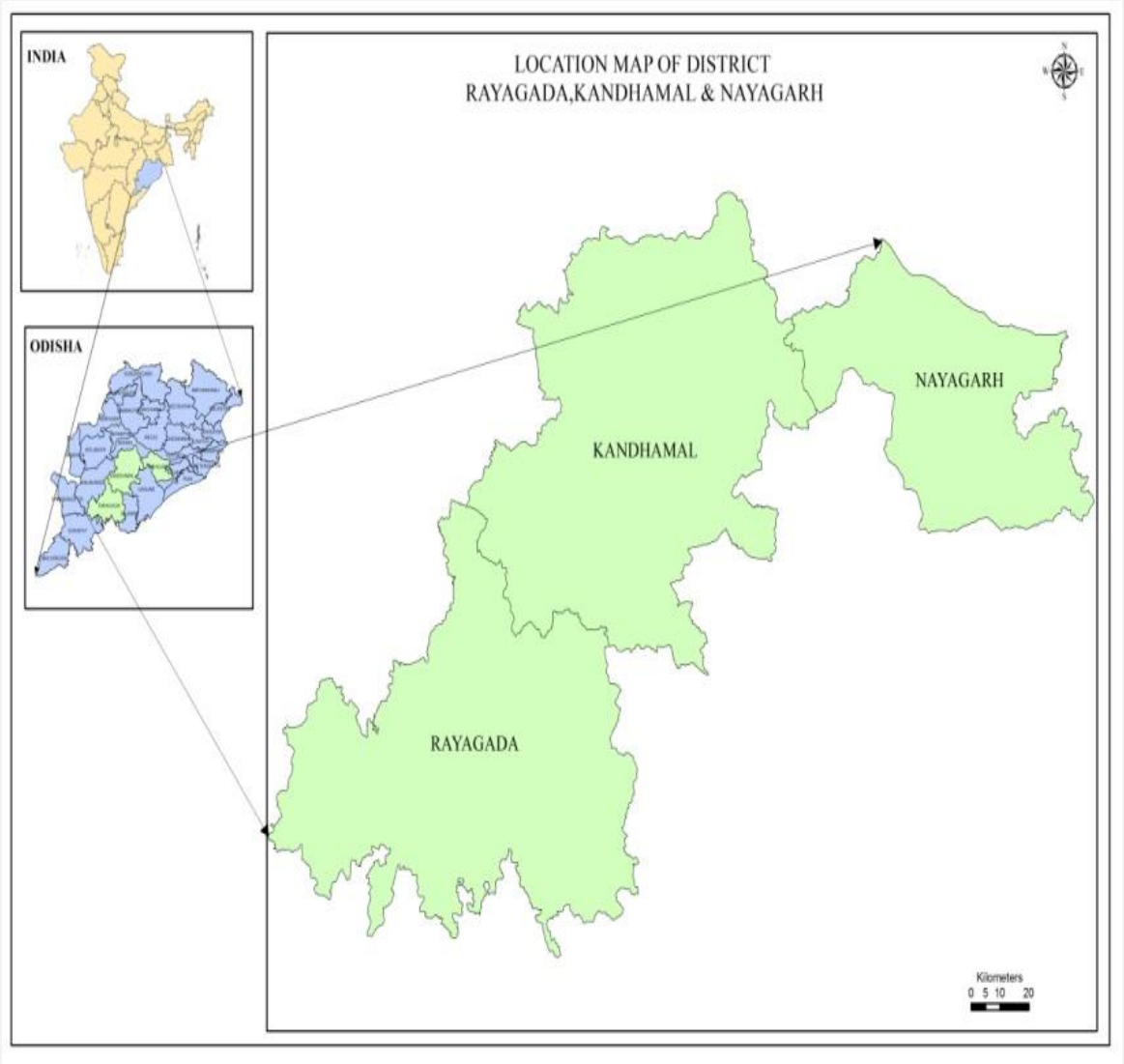
NIRMAN'S EXPERIENCE OF PROMOTION OF MILLET INODISHA

NIRMAN
An Initiative for Sustainable Development

NIRMAN, S23/15, NILADRIVIHAR, BHUBANESWAR - 751021
WWW.NIRMANODISHA.ORG

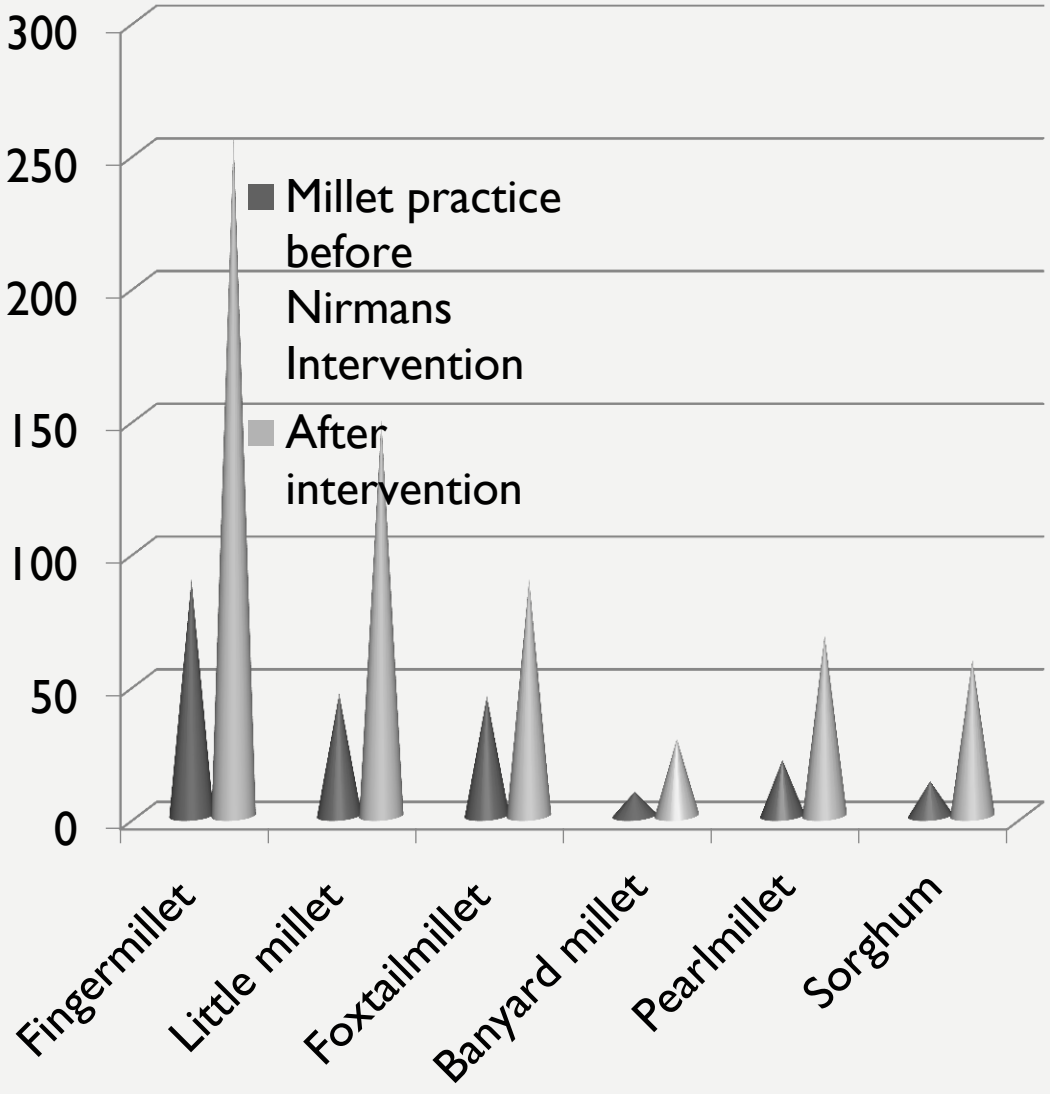
ABOUT NIRMAN

- Founded in the year 1997 to focus on livelihood improvement of small and marginal farmers, tribes and forest dwellers rights-based approaches.
- Our objective is to ensure local communities' sovereignty over heirloom seeds, natural resources and indigenous knowledge.
- NIRMAN works in collaboration with 8082 HHs, in 302 villages, in 4 districts of Nayagarh, Rayagada, Kandhamal and Jajpur, of Odisha and Millets in Kandhamal and Rayagada dists..



REVIVAL OF MILLETS

Farmers practicing millets cultivation before and after intervention in 10 Villages in 2 G.P.in Kandhamal



- Since 2011 NIRMAN had been working in collaboration with adivasi and small holder Farmers in Kandhamal Rayagada district
- Conserved 26- Types of millets of NIRMAN's intervention,
- Millets diversity of millets farming syshas increased since NIRMAN's intervention,

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION SHARING LOST VARIETY OF SEEED

- Seed support had been extended for 1952 Of farmers as an incentive for restoration of indigenous millets-based agro-ecosystem practices.

- Heirloom seeds of 15 Different types of millets have been supplied to farmers under project support.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF MILLETS FARMERS

- Workshops and training programmes on improved millets cultivation techniques

- Organic manure preparation have been conducted for farmers to make farmers self-sufficient.

- Workshops on quality heirloom seed production and seed storage techniques have been conducted for farmers

DRUDGERY REDUCTION THROUGH DEHUSKING FACILITIES

- 2 Millets Processing Units have been set up by NIRMAN at central locations in Tumudibandha block in Kandhamal district and Kalyansingpur in Rayagada dist. 2 more units are in the process of set up.
- Reduce drudgery of tribal and rural women and ensure nutritional security of local communities.
- The units provide alternate employment opportunities for women belonging to the Tribal and Primitive Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).
- Collaboration with Dhan Foundation for capacity building local people on operation of millets machine and product development

CULTURAL REVIVAL

- NIRMAN had been facilitating Bihan Purab/Burlang Jatra Celebration of Kutia Kondh community since 2012,
- Each year more than 700 farmers participate in Bihan Purab/Burlang Jatra Celebrations and exchange indigenous millets and other heirloom seeds,
- Community-based Seed Banks have been established
- Community-based seed banks have been conserving and distributing indigeneous Varieties of millets to farmers.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MARKET LINKAGES

- The Kandhamal Farmers Producer Company Limited, had been registered in July, 2016, with 1000 small-scale farmers as stakeholders, with the support from NABARD.

- KFPCL had already supplied millets to buyers in Odisha and exploring outside the state.

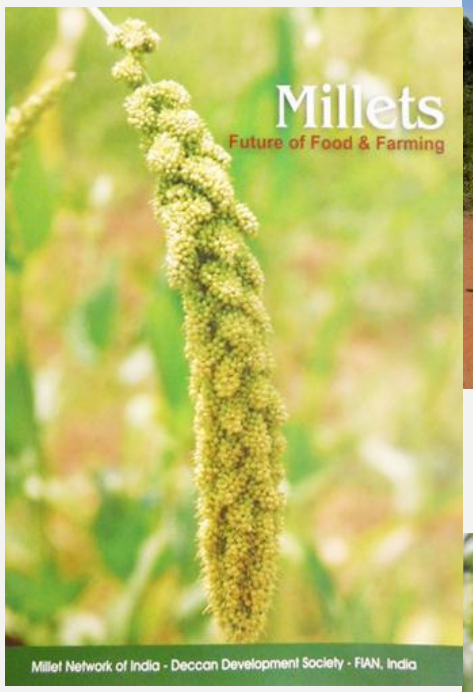
- NIRMAN had been promoting millets-based food products at different food festivals and agriculture fairs, in an effort to popularize millets.

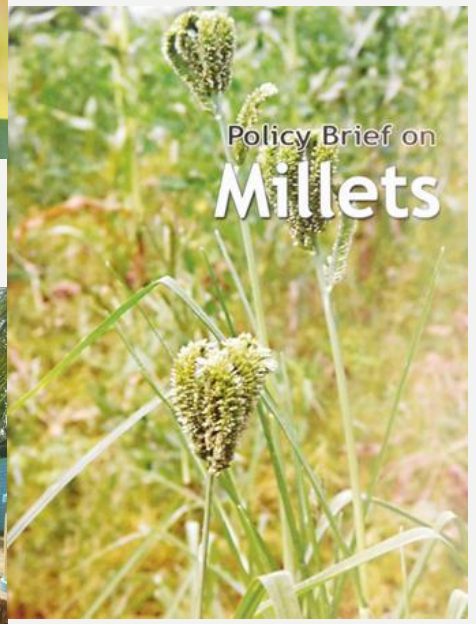
POLICY ADVOCACY

- A policy brief on millets had been published in both English and Odia for dissemination of information,

- NIRMAN had been campaigning for inclusion of millets in the PDS, mid-day meal prog and ICDS.

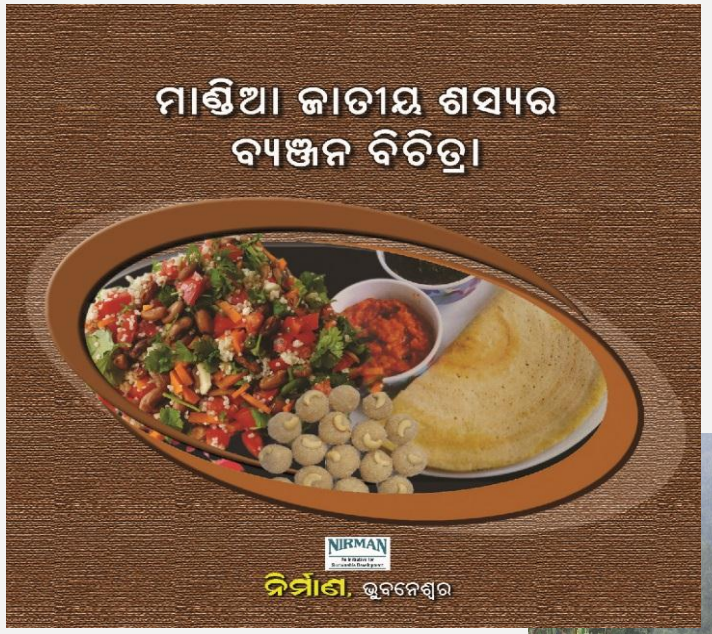
- NIRMAN had been an active participant in the National Campaign, since 2011





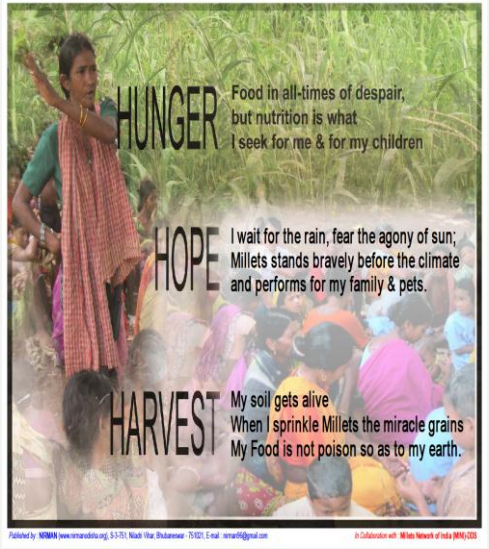
POPULARISING MILLETS

- Recipe book with 35 dishes made of different millets had been published in Odia to popularize millets-based cuisine and consumption.
- Farmers Field Schools for millets farmers, have been conducted
- Millets Recipe Training and Food Festival



RESEARCH, PUBLICATION & DELIBERATION

- Articles about millets-based agro-ecosystems have been published in LEISA, India.
- A baseline study was conducted in 2011 to evaluate the status and number of millets varieties available in Kandhamal.
- Deliberation and Debate on Mainstreaming Millets since 2011
- Developing IEC materials on Millets
- Study the Status of Millets



MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

- Bringing Articles on millets in Media – The Hindu, Times of India, The Pioneer, The Samaj, The Sambad, The Khabar etc.
- Discussion and coverage in Television debate- Doordarshan Odia, Kanak TV and other local channels

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the pioneer

Traditional farming highlighted at K'mal tribal fest

PRESS BHUBANESWAR

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ISSUES

- Storage of Millets
- Local technicians for Millets dehuller
- Power supply issues in remote areas
- Develop of Quality product and lebelling
- Various Product development
- Attracting Younger generation
- Community led process

FUTURE ACTION PLAN

- Upscaling millets farming in all dry-regions /tribal areas of Odisha
- More millet processing units in enterprise model at panchayat and block level for value addition and reduction of drudgery of women.
- Establishment of market linkages with focus on women entrepreneurs.
- Strive for inclusion of millets in State nutrition prog. and PDS.
- Advocacy for Millets based bio-diverse farming system
- Conduct awareness prog. to increase millets consumption in urban areas, thereby creating market demand, and increase millets production.
- Promotion of millets food corner /restaurant in Bhubaneswar to popularize millets consumption among the urban folk.
- Advocacy for Climate adoption and water conservation bonus to millets farmers
- Millets in agriculture and food landscape

THANK YOU