



## Integrated Watershed Management Program & Farm Pond

The Integrated Watershed Management Program (IWMP) focuses on soil and water conservation which supports restoration of degraded land. One of the major activities is digging of ponds to store rainwater which enhances water percolation. It also supports irrigation and livestock rearing, helping farmers improve productivity. Together, these efforts aim to reduce soil erosion, improve water availability, and support sustainable livelihoods for local communities. OMBADC is financially supporting the A & FE department in implementing the IWMP activities in the mining districts and has impacted positively the lives of the several mining affected families.





### Construction of Farm Pond at Tangarpali Block of Sundargarh District:

In Ratanpur Gram Panchayat of Tangarpali Block, a WHS project was completed in the financial year 2020-21 with funding support of Rs. 18 Lakhs from OMBADC. A total of 27 farmers were identified who worked on 22 to 23 acres of land. This project helped in enhancing the farming and income for the participants. One of the farmers, Mamata Naik, grew different crops like bananas, mangoes, drumsticks, marigold flowers, corn, brinjal, ladies finger, papaya, rice, and lentils (Moong and Toor) during the Rabi season. By doing this, she earned a good monthly income of Rs. 50,000. This shows how availability of water during off season and crop diversification can help farmers earn more and improve their livelihoods.

### Construction of Farm Pond at Tangarpali Block of Sundargarh District:

In the Ambasara Nala Micro Watershed (MWS) at Kharadi GP, a farm pond costing Rs. 4.85 lakhs were constructed on the land of Sudhanshu Sekhar Pradhan in January 2024. The farm pond benefits 7 farmers, covering 22 acres of land. Sudhanshu has utilized his own 4-acre land to grow vegetables, fruits, and paddy. After harvesting paddy, he plans to cultivate mustard and lentils (moong and toor) during the Rabi season. Additionally, he has planted high value crops like strawberries and bananas on 1 acre of land. This diversification of crops has significantly enhanced his income, provided more reliable food sources and improved his financial stability by reducing dependency on a single crop. The pond ensures consistent water supply for irrigation, safeguarding crops from unpredictable rainfall.

