

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act



**Opportunity for Sustainable Rural
Development through Inter-sectoral
Convergence**

**Ministry of Rural Development
Government of India**

NREGA Objectives

1. **Supplementing wage employment opportunities**
2. **Creating sustainable rural livelihoods through rejuvenation of natural resource base i.e. creation of productive rural assets**
3. **Strengthening rural governance through greater transparency and accountability**

NREGA Performance 2008-09

- **Employment provided to 4.5 crore HHs**
- **48% of workers were women**
- **55% of workers were SC/ST**
- **Average no. of workdays per household 48**
- **Average wage rate Rs. 84 per day**
- **Average earnings per household Rs. 4032**
- **Expenditure: Rs. 27,000 cr. (wages 67%)**
- **26.7 lakh works undertaken**

Nature of Works

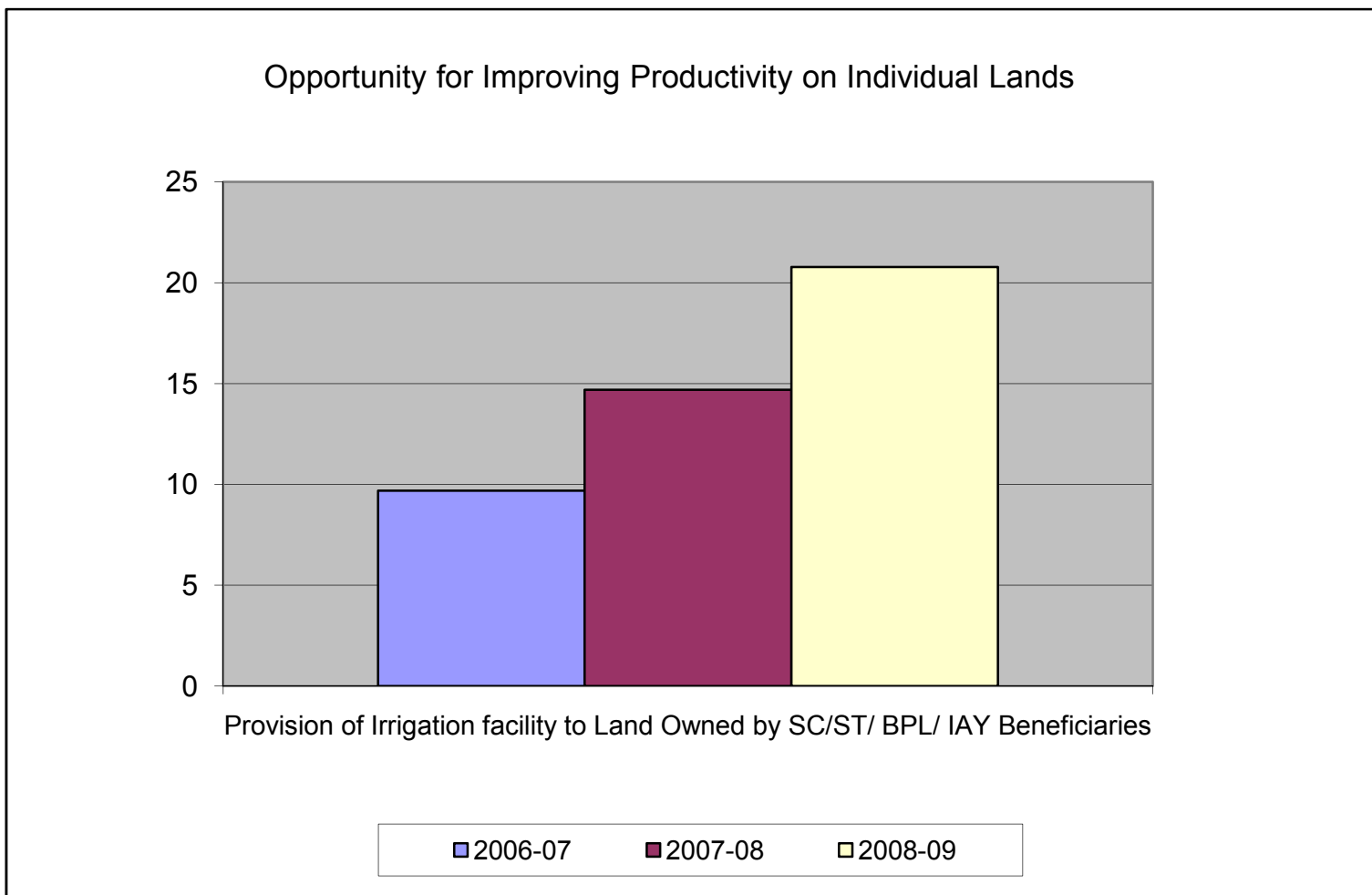
Community Lands

- Water conservation
- Water harvesting
- Drought proofing
- Plantation & Afforestation
- Renovation of water bodies
- Desilting of tanks & canals
- Flood control measures
- Rural connectivity

Private Lands

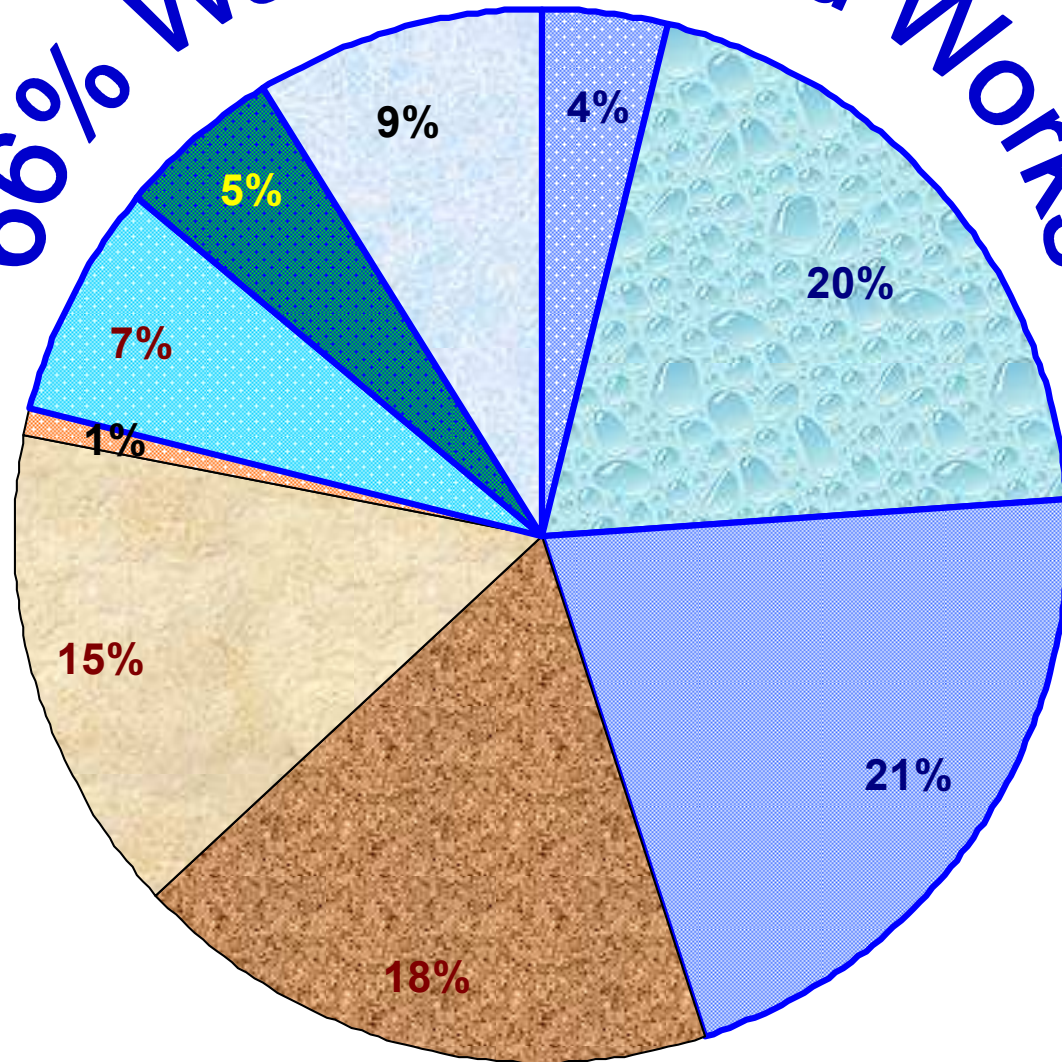
- SC/ST/IAY/Land Reform beneficiaries
- BPL farmers
(small & marginal farmers account for 80% of land-holdings & operate 40% of cultivated land)
- Land Development
- Irrigation facilities
- Plantation
- Horticulture

Increasing share of irrigation works on private lands



Highest Priority to Water Conservation in Choice of Works under NREGA: Financial Year 2008-09

66% Water Related Works



- Flood Control and Protection
- Water Conservation and Water Harvesting
- Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by SC/ST/BPL/ IAY Beneficiaries
- Rural Connectivity
- Land Development
- Others
- Drought Proofing (Afforestation & Plantation)
- Micro Irrigation Works
- Renovation of Traditional Water bodies

Programme synergies for natural resource management, livelihood security and sustainable development

NREGA has implications for

- ❖ Food Security**
- ❖ Water Security**
- ❖ Environmental Security**
- ❖ Energy Security**

Yields co-benefits for adaptation to adverse effects of climate change

Inter-Sectoral Convergence

for

Creation of Durable Productive Assets

- **From mere wage employment to sustainable rural livelihoods**
- **From unskilled to skilled labour through knowledge & technology input, training & capacity building in productivity increases, water-use efficiency, backward–forward linkages**
- **Significant productivity increases could be stimulated by NREGA on holdings of small and marginal farmers in rainfed areas**

Parameters for Convergence

- A process that brings together on-going schemes
- Guidelines are a **broad facilitating framework**
- **Parameters of NREG Act and Guidelines as well as the guidelines of the other development Schemes with which convergence is attempted are not altered.**
- Convergence is expected to **create value addition** through resource and activity synergies as well as **infusion of technology input and professional quality** in planning and implementation
- **Joint monitoring of Convergence**

Joint Guidelines on convergence of NREGS with specific programmes & schemes

- ✓ **Ministry of Agriculture -- Indian Council of Agricultural Research**
- ✓ **Ministry of Environment and Forest**
- ✓ **Ministry of Water Resources**
- ✓ **Department of Land Resources**
- ✓ **Pradhan mantri Gram Sadak Yojana – Rural Roads**
- ✓ **SGSY (Department of Rural Development)**
- **Joint monitoring and review of the convergence**
- **Shared data base through MIS**
- **Shared use of GIS, use of satellite imaging planned.**
- **Pilots Projects on convergence in selected districts taken up like action research identifying further possibilities and up-scaling.**

Funding will be through NREGA and concerned programmes

NREGS and Convergence with ICAR Technologies

Value adding activities on NREGA work

- **Field Demonstrations of crop & horticulture technologies by KVKs on individual land holdings developed under NREGA**
- **Introducing fish-culture in community water-bodies created under NREGA**
- **Supporting income generating activities by dovetailing micro credit schemes (such as SGSY) and ICAR technologies**
- **NRM activities where the expertise of KVKs can be used in conjunction with the choice of works under NREGA**

Convergence with NREGS for Water conservation and efficient Water use

- **Artificial Recharge of Ground Water through Dug well**
- **Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies directly linked to Agriculture/ Aquaculture**
- **Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme**
- **Flood Management Programme**
- **Farmer's Participation Action Research Programme**
- **Command Area Development & Water Management Programme**
- **Value Addition: The work of Canal plantation and Canal fair weather road may be carried out under NREGA as value addition.**

Convergence with NREGS for Eco restoration

- **Root stock regeneration, new plantation and Silvipasture**
 - **Fencing**
 - **Land Development** to rehabilitate degraded forest
 - **Forest fair weather Roads**
 - **Water Conservation**
 - **National Afforestation Programme**
- Implementation agencies:** Joint Forest Management Committees

Income Generation: Convergence of SGSY with NREGS

- **SHGs to facilitate processes:** social audit, accounts, IEC, (Kudumbshri model, Kerala), IT Kiosks
- **Organise NREGA workers as SHGs**
- **Upgrade skills.** Include NREGA worker for SGSY training and capacity building programme and skills enhancement
- Primary input from NREGA, **Value add through SGSY as** economic activity (Processing, market links) for weaning into self employment

Empowerment of workers through Convergence

Building Social Capital through NREGA

NREGA workers have a unique ID and Job Card available on the NREGA website. This can be used to identify and track benefits that should accrue to them through different programmes,

- ❖ Literacy
- ❖ Health (NRHM)
- ❖ ICDS: nutrition, child care
- ❖ Insurance
- ❖ Forest Dwellers with *Pattas* can be prioritised for work on individual land under NREGA, field demonstration of technologies(ICAR), SHG formation.

NREGA Workshop

- **Experience sharing among field practitioners**
- **Creating a network of institutions and CSOs as catalysing agents for convergence**
- **Generating awareness of convergence guidelines with multi/ bilateral agencies supporting integrated rural livelihood projects**
- **Future Projects to factor in convergence**
- **Suggestions for further refinement & value addition**

Thank You