

# NREGA in Abu Road, Rajasthan

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# Sirohi, Rajasthan



## Issues Studied

- Participation in NREGS
  - Number of hhs participated in NREGS and reasons for non-participation
  - Number of days of participation by the hhs and individuals
  - Number of people (who are away for wage work)
- Creation of Durable Assets
  - Migration, Livelihoods and Development impact
- Entitlements under the NREGA
  - Conditions on work sites
  - Wages earned

# Methodology:

**LOCATION:** Abu Road block, Sirohi District

| Villages (Hill area) | Villages(Plains)  |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Nichlagarh           | Mahikhera         |
| Nichlakhejra         | Fathepura         |
| Nichlibor            | Chanar            |
| Kairy                | Girvar            |
| Jaidra               | Chandela(Chorvao) |
| Uplagarh             |                   |

## **METHODS:**

Household survey

Tracking of sites

Workshops

**SAMPLE:** 35-45% of the hhs were selected in each of the villages. A total of 1251 hhs were surveyed.

# Participation in NREGS

## Key findings: **Participation**

- **87.6% of the total hhs participated in NREGS**
- 1.1% hhs migrated away hence did not participate in NREGS
- 2.6% hhs did not have job cards
- 8.2% hhs did not use job cards
- 0.4%hhs were refused work on the job cards

## Key findings.....

- On average, 1.5 persons participated per household
- 1/5 of the households had been able to get over 96 days of work
- Among those who have completed 100 days of work in NREGS, 70% are women.  
(Also confirmed by official block level data)

## Key findings: Migration and livelihood

- Analysis of place of work shows that 55% of men (from hills) and 22% of men (from plains) go out of the village (though within the block) for wage work (commuting or short duration migration)
- Rest found work within the village (35% in the hills and 70% in the plains).
- Majority of women found work within village (68% in the hills and 93% in the plains).

# Livelihood

Characterised by

- Multiple jobs
- Multiple locations

# Creation Of Durable Assets

## Key findings: Creation of durable assets

Road construction dominates the choice of works.

- **Under list of completed works 53% responses were 'gravel road'** of which 22% were described as 'incomplete works'
- 27.4% responses were for 'nadi kodai'
- 12% said nothing happened
- 7% did not know the number of works done

**List of permissible works is limited, but allows for other choices:**

- Water conservation and water harvesting structures
- Drought proofing including a forestation and tree plantation
- Irrigation canals including micro and minor irrigation works
- Renovation of traditional water bodies, de-silting of tanks
- Land development
- Flood-control and protection works, including drainage in waterlogged areas
- Rural connectivity to provide all weather access.

## Responses on perceived benefits from works completed under NREGS:

|                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>More cash in hand.....</b> | <b>45 %</b> |
| Road and improved access..... | 34 %        |
| Availability of water.....    | 7 %         |
| No gain.....                  | 14 %        |

# **Entitlements under the NREGA**

## Key findings:

### Entitlements (Actual situation on sites)

- Crèche facility has not been provided at the sites at all
- Drinking water has been provided at all the sites
- Tent has been provided at few sites
- Medical kit not available; a few medicines were kept by mates. But medicines/gel/ bandage for minor cuts were missing.

## Stipulated conditions:

### Facilities expected at the worksites

- Safe drinking water
- Shade for workers to take rest
- First –aid box with adequate material for emergency treatment for minor injuries and other hazards
- In case five or more children below the age of six years accompany women, provision to depute one of the workers to look after the children
- The woman deputed to child care is entitled to the same wage as other labourers.

## Wages earned

- No clear knowledge among workers of basis of earnings
- Lack of proper measurement of the tasks completed results in low wages.
- No worker reported receiving Rs 73 (state minimum wage) – highest reported Rs 63 and the lowest Rs 35
- However, some increase since early 2006.

## Impacts on households

- In absence of crèches or other child care/ elderly support, some evidence that where men were at home they substituted.
- In some cases, older daughters may have stayed home from school to help.
- High participation of women suggests men continue to go out of village for work – or do not work

## Emerging Issues:

- Need to provide training to the mate (supervisor at the worksite) for proper measurement to allow complete information to worker, and earning of higher wages
- Without mobilising and 'voice' women/ villagers choices will not be articulated through gram sabha
- Commitment of officials and panchayat functionaries
- Need for crèches at the worksite so that women with small children can participate in the scheme.