



SEED (Society for Socio-Economic and Ecological Development)

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

October-December, 2025

## Sustainable Growth in Action

Across the climate-vulnerable regions of the Sundarbans (West Bengal) and Palamu & Latehar (Jharkhand), SEED continued to build community resilience through four flagship programmes this quarter – the Muskaan Early Childhood Care Centres (ECCCs) funded by **SBI Foundation**, Integrated Water & Livelihood Solutions programme supported by **Azim Premji Foundation**, Solar Lighting project supported by the **Signify Innovations India Ltd** and the Community Led Mangrove project funded by the **Tiger Widows organisation**.

From safe drinking water, pond rejuvenation, mangrove restoration, combating energy poverty in forest fringe villages to early childhood learning and maternal health in climate vulnerable islands, this quarter marked tangible progress for over **7500 community members**.



### MUSKAAN ECCCs: Nurturing Early Childhood in Ghoramara & Sagar

SBIF supported two Early Childhood Care Centres (ECCCs) continued to support 100 children aged 2–6 in Ghoramara and Sagar Islands, providing integrated early learning, health, nutrition and psychosocial support. During the quarter, 89% of children improved participation in group learning and 85% showed progress in language and numeracy, 78 psychosocial sessions and distribution of bilingual books to encourage home-based learning. Health and nutrition interventions included child and maternal health camps, nutrition assessments, micronutrient support and daily mid-day meals, leading to improved attentiveness and energy among children while addressing cases of undernutrition and health concerns. Community engagement remained strong through parent workshops, advisory committee meetings, staff capacity building on child rights and FLN pedagogy and Child Rights Week activities, strengthening awareness and collective commitment to protection and development of climate refugee children of the Sunderbans.

## WATER & LIVELIHOOD: Building Resilience Across 6 Villages of Ghoramar Island

Supported by the Azim Premji Foundation, SEED launched the inception phase of a three-year Water & Livelihood programme in six villages of Ghoramara Island, completing all planned milestones for the quarter. Key progress included finalising two raised tubewell sites (Chunpuri and Mandirtala), selecting eight ponds across five villages for rejuvenation after cadastral surveys and GPS mapping, and conducting O&M training for Water User Groups and Village Water Management Committees. Governance structures were strengthened through the formation of VWMCs and pond-level user groups with over 50% women's participation, alongside consultations with the Gram Panchayat, Block Development Office, and Gram Sansad. The project also advanced livelihood development for 50 landless families, including weaving training for women, backyard poultry training led by WBUAFS experts, and irrigation management sessions for 100 marginal farmers to support climate-resilient rabi cultivation.

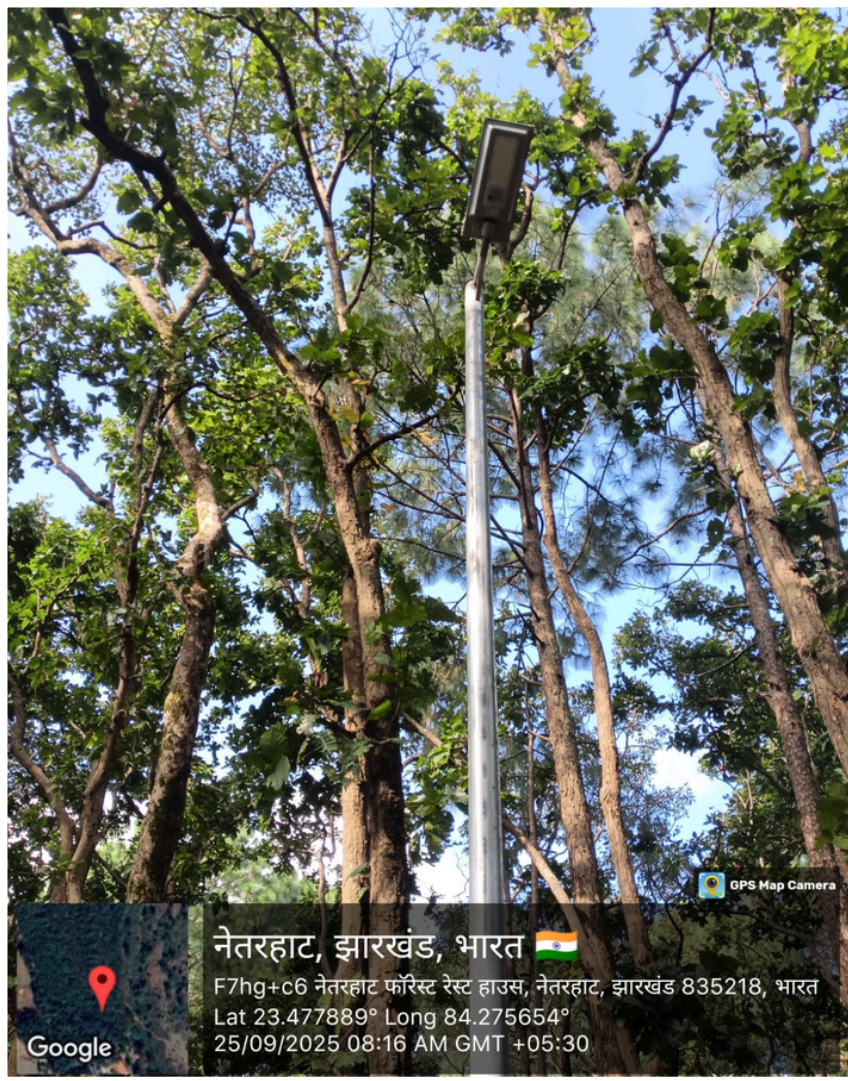


### Mangrove Restoration & Livelihood Diversification

Under the Mangrove Restoration programme at Jharkhali, supported by the Tiger Widows Association, Ireland, SEED engaged 150 local women in mangrove nursery management, plantation activities, and complementary livelihoods such as backyard poultry, while strengthening coastal protection through continued plantation efforts.

In parallel, the Livelihood Diversification initiative with T & I Global Ltd. progressed with capacity building of 300 women in sustainable income opportunities including water hyacinth nature crafting, handloom and handicrafts, and eco-tourism services.

Together, these initiatives reflect SEED's integrated model of linking ecosystem restoration, climate adaptation, and women-led livelihood generation to build resilient communities in the Sundarbans.



## Solar Lighting for Safer Forest Fringe Communities – Palamu Tiger Reserve

With support from Signify Innovations India Ltd., SEED successfully completed a solar and LED lighting initiative across 62 forest fringe villages in the Palamu Tiger Reserve landscape (Jharkhand).

The project installed 1,979 LED lights and 100 solar streetlights across villages in the Garu, Mahuadanr and Barwadih blocks of Palamu and Latehar districts, significantly improving nighttime visibility and safety for local communities living close to forest areas.

The initiative aimed to reduce accidental human-wildlife encounters, particularly in elephant-affected areas, while improving mobility and safety for women, children, elderly residents and forest-dependent households.

Implemented in close coordination with the Palamu Tiger Reserve Forest Department, the project demonstrates how sustainable lighting solutions can strengthen community safety while supporting human-wildlife coexistence in ecologically sensitive landscapes.

# SEED

SOCIETY FOR SOCIO-  
ECONOMIC &  
ECOLOGICAL  
DEVELOPMENT



## Looking Ahead

As SEED moves into the next quarter, the organisation will continue strengthening its efforts to build climate-resilient and inclusive communities across vulnerable regions. Through sustained collaboration with communities and partners, SEED aims to scale solutions that enhance resilience, protect natural ecosystems and create sustainable opportunities.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our valued partners and supporters—SBIF, Azim Premji Foundation, Signify Innovations India Ltd., Tiger Widows Association, and T & I Global Ltd.—for their continued trust and commitment. Their support enables SEED to reach vulnerable communities and drive meaningful, lasting impact on the ground.



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