

Case Study - III

Empowering Women Through Skill Development

A Case Study on the Ramky Foundation's Initiative in M. Makavaram

- **The Initiative**

Ramky Foundation with the generous sponsorship of ReSustainability Ltd. has initiated an endeavor known as the Tribal Development Project in Koyyuru Mandal, Alluri Sitharama Raju district, Andhra Pradesh. A program that has seen its implementation across 14 different villages. One such location is M. Makavaram. In this village, there are twelve self-help groups who, during the grama sabha, voiced their need for a women's empowerment center. Their request included not only the establishment of such a center but also the provision of livelihood support for the women in their community.



- **The Beneficiaries**

In M. Makavaram, the beneficiaries of this project are women who predominantly belong to the Scheduled Tribes. They have participated in training provided by both NABARD and the Ramky Foundation. However, after their regular domestic cooking responsibilities, these women found themselves with no further work to provide for their families.

- **The Challenges**

One of the most significant challenges encountered was the absence of a community hall or any suitable meeting place within the village. This lack of a dedicated space left the women unable to engage in training or undertake any village activities, exacerbating the issue of finding work beyond their domestic duties.



- **The Solution**

To address this pressing concern, the Ramky Foundation's team initiated discussions with the village leaders and the women of the self-help groups. The discussions revolved around identifying a suitable location for the proposed women's empowerment center. Following these productive dialogues, RF successfully constructed a women's empowerment center under the CSR component of NABARD's TDF.



- **The Impact**

The successful establishment of the Women Empowerment Center has significantly transformed the landscape of women's employment in M. Makavaram. Ramky Foundation capitalized on this new infrastructure by providing women with training in various skills, including stitching, Adda leaf plate making, and paper plate making. This initiative has empowered them to earn an income, with all the women now bringing in between Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 10,000 per month. The impact of the initiative is clear, delivering not only a physical space for learning and development but also providing women with the means to support their families economically.