

Monthly Updates- July 2025

Inclusive Livelihood Program-BRAC

Overview

The **BRAC Inclusive Livelihoods Program** is a transformative initiative aimed at addressing **extreme poverty and social exclusion across three Indian states—Telangana, Karnataka, and Maharashtra**. It will focus on 18000 poorest of the poor households for graduating out of poverty. Implemented in collaboration with state governments and supported by BRAC International, the program draws on the globally acclaimed **Graduation Approach**, adapting it to local socio-economic contexts. The Centre for Research in Schemes and Policies (CRISP) has been engaged as a **strategic partner and concurrent evaluation agency** to ensure that the program remains grounded in evidence, responsive to field realities, and adaptive to emerging needs. Over a three-year engagement, CRISP's role includes real-time evaluation, performance assessment, and strategic advisory for program improvement and policy alignment. The overarching goal is to support the **most marginalized households in achieving sustainable livelihood pathways** through a carefully sequenced approach that integrates social protection, financial inclusion, capacity building, and market linkages, while ensuring convergence across multiple government departments.

Project Goal



The objective is to conduct concurrent evaluation and strategic advice to projects in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Telangana for identifying the poorest of poor households and graduating them out of poverty.

Strategy and Approach

Graduation Approach

Adapts BRAC's model to integrate social protection, livelihood support, and financial inclusion for ultra-poor households.

State-Specific Strategies

Customizes interventions for Telangana, Karnataka, and Maharashtra based on local needs.

Real-Time Evaluation

Utilizes concurrent evaluation to monitor progress and provide data-driven recommendations.

Government Convergence

Promotes inter-departmental collaboration and builds capacity for sustainable program impact.

Photo Gallery



Progress this Month

Maharashtra

- The CRISP team conducted field visit to Nandurbar from June 30-July 03, 2025 for conducting **KIIs, FGDs, and village level surveys**. A discussion note on Gram Panchayats' role in ILP was shared with UMED and SPMU on July 3. Preliminary evaluation findings were presented to BRAC and CRISP on July 7, 2025 with suggestions for **process improvement and a state level review**.
- The CRISP team had its monthly cadence meeting with Maharashtra SPMU and BRAC on July 29, 2025. The meeting highlighted **program updates and initial evaluation insights**. The concurrent evaluation report and the PRA best practices document are in progress.

Karnataka

- The CRISP team participated in a write shop from July 9-10, 2025 at Kumbalgodu to develop a handbook on the **NARO KLIP Program with SPMU and CRISP Team**. The team also attended a review meeting with the Development Commissioner cum ACS on July 3, 2025 to discuss **CRISP's activities, highlighting gaps** in community participation during transect walks and requesting corrective measures in upcoming PRA processes.
- The team in Karnataka also shared a detailed transect walk report with the SPMU lead on July 16, 2025 to **support PRA implementation**. The team also participated in **stakeholder consultation workshop on July 23, 2025** organized by Sanjeevini involving key district and GP level functionaries.

Telangana

- The team in Telangana has finalized the **Concurrent Evaluation Report** and best practices documentation. The team also presented Phase 1 household identification findings during SPMU internal meeting and had a subsequent discussion with SERP CEO on July 15, 2025. The CRISP Team along with SPMU decided to go ahead on action plan and initiate Phase II Identification in Telangana.
- The team is also working to document **emerging good practices** from the field to create a learning resource that supports peer learning, strengthens implementation, and informs future planning.

Key Learnings and Way Forward



- ✓ Effective and sustainable programs require **culturally responsive, community-driven planning** that recognizes **local power dynamics**, allows adequate time for reflection, and focuses on systemic change through coordinated, cross-sector efforts rather than relying on isolated or rushed interventions.
- ✓ Going forward, the team will finalize the **PRA Best Practices** document and begin Identification Phase data collection in Telangana and Karnataka, including household surveys, preparedness assessments, and concurrent evaluation.
- ✓ Additionally, all state teams will initiate **state-wise case studies focusing on specific population groups or thematic areas**, with outlines and priorities to be finalized through internal discussions.