

GLOSSARY

Area Development Society (ADS): It is formed at ward level by federating all the NHGs in the ward. The activities of the ADS are decided by the representatives of the women elected from various NHGs.

Community Development Societies (CDS): It is the representative structure of the vast network of NHGs in the Grama Panchayat/Municipal areas. CDS are mostly located in LSG offices and are chaired by CDS chair persons.

Empowerment: It is the process of increasing the capacity of individuals or groups to make choices and to transform those choices into desired actions and outcomes. Central to this process is actions which both build individual and collective assets, and improves the efficiency and fairness of the organizational and institutional context which govern the use of these assets.

Financial Discipline: The ability to prioritise the needs according to ones' earnings and not engaging in unwanted purchases and offering gifts.

Financial Exclusion: It means non availability of financial services from the formal service providers at an affordable cost. Financial exclusion means: No Savings, No Insurance, No access to money advice, No affordable credit, No Bank account and No assets.

Financial Inclusion: It is the availability of banking services at an affordable cost to disadvantaged and low-income groups.

Grameen and Solidarity model: This model was propagated by Bangladesh Micro-credit pioneer Muhammad Yunus. The *modus operandi* is, people form groups of three to eight persons on the condition that each of them would be assuming responsibility for the lending and other financial operations for the other members of the group.

Kudumbashree: It was started on 1st April 1991 as a partnership between four major actors (Central Government, State Government, Local Bodies and National Bank for Agriculture Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development – NABARD) and now it is emerged as the poverty eradication mission of the State. It is an organization of women from below poverty line.

Large-sized Groups- Self Help Groups that have more than 20 members are considered large.

Matured SHGs: Self Help Groups with more than or equal to 4 years of age are called Matured groups.

Medium-sized Groups: Self Help Groups that have 11 to 20 members are called medium groups.

MFIs: These are corporate organisations providing microfinance service to the low income segments. They also follow the strategy of financing through groups, but normally charges higher interest and some hidden charges may also exist.

Micro credit: It is a small amount of money loaned to a client by a bank or other Institution. Micro-credit can be offered, often without collateral, to an individual or through group lending.

Micro insurance: It is the insurance desired to protect the poor from unexpected credit shocks, loss of crops and animals, death of their sole income earner or treatment cover for the family as a whole.

Micro pensions: Micro pensions refer to long term small savings by relatively low income informal sector workers, with the objective of obtaining income security during old age.

Micro savings: These are deposit services that allow one to save small amounts of money for future use. Often without minimum balance requirements, these savings accounts allow households to save in order to meet unexpected expenses and plan for future expenses.

Microfinance: It is the provision of financial services required by the rural poor, for justifying their financial needs.

Micro-housing: It refers to the housing loans desired by low income group from rural and urban areas.

Other Office Bearers: This includes Health Volunteer, Income Volunteer and infrastructure Volunteer.

Regions: For the study, the state is divided into three Regions, viz. South, Central and North.

Remittances: These are transfer of funds from people in one place to people in another, usually across borders to family and friends and remittances are a relatively steady source of funds.

Self Help Groups: Self-help group is a method of organising the poor and the marginalized people to come together to solve their individual problem.

Self Help Promotion Institutions (SHPIs): These are government organisations, non government organisations or others who take the responsibility of forming groups, giving technical advises to groups through out their existance, arranging linkage with financial institutions, Chanallise the subsidies, if any, etc.

SHG-Bank Linkage: It means connecting SHGs with the formal banking system which create a win-win situation for banks and groups.

Small-sized Groups: Self Help Groups having less than or equal to 10 members are small.

Social Capital: It is the strength of unity through formation of groups. It can be considered an asset that contributes to the development of other forms of community capital-human, financial, physical and environmental.

Sustainability: It is the ability of a program to produce outputs that are valued sufficiently by beneficiaries and other stakeholders that the program receives enough resources and inputs to continue production.

Terrains: The study considers three forms of terrain across the State, viz. Hills, Plains and Coastal.

The Neighbourhood Groups (NHGs): These groups are formed voluntarily by including 20 to 40 women members, belonging to high risk families.

Thrift: Hard earned savings out of income allocated for some purposes or savings without adequate income.

Young SHGs: Self Help Groups with less than or equal to 3 years of age are considered Young.