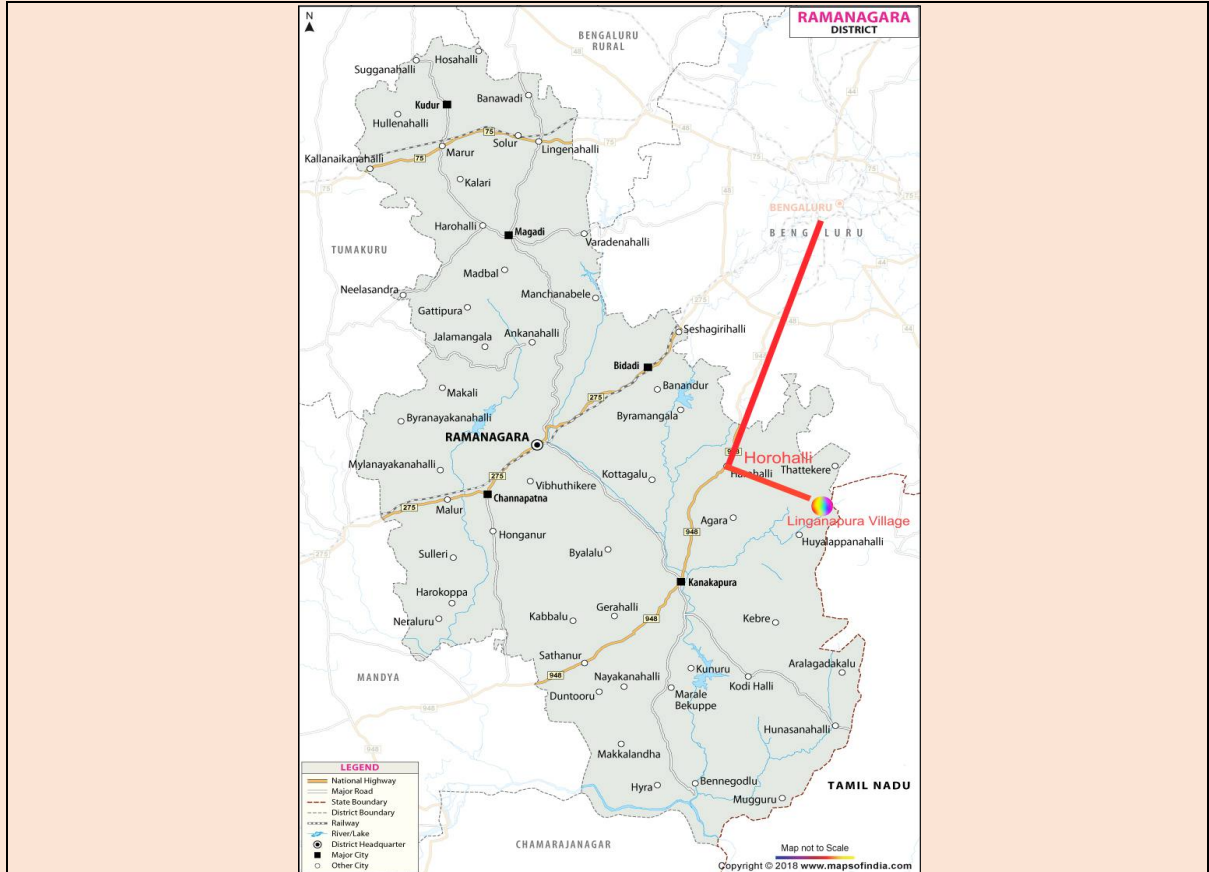


Construction of 7 Houses at Linganapura Village, Yelachavadi Grama Panchayths Ramanagara District

Project No: IN 19605– Altisource



Support for Network and Extension Help Agency

Recognised under Indian Tax Act 80G, 12A and FCAct.1976

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Section 1 – Introduction

“SNEHA” (Support for Network and Extension Help Agency) is an organization dedicated and committed to providing extended support to empower the poor and networking among development agencies working with similar objectives. The organization was started in 1999. It is working in backward areas of Mysore, Chamarajanagar, Ramanagara and Erode district with the following vision.

Vision:

To sustainably improve living conditions for the poor and vulnerable through concentration of resources on the legitimate needs of the community.

Strategy:

To achieve the above vision SNEHA promotes a convergent approach which creates a platform to mobilize and organise people institutions in the districts. It allows government and communities, as well as staff of the NGOs, to play a coordinated role in the extension of services and also to improve the quality of services. The local institutions, when organized and strengthened, will have greater involvement in assessing, analysing, planning, managing, monitoring and working jointly with systems on a continuing basis. This leads to greater relevance of the interventions to local conditions and ensures transparency, cost effectiveness, and accountability. SNEHA is instrumental in giving a voice to the groups with which they work and have started articulating their felt needs. With this background, the major “Partner” in the system i.e., ‘Delivery Mechanism’ needs to cope up with the awareness generated among people’s institutions for sustainability.

The philosophy of SNEHA is to facilitate the process of development by empowering the community to become self-sustaining. In this direction these are the strategies that SNEHA has adopted

- To work through the existing structure in the community.
- To build the capacity of the existing structures- SHG, CBOs, Grama panchayat etc.
- To establish a network among the various agencies serving the community.

With this background, SNEHA has implemented a housing programme supported by Habitat for Humanity India and Alti- Source in two Grama Panchayats.

Objective of the Project :

To assist in particular the houseless, to secure for themselves affordable shelter through access to building materials, finance and technology at Linganapura Village in Yelachavadi Grama Panchayat.

Section 2 – Background / Context of the Project:

A house is an economic asset and contributes to upward social mobility with salutary impact on health and educational achievement. The tangible and intangible benefits flowing from a permanent house are numerous and invaluable to both the family and the local economy. The development of rural housing creates jobs for those living in the rural community to meet the new demand in the construction-related professions. Purchase of building material, use of services of skilled and unskilled labour, transport services and the consequent flow of financial resources create a positive cycle of economic activities and increases demand in villages. The impacts occur in two phases: during construction and during occupancy. The positive spinoffs include social integration including enhanced social capital and sustainable communities. Security and comfort of a home provides the launch pad for feeling of enhanced social security, positive self-perception and a powerful fillip to overcoming the difficulties of poverty. The intangible benefits from improvement in housing condition are gains in labour productivity and positive health benefits. It positively influences human development

parameters of nutrition, sanitation, maternal and child health. Overall improvement in quality of life occurs along with improvements in the physical environment.

Section 3 - Planned activities and Achievements

Situational analysis and Baseline study:

Housing norms were evolved at local levels with regard to different geo-climatic conditions and life styles of the people. Promoted cost-effective and standardized housing designs for each geo-climatic region. During the beneficiary selection, Special focus was given to select the beneficiaries from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes those who do not have house. Also, attention was given to meet the specific needs of women in disadvantaged circumstances, in terms of joint or exclusive title to land and house and home-based employment opportunities. A base line study was carried out for all 7 families. During the construction process the beneficiaries have actively involved during the construction work.

Selection of Beneficiaries :

The Lingapur village is part of Yelachavadi Grama Panchayat is located in Kanakapura taluk under the Ramanagara District. Also, Bidadi Industrial area is very nearby to this Grama Panchayat. However, out of 2202 families 1901 families are living below poverty line as per the Grama Panchayat records. In this Grama Panchayat 7 very poor families have been selected from Lingapur Village. During the beneficiary selection consultation meetings were held with the beneficiaries and also cross checked with the Grama Panchayat authorities and local leaders using participatory techniques.

Behaviour Change Communication (BCC):

The objective of the BCC / IEC programmes in house construction is targeted to reach each and every household and reach to the last family with a clear message about the importance of cleanliness and hygiene aspects and use of keeping their houses. Since all these 7 families have got new houses, during and after the construction they have been motivated to keep their houses clean and use their toilets cleanly through interpersonal communication. This has helped the beneficiaries to Promote and reinforce sustained practices of safe Sanitation and Hygiene behaviour.

Masonry training:

Before start-up the construction work the masons were trained on the design and required materials along with the beneficiaries at their construction site. This has helped the masons and beneficiaries bring them together to construct houses. During the masonry training major focus was given to avoid the contractor behaviour with the beneficiaries.

Purchasing of construction material:

A purchase committee consist of two members from the beneficiaries and two programme staff and one admin staff (five members) was set up to ensure transparency on purchase of materials and to quality of construction of houses. Also, a plan and estimate was made and committee reviewed the

requirement of materials accordingly the purchases were done. When the materials came to the construction site the beneficiaries took the responsibility to protect them and use them optimally.

Section 4 - Results and impact of the project

Beneficiary No.1

Shivarathnamma W/o Late Venkatesh

She is working as a Agriculture labor and living with 3 children



Beneficiary 2

Siddamma W/o Muthiah Kullaiah

No.of Family members – 05

She is an agriculture labor and living with her Husband. Her younger son passed away leaving two small children. Also her husband is having eye problem.



Beneficiary 3

Kenchamma W/o Late Muthaiah

No.of Family members – 02

Women headed family having one son who is studying 10th std.



Beneficiary 4

Thimmamma W/o Late Nagaraju

No.of Family members – 03

She is an agriculture labor and living with her two sons. Her husband passed away.



Beneficiary 5

Puttahalagamma W/o Siddaraju

She is working as a Agriculture labor and living with 2 children



Beneficiary :6

Devamma W/o Raju

No.of Family members – 06 , She is as a Agriculture labor and living with her Husband and having 4 children, Husband is working as a labour



Beneficiary :7

Kalamma W/o Shiva

No.of Family members – 09, She is as a Agriculture labor and living with Husband and 7 children, Husband is working as a labour



Impact:

Due to election code of conduct unable to organise a function for inauguration, however the beneficiaries have entered houses during Ugadhi festival day which is the new year for Karnataka. All beneficiaries were expressed her gratitude to the donors that in their life they never forget the support from Alti-Source and Habitat for Humanity India for their house construction which they never imagined to live in such a beautiful house. They all have assured that they maintain the house properly for ever. The house has increased their social status in the village and gave them more confidence to improve livelihood.

Section 5 - Stakeholders engagement

The plan preparation includes a two-way process of guidance and technical support from above and bottom up process of identifying the households those who have critical issues. Since SNEHA has good relationship with the Grama Panchayat (GP) officials already they have identified the families who needs support external support to construct their houses. These families have been verified again with support from local leaders and real issues were identified. The entire cost and materials requirement were discussed. The unskilled labour was provided by the beneficiary for his / her house construction work. The Chief Executive officer of Zilla Panchayat, Ramanagara and GP official provided great support during the construction of the houses. All the beneficiaries have made their kind contribution through construction of the basement work. One family unable to complete their contribution but the Grama Panchayat member had mobilised free construction materials from the village and labour component was paid from the project. All houses constructed with twin pit toilets with a junction chamber.



Section 6 - Lessons learnt

The project gave a great learning of taking concerns from neighbours before taking up house construction work. Our focus was only on documents from the beneficiary and Grama Panchayth completely we missed the neighbour's view. After the construction work when neighbour created a problem then we realised the importance taking opinion before starting the construction work.

Section 7 - Sustainability Strategy and Plans:

Every poor family in the country thinks about Construction of their own house in their life time. However, when the government provide housing scheme to the poor families in they create a dependency on supplies. During implementation of this project more focus was given to bring ownership through their involvement. More the volunteer services from Alti -Sources and Habitat for Humanity has helped the beneficiaries to understand their situation and others support to construct their own house. Further SNEHA has made an MoU with the beneficiaries witnessed by the Grama Panchayat to ensure sustainability. The MoU describes the terms and conditions such as the beneficiary should not rent, sell and lease house to somebody else.

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