



2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON BAMBOO

DHENKANAL DISTRICT, ODISHA

25TH NOVEMBER 2025, MISSION SHAKTI MEETING HALL DHENKANAL

The 2nd Regional workshop on Bamboo was organized in the district of Dhenkanal. The regional workshops are being organized as a preparatory meeting for the proposed National Conclave on Bamboo scheduled to be held on 9th January 2026 in Bhubaneswar.

The meeting was organized in the Mission Shakti meeting hall, Dhenkanal on 25th November 2026 and was attended by Program Manager, One Future Foundation, Deputy CEO ORMAS, Deputy Director Handicraft deptt, DPM Odisha Livelihood Mission and DPC Mission Shakti and artisans from four blocks of the district namely Sadar, Kamkhyanagar, Bhuban and Hindol. A total of 30 participants were part of the meeting.



The meeting began with Deputy CEO ORMAS welcoming the participants and representatives from different government departments to the regional meeting on Bamboo. He said that the district has immense potential of bamboo plantation and also has artisans working on bamboo, however the product produced by them is basically for local market. He said that there is a need to provide higher level designing skills to these artisans so that their product becomes more desirable in the local market and also enter national arena.

Program Manager, One Future Foundation once again welcomed the participants and shared in a nutshell the objective of organizing the meeting. She said that these meetings shall be able to guide them put up the local issues in a better way at the National Bamboo Conclave proposed to be organized on January 9th, 2026, at Bhubaneswar. She informed the participants that few of the representatives would be invited to be a part of the National Conclave on Bamboo. Thereafter the participants were divided into 4 groups comprising representatives from each of the blocks that were present on the occasion. The participants discussed in their group the work being undertaken on bamboo in the district, the training received and the marketing linkage. They also discussed about the issues and challenges being faced by them and what support they need to strengthen bamboo work and help upgrade their economic status. The highlights of the group presentation being made by the participants are presented below –

Group 1- Hindol Block

- Most of the SHG groups engaged in the bamboo artisan work have received training organized by the Handicraft department, but these are basic training. Around 50 artisans have received higher training including design development, and these artisans are mostly marketing their products through the MCP. The average income of these artisans is approx. 2,50,000 per annum.
- Some artisans have also received support from the Handicraft department for building work-shed.

Further, they shared that the products made by the artisans are not so good and hence are limited in demand. Further the raw materials are also not readily available, and the available materials are of low quality resulting in low quality products. Artisans also use traditional knowledge to process the raw materials which are not very effective because of which the life span of the products made are less. The artisans do not have high quality tools which have been made available at the CFC, but not all artisans can access it daily. The artisans said that they also need support to learn how to sell their products online. The need for exposure visits and regular training teaching them higher quality

Products is needed. Finally, they stressed the need to ensure that all bamboo artisans have I-card and be linked with social support programs of the government.

Group 2 – Sadar

The participants of the group shared that Aryashakti Producer group is working in the block with 50 members and none of them have received higher level training from government. The products of the group are sold locally, and the members also do not have knowledge of the emerging trends in the area. The group shared that it faced problems to acquire good quality bamboo and further they do not have storage facilities. The average income of the group is approx. 2000 rupees.

Group 3 – Bhuban

The participants of the group shared that in the village of Kashipur a PG group comprising of 50 members are working with bamboo. Most of the members are poor and do not have proper housing facility as well. They sell their products in the local market and have not received any higher-level training. They also do not have resources to go out of the district to sell their products. The participants said that they need training near their village, finance support to strengthen their activities and linkage with social schemes of the government.



Group 4 – Kamakyanagar

The participants shared that there are 3 MCM and 7 SHG groups working on bamboo art and crafts. The members said that they need higher level training and exposure visits to help them to understand the emerging market trends. They felt that unless good quality bamboo is made available to them the final

Products will be of lower quality. They said that there is need for outlets at the district level where they can come and share and sell their products. The members shared that the artisans are currently making 40-45 products and they mostly sell their products in the fairs organized by ORMAS and average monthly income of the members is approx. 3000-4000 rupees. Further most of the members of the group belong to lower economic group, hence there is a need to link them with the social support schemes of the government. They also reiterated the need for knowledge to sell their products online through existing platforms and knowledge of how scientifically they can process their bamboo.

The Deputy CEO thanked the participants for their in depth discussion and presentation. He requested that the participants should be aware of the various departments who are supporting the bamboo artisans and meet the representatives to get into their fold and get the support the department is providing. He said that ORMAS can provide an outlet at the district level at a nominal cost so any group who need the support can reach out to them.

Deputy Director, Handicraft department said that all artisans working on bamboo should send them application with their details so that when the department conducts survey the artisan can also be included. The department provides support for home-shed, so any artisan who needs the support can submit application online. He further said that soon the Odisha Government is planning to provide Identity cards and allowance in the coming days.

DPC, Mission Shakti said that the department priorities to group women in form of SHG and provide support to strengthen the group with required training. Once the group begins to function properly then the department also provides them with training and finance support to make them economically independent and hence if any group needs their support, they can reach out to them.

The program Manager OFF finally provided vote of thanks to all government representatives and participants for being a part of the discussion and sharing with them their issues and concerns. With that note the program came to an end.

This was followed by a visit to the SHG group of Kamakyanagar to see the work being done by them and a CFC centre supported by NABARD in the block.

