PODAPADAR COMMUNITY SEED BANK

Odisha, Kalahandi District

Niger seed production by the CSB
Photo: Agragamee

This Community Seed Bank (CSB) , supported by Agragamee, is in Podapadar village and was established in 2015. Consisting of more than 25 members, it benefits more than 20 farm households. The CSB is managed by 5 selected committee members and a community mobilizer taking care of the record maintenance. The CSB has been promoting Indigenous seeds under climate-smart agriculture among tribal farmers to revive the seed Biodiversity and establish a model for eco-village development.

Currently, it conserves 21 crop varieties including Millet (4), Rice (2), Red gram (1), Horse gram (1), Black gram (1), Mango (4), Cashew (1), Niger (1), Mustard (1), Tomato (1), Chilli (1), Cucumber (1), Pumpkin (1), and Bottle gourd (1).

The CSB manages demo plots at farmers' fields for quality seed production. They participate in seed and food fairs at the block level. The CSB is also into creating awareness of saving seeds. It also provides grain loans to ensure food security for the community. Organizations such as Karl Kubel Stiftung have provided capacity building to the CSB.

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