

**IMPROVING WOMEN'S HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, AND
LIVELIHOODS THROUGH INSTALLATION OF SMOKELESS
CHULHAS**

Location – Mohana Block , District - Gajapati (Odissa)

Year – 2025

Status Report – 4th Nov 2025

1. Project Background

The *Smokeless Chulha Construction Project* aims to promote clean and safe cooking practices in rural Odisha. The initiative supports improved health outcomes—particularly for women and children—by reducing exposure to indoor smoke. It also focuses on environmental conservation by minimizing firewood consumption and providing livelihood opportunities through mason training and community engagement.

2. Project Objectives

- Improve health outcomes for women and children by reducing indoor air pollution.
- Reduce environmental degradation caused by firewood collection.
- Save time and labor for women involved in daily cooking and fuel gathering.
- Generate income opportunities by training local youth and women as chulha masons.
- Support sustainable rural development by reducing carbon emissions and promoting eco-friendly solutions.

3. Ongoing Activities

- **Community Awareness:** Village-level meetings, corner meetings, and community gatherings were organized to sensitize households on the importance and benefits of smokeless chulhas.
- **Baseline Survey:** Data collection is ongoing to identify eligible households, assess current cooking practices, and understand community requirements.
- **Finalization of Beneficiaries:** Out of 145 targeted households, 56 women beneficiaries have been finalized. The remaining selection process is in progress.
- **Vendor Selection & Procurement:** The process of identifying and finalizing vendors for construction materials and related logistics is currently underway.
- **Identification of Local Helper Masons:** The selection and documentation of local helper masons have been completed, and preparations for their training are finalized.
- **Material Purchasing and Distribution:** Construction material purchasing and village wise shifting is completed.
- **Helper Mason Training:** Start the helper mason training on slab construction topic hall training is completed and start the practicing by constructing slabs.
- **Slab Construction:** Smokeless chulha slab constructions process is started total 45 slabs casting is completed curing is ongoing.

4. Upcoming Plans

- **Finalization of Beneficiaries:** Complete the screening process and finalize the list of remaining beneficiaries.
- **On-field Training and Construction:** Organize practical, hands-on training sessions for both beneficiaries and local masons to build skills and start the smokeless chulha structures.
- **Material Distribution:** Initiate the distribution of smokeless chulha material (Cement, Sand, Bricks, Steel, Pipe etc) to beneficiaries.
- **Completion of Slab casting:** Complete the remaining 100 slab and complete the curing process.
- **Team Mobilization:** Strengthen field team deployment to enhance coordination, provide technical supervision, and ensure continuous support to beneficiaries.

5. Photographs

Community Meetings



Vendor Meeting



Document Collection



Mason Meetings



Training:



Material Dumping

