



FPO Model participation in Namaste Orchha 2020

Namaste Orchha 2020, an initiative by the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board, was organized for creating new opportunities and initiatives to promote community-based interventions and to showcase the rich cultural and architectural heritage took place from 6-8 March 2020 in Orchha, Madhya Pradesh. The festival also featured a food and crafts bazaar that displayed local cuisine and traditional handicrafts of the region.

During the event, Sakshi Farmer Producer Organisation (Producer company promoted by Development Alternatives) participated with its products such as spices, vegetable seeds, vermi-compost, and various agri-inputs. They explored the opportunity of regular market linkages, value-added services, linkages of technology, inputs on training and capacity building, with other stakeholders in the event.

Cognisant of the opportunity for aggregating producers into collectives for means of reducing the risk in agriculture and improving the access of small and marginal producers to investments, technology, and markets, Development Alternatives is enabling farmers in transforming community-based organisations into sustainable institutions. The core mission of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) is focused on increasing the productivity of small and marginal farmers, value addition and efficient linkages between producers and markets. The farmers can access timely credit during sowing seasons and are given the training to increase their knowledge and access to scientific and technical knowledge of increasing soil fertility and improving farm productivity.

The various set of services provided by FPOs cover almost all aspects of backward and forward linkages which will include inputs, technical services to processing and marketing. DA looks forward to even

greater collaboration in the future on systems that drive large scale change, particularly in terms of how critically needed investment from pools of capital can be drawn into disaggregated business models along with required changes in the policy environment.