Sustainable economic growth in developing countries can only happen at scale globally if vast numbers of small, nimble, local private companies step in to play a role. The problem is too big and too urgent for governments, NGOs, or multinationals to address alone.

Mlinda's model is to mobilise small local mini-grid operators to provide clean energy as a platform to spur economic growth in rural areas of developing countries. The mini-grid operators work with businesses to grow the local economy, ensuring improvement to people's lives while at the same time growing the local market for the clean energy they sell. This virtuous circle provides a powerful incentive for commercial mini-grid operators to step in to drive sustainable economic growth.

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For a robust local economy to experience healthy growth without the ongoing need for outside support, it must have the following attributes:

- **Diversity** - a range of economic activities that complement each other and that provide opportunities for the whole population
  - **Resilience** - diversity of activities, adequate savings, and access to finance to enable people and businesses to survive economic shocks.
  - **Inclusiveness** - active participation by the whole population, regardless of gender or social category
  - **Sustainability** - economic activities that do not damage, but ideally support and enhance the natural environment
- The effort to build these attributes cuts across all of our economic development activities. They serve as criteria for selection of the businesses and individuals we will support and the way we support them

## **2. Board of Trustees**

Mlinda Charitable Trust was established by a Trust Deed under Indian Trusts Act in West Bengal in March 2012. During the financial year we received the active support and guidance from our Trustees Mrs. Tanya Dubash, Mr. Damodar Pandharinath Vaidya and Mr. Arvind D. Dubash

### 3. MCT response to COVID

- 2020 -21 Mlinda Charitable Trust has been carrying out activities in Gumla District, Jharkhand to support local people combat the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Distributed cloth face masks. 16,236 masks were distributed in the first drive, and another 8,000 during the second drive in May 2021.
- Awareness training on Covid-19 appropriate behaviours. 10,127 people attended the training.
- Working with village councils to mobilise and encourage take up of the vaccine in key groups. 1,334 young and vulnerable people were identified and supported.
- Collaboration with Mlinda Sustainable Energy Pvt.Ltd helped to ensure uninterrupted supply of energy to the project villages to enable farming activities and livelihoods of 650 families to be sustained.



## **4. Partnerships in 2021-22**

Mlinda Charitable Trust believes that sustainable growth is best achieved through working in close collaboration with others. This includes both understanding the needs and aspirations of the people in the villages we work in and developing strong strategic partnerships with other organisations, recognising that our contribution is just part of the solution to achieving our vision.

The Trust built partnerships with PRADAN and Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS) to facilitate value chain development of mustard. It resulted in the successful operationalization and marketing of mustard oil processing unit by two Farmer Producer Organisations and one Cluster Level Federation of women. Support received from Ngo-Udyogini, Ram Krishna Mission, Ranchi and Poultry Farm, Hata as resource agencies helped to develop the model for poultry end to end business. Finally, the partnership with Mlinda Sustainable Environment (Private) Ltd, who build and operate the solar minigrids in Gumla district has ensured the availability of clean and reliable electricity for running the micro enterprises. We are grateful to our donors

- Mlinda Foundation,UK 2013-ongoing
- Oak Foundation 2018-2022
- TARA 2019 – 2024 A Philips Foundation project to provide street lighting in 30 villages.

who have directly supported the Trust's work and we welcome enquiries from potential funders, partners and organisations interested in applying our work elsewhere.

## 5. Micro Enterprises by Entrepreneurs

Satlaj Ram is a micro entrepreneur who lives in Jargatoli village of Ghagra block in Gumla District. He used to run his family with the meagre income from the cultivation of 1.5 acres of land mainly in the kharif season. For Satlaj his entrepreneurial journey began in 2017 when he first opened a small grocery shop and then expanded his services by providing online services like filling up forms, booking railway ticket etc. Satlaj diligently saved money for starting another lucrative micro enterprise. When solar power became available through the mini grid, he collected information about running a milling unit.



**Youth Entrepreneur-Satlaj Ram**

He calculated the improved income returns he could earn and became confident of starting a business of rice de-husking and milling of wheat in the month of February 2022. He took the Atta Chakki machine from MCT with a security deposit of Rs.15000/-. Along with the atta chakki he also got electric motor of 7.5 HP which was also used to run the rice huller. All these activities have helped him to enhance his income manifolds. He has a small family with two little kids and he is now confident that he would be able to provide a good future to his family thanks to initiative and support by the MCT.

## 6. Accomplishments and Impacts

### a. A new beginning on Women's Day -Tribal Women Entrepreneurs



8th March 2022 marked a new beginning for the leaders of the Producer Group of Tribal women as Entrepreneurs. The group of women signed an agreement for running a unit for processing pure mustard oil at their village in Gunia, in Gumla district of Jharkhand, India. Mlinda is providing them all the technical support in processing and marketing of the oil. Ms. Gangotri Oraon the Secretary of the group was trained to operate the oil expeller machine. In two weeks she learnt the skills for operating the machine. Gangotri has given wings to inclusive and sustainable development being promoted by Mlinda.



## **b. Ghaghra Women Farmer Producer Company (GWFP) signs Agreement for Mustard End to End Business**

The Board members of Ghaghra Women Farmer Producer Company supported by NGO PRADAN and Mlinda signed an agreement to start Mustard End to End Business at villages Barwatoli and Taraguttu, in Ghagra block of Gumla district of Jharkhand, India. The FPO is now successfully processing the seeds and extracting mustard oil using clean energy. With a strength of 830 members,



GWFP has planned to cultivate mustard in the coming season in 800 acres of land. Mlinda is providing technical and marketing support for successfully running the business.





### **c. Women Farmer Producer Organisation-Gumla Mahila Kisan Swawlamban Trust- GMKST signs agreement for mustard end to end business**



The Board members of Gumla Mahila Kisan Swawlamban Trust- GMKST supported by NGO PRADAN and Mlinda signed an agreement to start Mustard End to End Business at villages Narotoli, Tigra ,Kulabira and and Sawariya in Gumla block of Gumla district of Jharkhand,India.Now they are successfully processing the seeds and extracting mustard oil using clean energy.GWFPC has 2000 women members .Mlinda is providing technical and marketing support for successfully running the business.

Machine Operator Ms.Beemati Baghwar age 30,belongs to the Kharia tribe. She is also a member of the women FPO - Gumla Mahila Kisan Swawlamban Trust- GMKST.She lost her husband a few years back and is the sole breadwinner of her family which includes her two daughters.MCT provided her hands on training.Currently ,she is working as Machine Operator for the women FPO operated micro enterprise at village Narotoli.She crushes 200 kg of mustard per day and packages 50-60 litres per day.Before leaving the unit at the end of the day she cleans up the unit and updates the registers .Bimati earns Rupees 7000 per month from her employment



## **Achievements made under Mustard Value Chain Development**

Agreements for 10 oil units were completed during the year .Two Farmer Producer Organisations and one Cluster Level Federation are running collection and distribution centres for procurement of seeds from farmers and selling oil to its own members and community members .Thus the strategy of backward market linkage where the producers are also the consumers has been implemented. SOPs for running Micro Enterprise on Mustard Oil and selection of Machine Operator were developed. The training provided by MCT has facilitated effective deployment of two women Oil Operators

In the coming season both FPOs and the CLF are expected to cultivate mustard in 1600 acres of land. Our partners PRADAN and JSLPS have planned extensively to promote the cultivation and knowledge transfer on mustard.

Data on Production and Income

- Seed crushed -31 ton.
- Total production so far-11,328 litres
- Turnover of mustard oil sold so far-21.35 Lakhs
- Estimated Income earned so far by entrepreneurs-5.11 Lakhs

#### **d. Solar Street Light Project**

Under the TARA-Philips Foundation project, high quality lighting solution was to be provided to the beneficiaries of the solar micro grid run by Energy Servicing Companies (ESCOs). Mlinda Charitable Trust made an agreement with “Society for Technology and Action for Rural Advancement” to facilitate the provision of high-quality LED street lights under the project. A total of 284 solar street lights were provided in 31 villages of Gumla district as given below

<b>Village Name</b>	<b>No of Street lights Installed</b>	<b>Village Name</b>	<b>No of Street lights Installed</b>
Kaliga	12	Barwatoli	10
Rekma sera	8	Taragutu	10
Samsera.	5	Basua	10
Murkunda.	13	Sawariya	7
Tirra.	13	Shivrajpur	12
Kutma.	13	Paharpanali	7
Kashira.	10	Naratoli	8
Kulabera.	10	Sahitoli	6
Patiya.	10	Passanga	10
Pandariya.	7	Aring toli	4
Asro.	10	Phori	10

Kodekera.	10	Tigra	7
Almanda.	10	Bara ataria	9
Guniya	10	Bhandaria	7
Jargatoli	10	Chota ataria	6
		Rekma	10
		Total	284

After discussions with the village community, these lights were installed by MSEPL in strategic locations of the villages like road crossings, dark stretches in the village, common meeting places etc. Village community members have benefitted from this service as these lights are available throughout the evening due to the uninterrupted supply of electricity from the solar mini grids. Lighting in the streets has reduced the inclination for disruptive behavior during hangouts at crossroads after dark, women can now move out of their houses in the evening without any fear. Also, incidents of animal attacks have also been reduced specially the cases of snake bite in the monsoon season. Thus, the street lights have made the movement of the people more comfortable and secure in the evening and night time. In village Bhandaria a water tank has been installed just beside the solar street light so that people can collect the water in the evening also. Overall, it can be said that the installation of the solar street lights has brought a positive impact in the lives of the people.

## 7.Human resources

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Human Resource</b>	<b>No.</b>
1	Head of Economic Development (Acting General Manager)	1
2	Head of Finance and HR	1
3	Lead Monitoring and Evaluation	1
4	Finance and Accounts Officer	1
5	Programme Manager	1
6	Project Officer-Market Linkage	1
7	Project Officer-Micro enterprise development	1
8	Programme Associates	2

## 8. Audited Financials.