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CTD: oIGT GENERAL THEMATIC DOMAIN

SUB-DOMAIN:

HUMAN SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

PANEL TITLE:

LIVELIHOOD DYNAMICS AND FOOD SECURITY ISSUES OF INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES OF ODISHA

CONVENOR: DR. DEEPAK KUMAR OJHA

CO-CONVENOR: MANORANJAN MOHAPATRA

ABSTRACT

Food insecurity remains a major concern for many indigenous communities of Odisha who rely on agriculture and collection of Minor Forest Produces as their main source of livelihood. Since independence, ensuring food security has been a major challenge for the state in which more than one-third of the total population is estimated to be poor and many children malnourished. As food insecurity is measured along with the components such as food availability, production, and accessibility the livelihood of the people plays a crucial role. Since agriculture continues to be the main contributor to the tribal household's economy, the fluctuations in weather conditions, occurrences of natural disasters such as, cyclone and drought have negatively impacted food production in the region. Vulnerability to climate change and recurrent natural disasters have resulted in Odisha becoming the second poorest state in India. Many poorest of the poor and vulnerable communities are being forced to move out of their native villages in search of livelihood. There is growing economic and social security among them.

This panel raises these issues seeking empirical data from field research and analysis of socio-economic linkages in secondary literature. Possible remedial measures would also be discussed and wherever possible voices of the communities would be included in the discussion.

Keywords: Livelihood, Sustainability, Food Security, Production, Availability, Consumption

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