

Role of CLAs / Federation

It is often debated if the people's institution that is being built should stop with the second level which is the cluster level association or be built up to the Federation level, which is the third level. This brief document presents the institution building process, the functions and the responsibilities at the three levels of the people's institutions and explores the need for each.

Most of the information is from a recent Trainers Workshop held at Bangalore in July 2005. Participants were: Saroja, Reshma, Chandrika, Deva Manohari, Murugan and Thomas.

People's Institution	Process and Functions			Administrative responsibilities
	Economic	Social	Political	
Self Help Group Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Savings - Internal lending - Individual Income Generation Activity - Group Income Generation Activity - Resource Mobilization (Finance) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A new identity for the member - A sense of belonging - Self esteem - Care and support of one another - Community Action programmes - Social Action programmes - Identify need for new group formation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A voice in community issues - Participation in local governance as elected members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular meetings with good attendance - Book keeping - To keep the group going effectively
Cluster Level Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish relevant linkages for mobilization of credit for SHGs - Linkages to introduce relevant technologies leading to Food security - Plan and implement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collecting relevant information and passing on to member SHGs - Establishing relevant linkages in areas of gender equity, health, education, nutrition etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making presence known in local governance - Take up activities as extension arm of government. E.g. Govt. awareness programmes, relief work, distribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain quality of member SHGs 1. Ensure SHGs reporting to CLA on monthly basis. 2. Training, Audits and Grading

