

# Cluster Coordinator

## Background and General Description:

The Government of India has launched The National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) under the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). The Mission aims at creating efficient and effective institutional platforms of the rural poor enabling them to increase their household income through sustainable livelihoods enhancements and improved access to financial and public services. The agenda is to mobilize the rural poor and vulnerable people into self-managed, federated institutions and support them for livelihoods collectives. In addition, the poor would be facilitated to achieve increased access to their rights, entitlements and public services, diversified risk and better social indicators of empowerment.

Further to these objectives, the Government of Maharashtra has constituted the Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission, registered under the Societies Act 1860. A State Mission Management Unit has been constituted as a dedicated support structure to deliver the mission in the State. The MSRLM aims to build a team of high quality professionals for providing technical assistance to the districts in various thematic areas such as social inclusion, rural livelihoods human resource management, creating human and social capital, Environment Management, financial inclusion, monitoring and evaluation, MIS etc.

In order to ensure that no poor household is excluded, the MSRLM would adopt an inclusive approach to social mobilization. The Mission would employ different strategies for mobilization of all identified BPL households into functionally effective, self-managed institutions. Particular emphasis would be laid on mobilizing vulnerable sections such as the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes including particularly vulnerable tribal groups, religious minorities, single women and households headed by women, persons living with disabilities, the landless, migrant laborers, isolated communities and those living in disturbed areas. Facilitating peer support and social mobilization campaigns by community resource persons (CRPs) have proved to be successful in achieving high levels of social inclusion across the states. A similar approach would be adopted in achieving social inclusion under MSRLM.

Creating such an institutional platform for social and economic empowerment is a critical pre-requisite for the poor to effectively participate over time in any program addressing their development needs. A self help group, of 10-20 persons in general (5-20 persons in difficult areas) is the primary building block of the MSRLM institutional design. Systematic handholding support and guidance would be provided to SHGs both through the external support structures and their own federated structures. The primary source of financial assistance for the institutions of the poor is bank credit.

The mission will be operational for a period of 5-7 years. Thus, persons recruited and performing successfully could expect to be associated with the mission on a long term basis. For administrative policy reasons, the contract of this position will be for 11 months and renewed further based on performance and requirement.

## Posting:

The posting will be at cluster level (Sub block – Zilla Parishad Constituency Level) in selected blocks of ten districts under Phase I of implementation in Gadchiroli, Wardha, Yeotmal, Osmanabad, Jalna, Ratnagiri, Nandurbar, Solapur, Gondia and Thane. To know the specific blocks under each district, please refer to the <http://jobs.msrlm.org>

## Duties and Responsibilities

The following are the indicative **Duties and responsibilities of Cluster Coordinator**

- Work in close co-ordination with BMMU to implement planned activities in the cluster/(Sub Block)
- Identify the vulnerable stakeholders in the block with reference to Women, Differently-abled, SC/STs and other under privileged sections.
- Facilitate the process of organizing and inclusion of vulnerable communities and strengthening them into functional Community level institutions.
- Facilitate activities relating to livelihoods planning, micro credit meetings, micro credit plan development, and CIF utilization among communities.
- Work towards improvement of service delivery of government entitlement and social safety net schemes in the block.
- Enhance access to entitlements and schemes to community level institutions.
- Make regular consultations with community to understand current livelihoods practices and motivating them to upscale current model or adopt innovative livelihoods models.
- Facilitation of SHGs to follow Panchasutra model.
- Ensure clean data entered into the MIS at BMMU level in a timely manner
- Report regularly to BMMU in form of generating MPR's, QPR's and other relevant reports.
- Any other task as allocated by competent authority at BMMU

### **Reporting:**

The person recruited will be reporting to the **Block Mission Manager** of MSRLM any other delegated authority.

### **Essentials qualification and Experience -Cluster Coordinator**

**For candidates from open market-** PG degree/diploma in social work or rural development or Rural management or Development studies or gender related courses or women studies or sociology, or anthropology, or economics or agriculture or forestry or Fisheries or horticulture or Veterinary Science or Dairy Management or Natural Resource Management from recognised university/Institute with minimum 3 years working experience in the area of social mobilisation and Institution building with vulnerable groups such as Women, Differently-abled, SC/STs and other under privileged sections in Rural Development /Social Mobilization/ Poverty Alleviation/Livelihoods Promotion programme.

- Age Limit for General/Open category would not be more than 33 years as on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 and up to 5 years of age relaxation for reservation category.
- For Persons with Disabilities (PwD) candidates' upper age limit would not be more than 45 years as on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.
- Knowledge of Marathi and MS Office is essential.
- Preference will be given to the candidates those who have Masters in Social Work (MSW) or
- Graduation Diploma rural development
- Preference will be given to the candidates those who have Marathi & English typing and MS-CIT certificate

### **Desired Domain Knowledge and Experience**

- Knowledge and passion to work with marginalized families in rural setting in the state in the context of livelihoods promotion and poverty alleviation programmes.
- Strong knowledge in social mobilization process in context of rural setting in the state with experience of conducting PRA/RRA/Rapport building activities at community level.
- Knowledge of processes such Participatory Identification of Poor to ensure greater equity and transparency of inclusion of vulnerable stakeholders in social mobilization process.

### **Desired Competency and Attributes**

- *Ability to recognize complexity, analyze and act* – Proactive in identifying issues and bottlenecks with ability to think Out of Box for innovative solutions.
- *Intensity, Integrity and Intelligence* – Willingness to travel 'extra mile' in order to work for communities with the ability to translate knowledge into purposeful action
- *Inclusive Approach* – Sensitive to needs to vulnerable and marginalized communities and including them in the development process
- *Team Player*- Thrives working in a large team with the ability to demonstrate leadership skills wherever required.
- *Integrative Skills* - Understands relevant cross-sectoral areas how they are interrelated;
- *Articulate and demonstrate clear results* – Possesses effective communication skills to deal with different stakeholders with ability to achieving objectives in challenging situations

**Salary-** Gross salary would be up to Rs 20,000/- per month for this position.