

Survey Results for the Implementation of Small Farmers Large Field (SFLF) in Bihar and Odisha

Research note 60

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SUMMARY

This research note analyzes the economic impact of the Small Farmers Large Fields (SFLF) initiative on smallholder farmers in Nalanda, Bihar, and Koraput, Odisha. The study highlights significant yield increases and improved net returns in treatment villages compared to control groups, emphasizing the effectiveness of collective farming practices. The initiative empowers farmers by providing targeted training and resource links, addressing socio-economic barriers. Despite challenges such as climate variability and reliance on rainfall, the SFLF model demonstrates the potential for enhancing agricultural productivity and livelihoods by scaling similar smallholder aggregation models and promoting sustainable agricultural development in India.

BACKGROUND

Agriculture is an important pillar of the Indian economy, providing livelihoods for a significant portion of the population and contributing to rural development. In India, approximately 44% of the workforce is engaged in agriculture and allied sectors, with this figure being particularly pronounced in states like Odisha and Bihar (Economic Survey, 2023; RBI, 2023). Despite its critical role, the agricultural sector faces numerous challenges, including poverty, malnutrition, and limited access to resources. The issue is further compounded due to the existence of a large number of marginal and small landholdings.

Smallholder farmers face a range of challenges that hinder their productivity, profitability, and resilience. One of the most significant issues is the prevalence of fragmented and small landholdings, with over 86% of farmers in India owning less than two hectares of land (Agriculture Statistics, 2019). This fragmentation limits economies of scale, making it difficult for farmers to adopt mechanization or other modern agricultural technologies.

Additionally, access to quality inputs, such as seeds, fertilizers, and irrigation, remains inconsistent and costly, often resulting in suboptimal yields (FAO, 2021). Market inefficiencies further add to their struggles, as weak linkages and inadequate storage infrastructure force many farmers to sell their produce at distressed prices during harvest seasons (NITI Aayog, 2020).

Furthermore, climate variability and extreme weather events pose significant risks, as smallholders often lack the resources to implement adaptive measures (World Bank, 2022)

NEED FOR SMALLHOLDER AGGREGATION SYSTEMS

Aggregation models, such as the Small Farmers Large Field (SFLF) initiative, enable marginal farmers to pool resources, access quality inputs, and adopt mechanization, lowering costs and improving productivity (Baruah, Mohanty & Rola, 2021).

Furthermore, collective action empowers farmers by enhancing market linkages and creating opportunities for crop diversification, which is critical for income stability and food security (Barik et al, 2024). The success of such models in pilot regions like Nalanda, Bihar, demonstrates their potential to scale and provide resilience against systemic risks such as climate change and price volatility (Kannan & Pohit, 2021). By promoting economies of scale, fostering social capital, and addressing structural inequities, aggregation models hold the key to transforming India's agrarian landscape, ensuring sustainable development for millions of smallholder farmers.

AGRICULTURAL CONTEXT IN BIHAR

Bihar, one of the eastern states of India, has a predominantly agrarian economy, with nearly half of its population engaged in agriculture and allied activities. However, the sector contributes only 21% to the state's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), indicating a significant disparity between employment and economic output (Economic Survey, 2023).



Above: SFLF farmers at a workshop in Nalanda Bihar, India; photo: CIP-TAFSSA team



Above: Potato harvest at Koraput Odisha, India; photo: CIP-TAFSSA team

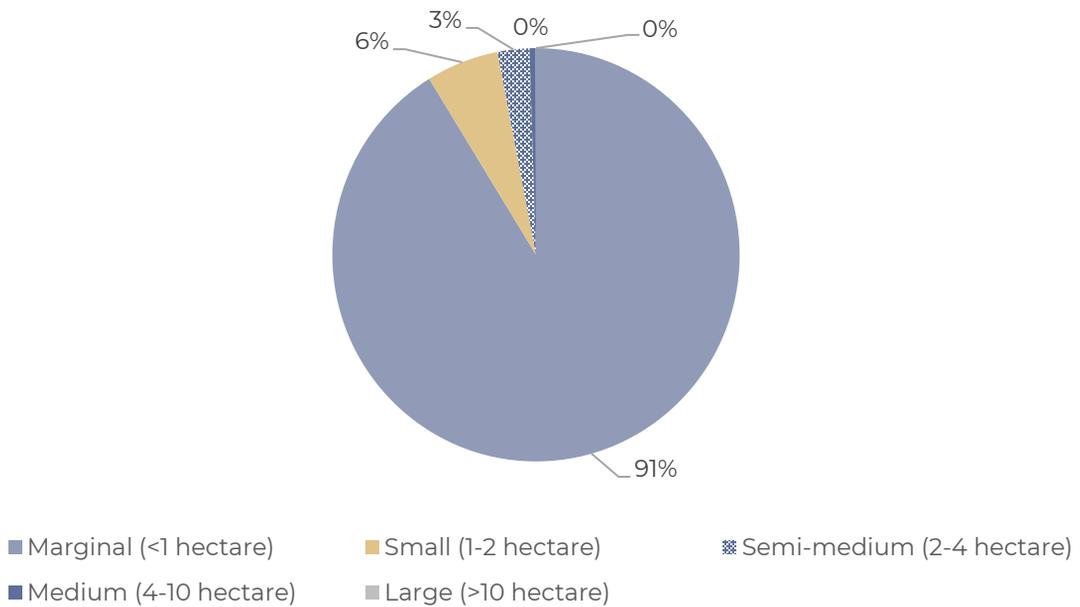


Figure 1: Size-wise distribution of land holdings in Bihar. **Source:** Agriculture Statistics, 2019

The agricultural landscape in Bihar is characterized by small and marginal landholdings, with over 90% of farmers owning less than one hectare of land. This fragmentation of land poses challenges for productivity and economic viability, as small farmers often lack the resources and bargaining power to compete effectively in the market (RBI, 2023).

The agricultural practices in Bihar are heavily reliant on monsoon rains, with a significant portion of irrigation depending on surface water. Although 57% of the cropping area is irrigated, the dependence on rainfall makes the sector vulnerable to climate variability and extreme weather events. The state has the lowest GDP and per capita income among Indian states and union territories, which exacerbates the challenges faced by farmers (Economic Survey, 2023). The lack of access to quality inputs, poor market functioning, and limited crop diversification further hinder agricultural growth in the region.

Despite these challenges, Bihar ranks as the third-largest potato producer in India, contributing 16% to national production and achieving a yield of 27.6 tons per hectare, surpassing the national average (DoH, 2020). Potato cultivation has emerged as a significant food crop in the state, contributing 2.86% to the agricultural GDP. The crop's ability to be harvested early provides substantial energy and protein, emphasizing its importance in ensuring nutritional security and enhancing the agricultural GDP.

The introduction of the SFLF model in Nalanda, Bihar, aims to address the challenges faced by small and marginal farmers by promoting collective action. The SFLF initiative encourages farmers to pool their resources into larger fields, thereby enhancing their bargaining power in both input and output markets. This collaborative approach not only aims to improve productivity but also seeks to empower farmers through knowledge sharing and access to quality inputs.

AGRICULTURAL CONTEXT IN ODISHA:

Odisha, located in eastern India, is the eighth-largest state and is characterized by a diverse climate that supports a variety of agricultural practices. Approximately 44% of the workforce in Odisha is engaged in agriculture, yet the sector contributes only 24% to the state's overall value addition (RBI, 2023). The state is divided into ten agro-climatic zones,

with rice being the primary crop during the Kharif season, while pulses and oilseeds dominate the Rabi season. Despite its agricultural potential, Odisha faces significant challenges, including high rates of poverty, malnutrition, and inadequate food supply, particularly affecting vulnerable farming communities (Coalition for Food and Nutrition Security, 2023).

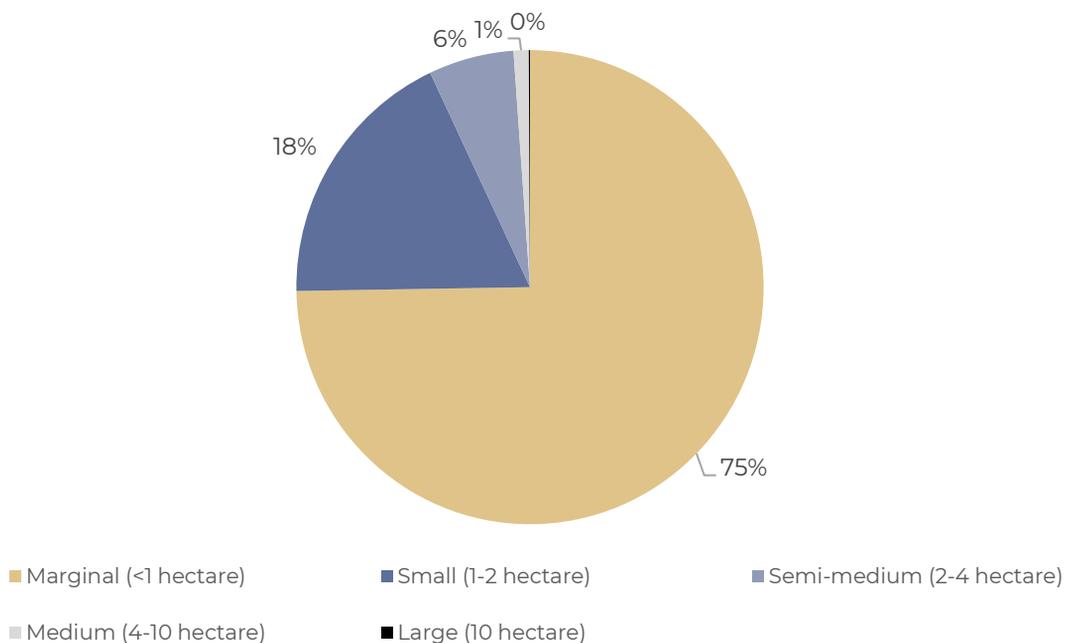


Figure 2: Size-wise distribution of land holdings in Odisha. **Source:** Agriculture Statistics, 2019

The predominance of small and marginal landholdings in Odisha, with over 93% classified as such, poses considerable challenges for farmers. The average size of landholdings has declined to 0.95 hectares, making it difficult for farmers to achieve economies of scale (Odisha Agriculture Statistics, 2019). Women farmers, who constitute a significant portion of the agricultural workforce, face additional barriers to accessing resources, information, and decision-making power.

This is particularly concerning in Odisha, where 57% of employed women work in agriculture (MOSPI, 2021).

Koraput, a district in southern Odisha, is recognized as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS) and is home to a diverse tribal population. Traditional agriculture in Koraput is characterized by high biodiversity and in-situ conservation, with paddy as the main crop, alongside maize, millets, and pulses.

The region's ecological conditions support both Kharif and Rabi cultivation, making it a vital area for agricultural production. However, local tribal communities face poverty, particularly women farmers who encounter barriers to economic independence due to limited access to resources and information.

The Women Small Farmers Large Fields (SFLF) initiative was introduced in Koraput to enhance the participation of women in potato production. By pooling their resources into larger fields, women farmers can benefit from economies of scale, reduce costs for inputs and machinery, and improve their bargaining power in the market. The initiative aims to empower women through targeted training programs, input linkages, and the dissemination of agricultural innovations.

CHALLENGES IN AGRICULTURE:

Both Bihar and Odisha face common challenges in their agricultural sectors, including inadequate access to quality seeds, high production costs, and limited knowledge of good agronomic practices. In Bihar, the non-availability of high-yielding and stress-resistant varieties, coupled with poor market functioning, hampers agricultural growth. Farmers often struggle with high production costs due to the overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, leading to environmental degradation and reduced profitability.

In Odisha, the challenges are compounded by the socio-economic context, where women farmers face greater constraints than men in accessing productive resources. The lack of financial literacy and awareness of government schemes further

exacerbates the difficulties faced by women in agriculture. The SFLF initiative seeks to address these challenges by promoting collective action and empowering farmers, particularly women, to enhance their livelihoods and improve agricultural sustainability.

THE SFLF INITIATIVE:

The SFLF initiative, implemented in both Nalanda and Koraput, aims to promote collective farming practices among small and marginal farmers. In Nalanda, the initiative engages both male and female farmers, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing to enhance agricultural productivity. The model encourages farmers to pool their resources into larger fields, thereby improving their bargaining power in the market and facilitating access to quality inputs.

In Koraput, the SFLF initiative specifically targets women farmers, recognizing their critical role in agricultural production and food security. By providing training on good agricultural practices, financial literacy, and input linkages, the initiative aims to empower women and enhance their participation in potato cultivation. The focus on off-season potato production during the Kharif season allows women farmers to command higher prices for their produce, contributing to their economic empowerment.

The overarching goal of the SFLF initiative in both regions is to improve the livelihoods of farmers through the dissemination of agricultural innovations, training on good agricultural practices, and the establishment of input-output linkages. By focusing on collective

action, the initiative seeks to create resilient agrifood systems that contribute to food security and economic sustainability.

The agricultural landscapes of Nalanda, Bihar, and Koraput, Odisha, present unique challenges and opportunities for small and marginal farmers. The SFLF initiative serves as a transformative approach to empower farmers, particularly women, by promoting collective farming practices and enhancing access to resources. As the initiative progresses, it holds the potential to significantly improve the

livelihoods of farmers and contribute to sustainable agricultural development in these regions.

IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

The implementation of the Small Farmers Large Fields (SFLF) initiative in both Koraput, Odisha, and Nalanda, Bihar, involved a structured and systematic approach designed to empower small and marginal farmers through collective action. The process was tailored to address the specific challenges faced by farmers in each region while promoting sustainable agricultural practices and enhancing livelihoods.

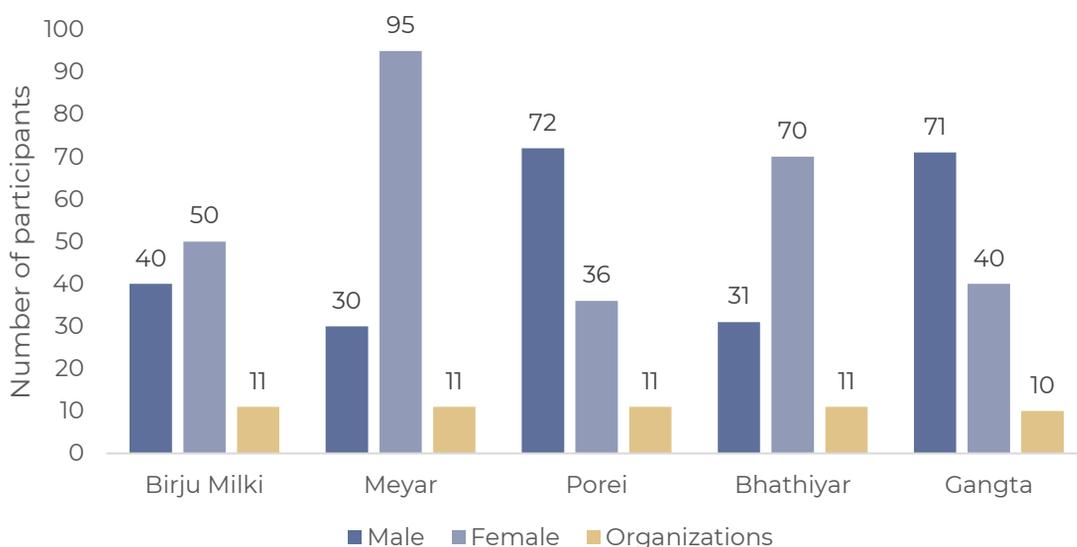


Figure 3: Farmer participation for the inception meeting in Nalanda, Bihar, India

1. Farmer Identification: In Koraput, the identification of women farmers was based on historical records of cultivating off-season potatoes. A total of 54 women farmers were selected from two villages, Arlabput (36 farmers) and Jantaput (18 farmers), with support from the NGO PRAGATI. The selection process emphasized mutual consent and engagement with farmers who actively participated in potato production. Additionally, a non-

SFLF village named Gagadapondi was chosen as a control group, including 43 women farmers who cultivate non-SFLF potatoes for comparative analysis.

In Nalanda, the implementation process began with initial field visits and inception sessions involving over 100 participants, including farmers, representatives from NGOs, and international organizations.

The identification of treatment and control villages was conducted through Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA), focusing on characterizing farming systems and constraints in the region. The selected treatment villages included Meyar and Kairi with 97 participating farmers, while Pariaunna served as the control village during 2022-23. During 2023-24, Meyar, Kairi and Jamunapur served as the treatment villages with 103 participating farmers and Sirsiya Bigha and Museypur served as the control villages with 100 farmers.



Above: First interactive session with Women SFLF farmers in Koraput, India; photo: CIP-TAFSSA team

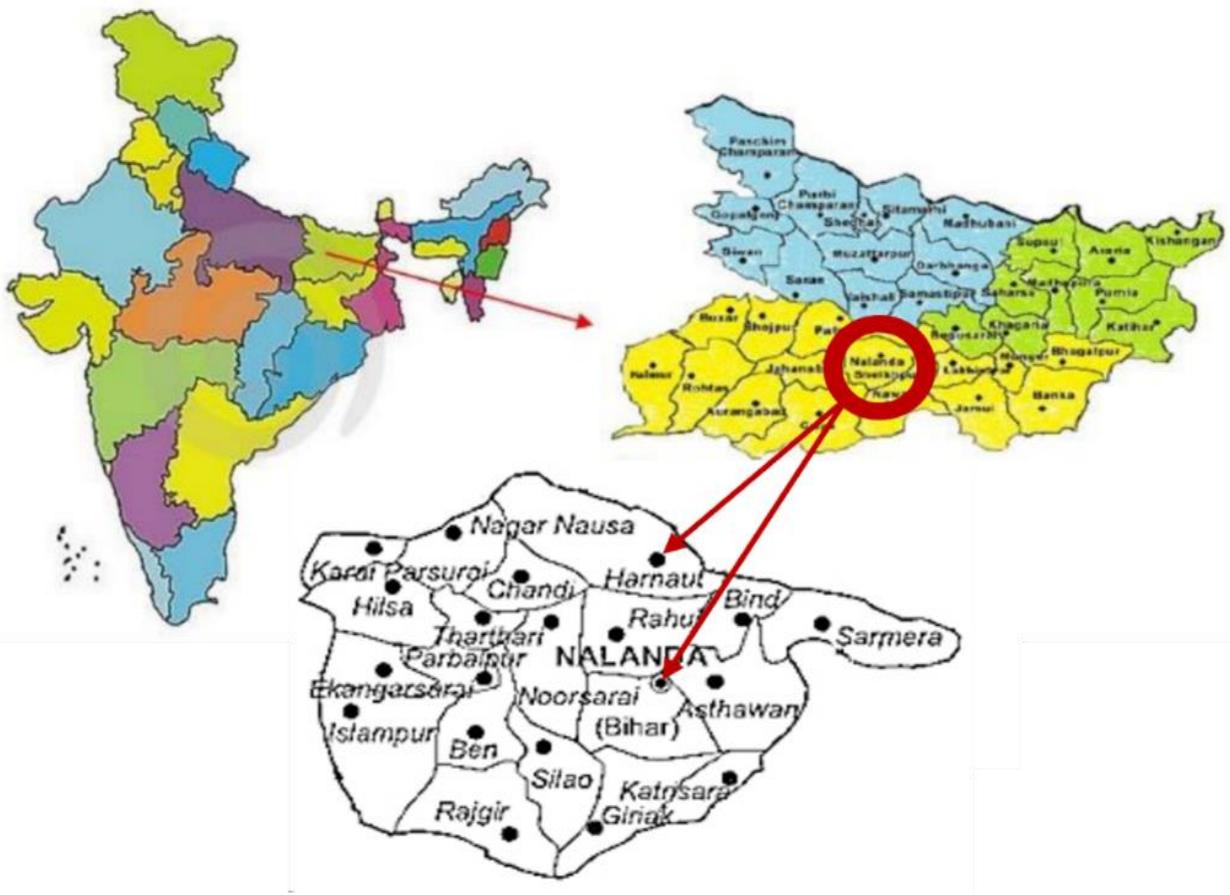


Figure 4: Locations for conducting Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) in Nalanda, India

2. Training Programs: Both regions emphasized the importance of training programs to enhance farmers' knowledge and skills. In Koraput, training sessions were conducted on good agricultural practices (GAPs), financial literacy, and the standardized package of practices (PoP) for potato cultivation. The training covered essential topics such as land preparation, planting techniques, pest management, and harvesting. The sessions aimed to equip women farmers with the necessary skills to improve productivity and ensure sustainable farming practices.

In Nalanda, training programs focused on various aspects of potato cultivation, including financial literacy, fertilizer application, pest and disease management, and seed linkage. The International Potato Center (CIP) organized training sessions that targeted resource-poor farmers,

emphasizing quality seed potato production and economic improvement. On-farm demonstrations and Q&A sessions were integral to the training, allowing farmers to engage with experts and share their experiences.

3. Input Linkage Program: A critical component of the SFLF initiative was the establishment of input linkages to ensure farmers had access to quality seeds and agricultural inputs at affordable prices.

In Koraput, the CIP team collaborated with authorized dealers, such as Binodini Fertilizers, to negotiate favorable prices for fertilizers and plant protection chemicals on behalf of the women farmers. A facilitation meeting was held to assist farmers in procuring inputs at wholesale rates, thereby reducing their overall production costs.



Above: Seed potato received by farmers at Meyar village, Nalanda, Bihar, India; photo: CIP-TAFSSA team

In Nalanda, the SFLF model aimed to address challenges related to low productivity and access to quality seeds. The initiative established backward linkages with reliable seed sources, facilitating affordable seed availability and building farmers' capacity in agronomic practices. A committee representing various landholders was formed to aggregate farmers for procuring quality seeds, ensuring proper distribution and monitoring of inputs.

4. Farmers' Field Day: To promote knowledge exchange and celebrate the achievements of the SFLF initiative, both regions organized Farmers' Field Days. In Koraput, a field day was held during the potato harvesting period, providing a platform for farmers to showcase their produce and share experiences related to potato production using the SFLF model.

The event attracted numerous participants from the Nandpur block, fostering community collaboration and strengthening ties among farmers.

In Nalanda, the field day served as an opportunity to introduce and assess new potato varieties through participatory varietal selection. The event attracted local farmers and stakeholders, facilitating discussions on sustainable practices and seed marketing strategies.

5. Monitoring and Evaluation:

Continuous monitoring and evaluation were integral to the implementation process in both regions. The implementation process included ongoing monitoring of fields to ensure proper seed storage and adherence to recommended agronomic practices. The CIP team conducted inspections of land preparation, planting methods, and fertilizer application to ensure that farmers were following best practices.

A dataset questionnaire was developed to analyze costs and returns for participating farmers, with comparative data collected from control villages. This evaluation aimed to assess the impact of the SFLF initiative on productivity and economic empowerment.



Above: Farmers field day was celebrated upon harvesting Women SFLF potato, photo: CIP-TAFSSA team

METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION

This study employs a comparative analysis of input and output costs to evaluate the differences in input and output prices between farmers participating in the Small Farmers Large Field (SFLF) model and those in non-SFLF villages.

The aim of the assessment is not to pass judgment on the success or failure of the SFLF model but rather to offer an objective analysis of the costs and net returns associated with both the treatment and control groups in the regions under consideration. By focusing on these critical financial metrics, the study seeks to provide an empirical understanding of the economic dynamics at play in the context of smallholder agriculture in Bihar and Odisha.

The analysis leverages quantitative data obtained from farmers through a structured survey instrument (refer to Annexure XX). This data is critical in calculating not only the direct costs incurred by the farmers but also the net profits that arise from their farming activities. The survey

instrument was designed to capture comprehensive data on various aspects of farm operations, including input costs (seeds, fertilizers, labor, machinery, etc.) and output prices (crop sales) in both the SFLF and non-SFLF groups.

STUDY REGIONS AND GROUPS

Bihar

In Bihar, the SFLF model was implemented in the Nalanda district, a significant agricultural area, particularly known for its potato cultivation. The study spanned two agricultural seasons, and participants were grouped into treatment and control groups based on their participation in the SFLF initiative.

2022-23 Season: In the first season, 97 farmers from two villages, Meyar and Kairi, participated in the SFLF pilot, constituting the treatment group. A comparison group of 50 non-SFLF farmers was selected from Pariaunna village within the same district. The survey instrument was administered to gather data on the costs and returns of farming activities in these two villages.



Above: Planting of Demonstration Trial at Kairi village, Nalanda, Bihar, India; photo: CIP-TAFSSA team

2023-24 Season: The treatment group expanded to 103 farmers from Meyar, Kairi, and Jamunapur villages, while the control group included 100 farmers from Sirsiya Bigha and Museypur villages. The inclusion of more villages in the second season allows for a broader comparison of the effects of SFLF across different communities within the district.

Odisha

In Koraput district, located in the southern part of Odisha, the study focused on the Kharif 2023 season. The Koraput region was chosen for its distinct climatic conditions, which allow for the cultivation of potatoes during the Kharif season.

Treatment Group: The treatment group in Koraput consisted of 56 farmers from Arlabput and Jantaput villages. These farmers participated in the SFLF pilot, which aimed to evaluate the collective farming model's impact on potato production during the Kharif season.

Control Group: A control group of 43 farmers was selected from Gaganapandi village, who continued with their conventional farming practices without the benefits of collective action under the SFLF model.

Data Collection and Analysis

The data collection process involved administering a detailed survey to participating farmers in both the treatment and control groups. The survey focused on capturing data on various aspects of the farming process, from input costs (seeds, fertilizers, labor, machinery use) to the prices at which farmers sold their produce.

The recall approach was used to collect baseline data from the previous season, ensuring that comparisons between the SFLF and non-SFLF groups were grounded in real, historically accurate data. This methodology allowed the study to capture differences in economic outcomes between the two groups over multiple seasons.



Above: Farmers harvesting potatoes in India, photo: Abdul Momin

RESULTS

Nalanda, Bihar

Of the 97 farmers in the initial participating group for SFLF, over half of them were marginal farmers with lands less than one hectare.

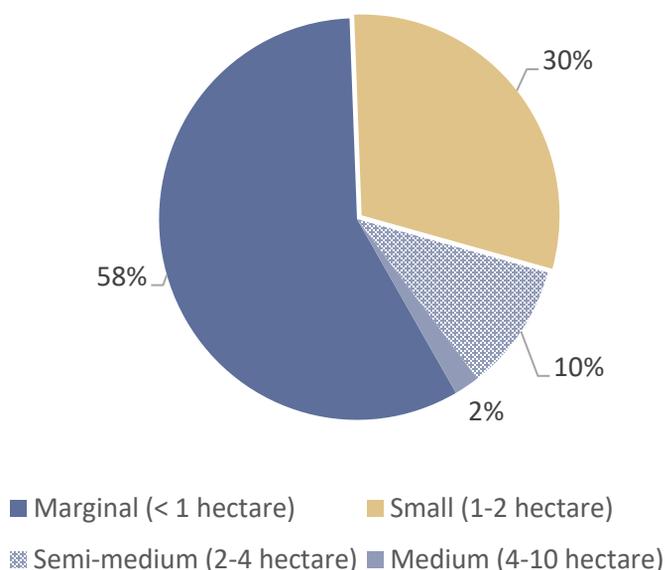


Figure 5: Distribution of landholdings of SFLF farmers in Nalanda, Bihar

Table 1: Cost and returns of SFLF and non-SFLF farmers in Nalanda, Bihar for Rabi 2022-23

Dry Rabi season (2022-23)			
Items	Baseline	Treatment	
	Pariaunna	Meyar	Kairi
No. of farmers	50	80	17
Yield (ton/hectare)	30	35	32
Price (INR/ton)	6020	7500	7240
Gross income (INR/hectare)	178509	261314	232575
Cost and Return per hectare (in 2022 prices)			
Seed (INR/hectare)	79004	93967	93282
Land preparation (INR/hectare)	14910	14033	13900
Irrigation (INR/hectare)	11520	12318	12044
Fertiliser (INR/hectare)	57479	67739	68977
Pesticide (INR/hectare)	12086	13593	11799
Herbicide (INR/hectare)	2545	1945	2175
Storage cost (INR/hectare)	8725	15503	9729
Total cost per hectare	186270	219098	211905
Net return per hectare	-7762	42215	20670

Table 1 provides a comprehensive overview of the costs and returns associated with potato farming in Nalanda, comparing the baseline (control) village of Pariaunna with the treatment villages of Meyar and Kairi.

Yield Comparison:

The treatment villages (Meyar and Kairi) exhibited significant increases in yield compared to the control village. Specifically, Meyar farmers achieved a 17% increase in yield, while Kairi farmers saw a 9% increase. This indicates that the interventions implemented in the treatment villages increased productivity.

Market Price Analysis:

The market prices for SFLF potatoes in the treatment villages rose substantially, with Meyar experiencing a 24% increase and Kairi a 20% increase compared to the control village. This price increase is crucial as it directly impacts the gross income of farmers, allowing them to benefit from higher returns on their investments.

Cost Structure:

Although the treatment villages faced higher seed prices, the overall cost structure was balanced by the increased yields and market prices. The data suggests that the additional costs incurred in treatment villages were outweighed by the financial gains from higher productivity and prices.

Table 2: Cost and returns of SFLF and non-SFLF farmers in Nalanda, Bihar for Rabi 2023-24

Dry Rabi season (2023-24)						
Items	Baseline		Treatment			
	Sirsiya Bigha	Museypur	Baseline Average	Meyar	Kairi	Jamunapur
No. of farmers	56	44	100	65	26	12
Yield (ton/hectare)	31	26	29	39	39	38
Price (INR/ton)	11537	12018	11753	14957	13975	15023
Gross income (INR/hectare)	355136	316954	338983	584981	543318	577973
Cost and Return per hectare (in 2023 prices)						
Seed (INR/hectare)	52131	59690	55490	64969	65829	63557
Land preparation (INR/hectare)	13328	11843	12675	13698	13838	13078
Irrigation (INR/hectare)	7920	7512	7741	7601	8072	7649
Fertiliser (INR/hectare)	55111	50257	52975	50320	51727	49731
Pesticide (INR/hectare)	12700	10962	11935	15112	15024	15146
Herbicide (INR/hectare)	2233	1962	2108	2135	2128	2187
Storage cost (INR/hectare)	18006	13778	15981	17921	14406	22917
Total cost per hectare	161429	156004	158905	171755	171025	174264
Net return per hectare	193707	160950	180078	413226	372294	403710

Net Returns:

The net returns per hectare in the treatment villages were significantly higher than in the control village, indicating that the interventions not only improved yields but also enhanced the financial viability of potato farming in these areas.

Table 2 presents updated cost and return estimates for the rabi season of 2023-24, reflecting the ongoing impact of treatment interventions.

Yield and Price Trends:

The trends observed in the previous year (2022-23) appear to have continued, with treatment villages maintaining higher yields and prices. This consistency suggests that the benefits of the interventions are

sustainable over time. The yield increased by 36% in Meyar, 35% in Kairi and 33% in Jamunapur, as compared to the baseline villages. Further, the net return per hectare more than doubled in all three villages as compared to the baseline villages.

Cost Analysis:

The cost per hectare for treatment villages remains higher, particularly in seed costs. However, the increase in gross income due to higher yields and prices continues to justify these costs, leading to substantial net returns.

Koraput, Odisha

Table 3 provides a detailed breakdown of costs and returns for potato farmers in Koraput during the Kharif season of 2023, comparing baseline and treatment villages.

Table 3: Costs and Returns Data of Potato Farmers from Kharif 2023 in Koraput, Odisha

Kharif Season (2023)			
Items	Baseline	Treatment	
	Gagadapandi	Arlabput	Jantaput
No. of farmers	43	36	18
Yield (ton/hectare)	4	21	17
Price (INR/ton)	17535	26778	27056
Gross income (INR/hectare)	76583	560677	470135
Cost and Return per acre (in 2023 prices)			
Seed (INR/hectare)	53054	69190	69190
Land preparation and sowing (INR/hectare)	13349	12626	12479
Earthing and weeding (INR/hectare)	6224	6202	6219
Fertiliser (INR/hectare)	15714	11690	11721
Pesticide (INR/hectare)	7124	4179	4302
Harvesting (INR/hectare)	4247	4225	4242
Total cost per hectare	99712	108111	108153
Net return per hectare	-23130	452566	361982

Yield Comparison:

The treatment villages (Arlabput and Jantaput) demonstrated remarkable yield increases compared to the baseline village (Gagadapandi). Arlabput achieved a yield of 21 tons/hectare, while Jantaput reached 17 tons/hectare. This represents a 425% increase and a 325% increase, respectively, compared to the baseline yield of 4 tons/hectare.

Price Analysis:

The prices for SFLF potatoes in the treatment villages were significantly higher than in the baseline village, with Arlabput priced at INR 26,778/ton and Jantaput at INR 27,056/ton. This price increase reflects the market's response to the improved quality and quantity of potatoes produced in the treatment villages.

Gross Income:

The gross income per hectare in the treatment villages was substantially higher than in the baseline village. For instance, Arlabput farmers earned INR 560,677/hectare, while Jantaput farmers earned INR 470,135/hectare. In contrast, the baseline village reported a gross income of only INR 76,583/hectare.

Cost Structure:

The total cost per hectare in the treatment villages was higher, with Arlabput at INR 108,111 and Jantaput at INR 108,153. However, the net returns were overwhelmingly positive, with Arlabput farmers achieving a net return of INR 452,566/hectare and Jantaput farmers achieving INR 361,982/hectare. This indicates that the investments made in treatment villages were highly profitable.

Net Returns:

The net return per hectare in the baseline village was negative at -INR 23,130, highlighting the financial struggles faced by farmers in Gagadapandi. In stark contrast, the treatment villages showcased significant profitability, underscoring the effectiveness of the interventions.

Gross income per unit cost

A comparison between the participating villages in Nalanda, Bihar reveals that the gross income per unit cost was the highest for Meyar in both assessment periods.

In the case of Koraput, the income per unit cost for Arlabput was 19% higher than that for Jantaput in the assessment period.

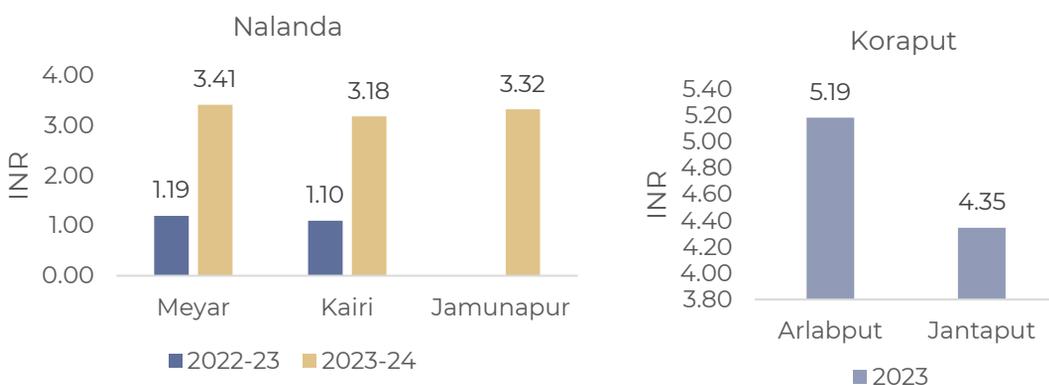


Figure 6: Gross income per unit cost in Nalanda and Koraput.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The findings from the analysis of the Small Farmers Large Fields (SFLF) initiative in Nalanda, Bihar, and Koraput, Odisha, underscore the critical role of collective action in enhancing the economic viability of smallholder farmers. The significant yield increases observed in treatment villages highlight the potential of the SFLF model to improve agricultural productivity. This is particularly relevant in the context of Bihar and Odisha, where small and marginal farmers face numerous challenges, including fragmented landholdings, limited access to quality inputs, and market inefficiencies. By providing targeted training programs and establishing input linkages, the initiative not only enhances agricultural productivity but also improves economic benefits.

Moreover, the analysis reveals that despite higher total costs per hectare in treatment villages, the net returns

were significantly higher compared to control villages. This indicates that the investments made in training and resource pooling yield substantial financial benefits, reinforcing the argument for scaling up such initiatives. The positive impact on gross income per hectare in treatment villages is a positive step towards implementing smallholder aggregation models with larger target areas.

The continued implementation of such trials will help in correcting flaws and making implementation more streamlined.

As the agricultural landscape continues to evolve, it is crucial to focus on models specifically targeting smallholder farmers. Policymakers and stakeholders must prioritize investments in infrastructure, access to quality inputs, and training programs to ensure that smallholder farmers can thrive in an increasingly unpredictable climate.



Above: Distribution of seed potatoes to Women SFLF Farmers in Arlabput; photo: CIP-TAFSSA team

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ABOUT TAFSSA

TAFSSA (*Transforming Agrifood Systems in South Asia*) is a CGIAR Regional Integrated Initiative to support actions that improve equitable access to sustainable healthy diets, improve farmers' livelihoods and resilience, and conserve land, air, and water resources in South Asia.

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