

## **Introduction:**

In the realm of rural wage employment, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a unique endeavor and acclaimed as one of the best in paving way for sustainable rural livelihoods by ensuring wage employment and generating assets. As part of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the State Governments are affecting several programmes/schemes to ensure provision of wage employment to registered job seekers and also generating meaningful assets triggering growth in rural areas and thus ensuring sustainable rural livelihoods. Behind many such an endeavor, planning for convergence with Mahatma Gandhi NREGA as base with schemes from other rural development programmes has always been considered as augmentation of positive results from the assets generated. The convergence between the programmes/schemes under Ministries of Rural Development (MoRD), Water Resources (MoWR), Agriculture (MoA) and Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF) have taken initiative and evolved guidelines for convergence of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) with the programmes of the other partner Ministries. Creation of durable and quality (community and individual) assets and livelihood security to the rural people are critical issues in rural development. Involvement of community and other stakeholders (including programme implementers) in planning process should be the foci of initiatives of the government. The process of planning such convergence, the rich experiences of experimentation and implementation is of immense value while strengthening rural livelihoods. However, the elucidation on such planning, execution and experiences is limited to isolated pockets either within the districts or States and thus leading lack of proliferation of successful endeavors in this regard. On other hand, proliferation of such knowledge and exposure is of immense value among the functionaries of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA and other agents of rural development initiatives.

Under the MGNREGA, Panchayats are required to prepare perspective plans that involve extensive mapping of village resources. Besides, Panchayats are also supposed to make an annual plan every year to identify works that can be taken up for local resource improvement. So, villages are the basic unit of planning under the scheme. It is strongly believed that the participation of community and more so key

Stakeholders like workers and farmers in the planning exercise would result in optimal use of resources and environmental security. In order to improve the durability, quality and productivity of assets created under MGNREGS, Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has emphasized on convergence aiming at resource pooling, technology transfer and value addition. In view of this MoRD has evolved guidelines for convergence of MGNREGS with the programmes and schemes of other Ministries, viz., Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Forest and Environment and Ministry of Water Resources. Of late, MoRD has included a new set of works for widening the scope for undertaking more number of useful works to the community. The field data indicates that some of the functionaries have made innovations in performing certain tasks effectively but such initiatives are only sporadic and thus emphasizing the need for more such endeavors in this regard. It is appropriate to share and learn from the varied experiences with a view to adapt and adopt the good practices / procedures in the local context.

In this context NIRD&PR is organizing Training Program on Convergence of Rural Development Programmes for Strengthen Rural Livelihoods, so that the overall effectiveness of MGNREGS convergence based Planning and Implementation process improves.

### Objectives of the Training programme:

- Exposure to guidelines, processes and exploration of convergence of initiatives under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA
- Process of participatory assessment of needs, planning for Convergence
- Exposure to Successful Convergence Initiatives.
- Field based exposure to Convergence practices
- Strengthening Convergence initiatives

**Clientele:** State level District officials from Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and SIRD Faculty

**Important date:** Participants are requested to send the nominations before 6.12.2021.

### Online Registration link:

<https://forms.gle/Q1r5oNEFZyVh5Tac7>

**Duration:** The duration of training programme is for three days i.e., **December 8-10, 2021**

### Programme Director

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## Online Training Programme ON Convergence of Rural Development Programmes for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods

(December 8-10, 2021)



### PROGRAMME TEAM

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**Dr. Jyothis Satyapalan**



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