

District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT): Involvement of non-profit body to supplement the development activities carried out by state and Central Government

Introduction

Non-convergence with state and district plans has been reported to be a serious issue which cause delays in achieving outputs under government schemes. In Dhanbad district of Jharkhand, convergence of state plans with District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) was done to ensure regular fund flow and achievement of outputs at a faster pace. The district faced acute water crises, non-usage of Swachh Bharat Mission toilets, and unawareness regarding government schemes was a matter of concern. With the involvement of DMFT, challenges under sectors such as drinking water supply, healthcare, sanitation, education, skill development, women and childcare, welfare of aged and disabled people, skill development and environment conservation has been taken care of to ensure substantial improvement in the quality of life.

Intervention

The approach of planning exercise for mining affected areas undertaken by DMFT involves the necessary steps for successful implementation of projects.

- Stakeholders meeting of all the district department officials.
- Adoption of micro planning approach for villages (initiatives such as awareness generation among the *gram sabha*, training & capacity building of *gram sabha* and preparation of Village Development Plan (VDP)).
- Needs assessment of the district based on the data collected through field visits
- Analysis and compilation of VDP along with departmental plans (project proposals are evaluated based on prioritization matrix for that district).
- Final compilation of VDP and departmental plan into yearly perspective district plan for DMFT.

Impact

The initiative has a positive impact on the people living in the tribal areas of Dhanbad. DMFT provided support for completion construction of community toilets for both men and women at different public places in the district. Along with this, arrangements were made to spread further awareness among people about sustainability of open defecation free status and importance of bringing about behavioural change. Such awareness sessions have convinced villagers to use community toilets, which, in turn, has helped in ensuring open defecation free villages.

Source: KMPG's Key Informant Interview with sector expert