

Monthly Updates- June 2026

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.

Major Highlights/Steps

- Inclusion & Exclusion Survey – KILP: Data collection for the Inclusion/Exclusion Surveys in Karnataka under NARI KILP has been ongoing.
- Livelihoods Planning Study – TGILP: Data collection, including FGDs for the Livelihoods Planning Study, was undertaken in Telangana.
- IRB approval has been received for the Convergence and Entitlements Study proposed by CRISP.
- On June 25, 2026, the CRISP team participated in a meeting in Delhi organised by **BRAC in collaboration with the Ministry of Rural Development on strengthening targeting systems to reach the most excluded households**.
- The session focused on reviewing evidence from ongoing **household identification and targeting efforts, sharing implementation experiences across states, and discussing innovative approaches to improve the identification** and inclusion of vulnerable and marginalised households.

Maharashtra

- From 8th–10th June, CRISP observed Module 2 **Technical Training for Cohort 1 coaches and Module 1 Training for Cohort 2 coaches in Nandurbar**, followed by the national SARATHI MIS App orientation.
- On 10th June, CRISP conducted Entitlement FGDs with coaches from Akkalkuwa and Akrani blocks to understand entitlement-related field efforts, implementation challenges, and grievance redressal mechanisms.
- From 15th–18th June, CRISP conducted a field visit to Nashik to observe the goat asset transfer process in Trimbakeshwar block and held Entitlement FGDs with coaches from Peth and Trimbakeshwar blocks. The team also visited five Gram Panchayats and interacted with elected representatives and officials to understand village development initiatives and GPDP planning processes.

Telangana

- The CRISP team facilitated Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with coaches in Kodangal block (June 18) and Narva block (June 19–20). The purpose was to assess how the livelihoods planning process responds to different social categories of participants, including single, widowed, or divorced women and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).
- Consolidation of the findings from the Livelihoods Study has been ongoing.

Karnataka

- During 12th–13th June 2026, CRISP conducted training for enumerators engaged in the Inclusion–Exclusion Survey, covering study objectives, methodology, digital data collection tools, ethical considerations, and field protocols.
- Following the training, the team completed the Inclusion–Exclusion Survey covering 532 households across nine districts. The survey assessed the accuracy of household inclusion and exclusion decisions, identified beneficiary selection errors, and generated evidence to strengthen targeting and programme implementation.
- On June 22, 2026, the CRISP team attended a review meeting chaired by the Development Commissioner and Additional Chief Secretary to the Government, where progress on entitlement delivery, livelihood interventions, implementation strategies, and departmental convergence were discussed.

Photos



Key Learnings



- Livelihood planning should follow an ecosystem approach, considering local resources, market opportunities, climate risks, and household vulnerabilities rather than relying on standardised asset options.
- Continuous training, strong institutional support, convergence mechanisms, documentation, grievance redressal, and monitoring systems are essential for effective implementation and sustainable livelihood outcomes.

Way Forward

- In **Karnataka**, the team will consolidate findings from the Inclusion - Exclusion surveys and share a draft report with BRAC. It will also start with field visits in parallel to understand the progress of micro planning.
- In **Telangana**, the findings from the Livelihoods Planning CE report will be consolidated and shared with BRAC for review.
- In **Maharashtra**, CRISP will contextualise the entitlement study through discussions the PMU and relevant stakeholders; finalise data collection tools; and share the final microplanning report with SRLM.