

## COLLABORATIONS

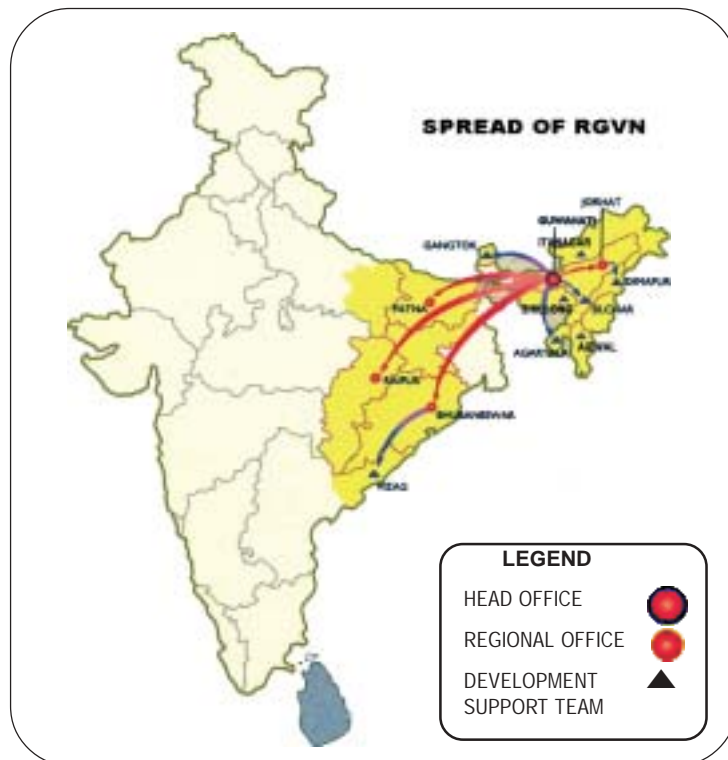
Besides its core activities, RGVN has also entered into collaborations with various organizations in a bid to diversify its activities and reach out more to the poor. Some such collaborations are

- Hivos
- The Sir Dorabji Tata Trust
- The Sir Ratan Tata Trust
- The Ford Foundation

## OTHER INITIATIVES

**NGO Facilitation Centre** - to help youth in taking NGO related activities, to advise on funding, writing proposals etc.

**Rural Innovation Fund** - to support research and prototypes made from indigenous and other material that would upgrade rural technology and contribute to betterment of livelihoods of the poor. Rs. 5 lakh is earmarked annually for this.



*RGVN has disbursed approximately Rs. 127 crore to reach nearly 320,000 poor households as on March, 2008.*

### Registered Head Office :

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E-mail: rgvn@vsnl.com

### Regional Offices :

#### GUWAHATI

Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi, 1st floor, Bye Lane No. 8,  
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#### PATNA

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#### BHUBANESHWAR

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#### RAIPUR

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#### RGVN - CSP Office

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# RGVN

## RASHTRIYA GRAMIN VIKAS NIDHI

Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI), Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Tata Social Welfare Trust (TSWT) are the sponsors of RGVN

Registered under the Society's Registration Act of 1860 in the State of Assam. It is also registered with the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act. RGVN has obtained exemptions under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act providing tax concessions to donors.

## ABOUT RGVN

Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi (RGVN) was created as an indigenous development support organization to reach the poorest, especially in remote and less developed regions like northeastern and eastern India. In such areas mainstream approaches and institutions often fail to reach the poorest. RGVN was thus envisaged as an organization that would fill this gap.

## OBJECTIVES

RGVN was founded as an autonomous, non profit organization in April, 1990. Head quartered at Guwahati., RGVN's main objectives are to :

- Promote, support and develop voluntary organizations engaged in the social and economic uplift of rural and urban poor, physically and socio-economically handicapped people
- Improve the pace and quality of economic development, especially relating to the village and decentralized sector
- Focus attention on groups which are disadvantageously placed in society, but have the potential for pursuing socially and economically productive activities
- Assist the urban and rural poor especially tribals, scheduled caste, women and children for their economic self sustenance.

RGVN operates in 14 states of the country the eight Northeastern states, eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, northeastern Andhra Pradesh and including Sikkim, Chattisgarh.

RGVN has five regional offices at Guwahati, Jorhat, Patna, Bhubaneshwar and Raipur headed by Regional Co-ordinators. RGVN also has a Credit and Savings Program (CSP) office at Guwahati headed by a Director. The Regional Co-ordinators and Director-CSP report to the Executive Director at RGVN- Head office.

## PROGRAMS

- NGO Support Program (NGOSP)
- Credit and Savings Program (CSP) ,
- Capacity Building Program
- Fellowship

### NGO SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (NGOSP)

One of the major activities of RGVN, NGOSP aims at reinforcing livelihood systems of poor people who have little or no access to mainstream assistance. RGVN provides financial support to NGOs by way of : *returnable grants/ revolving fund* for livelihood activity amongst the poor; *outright grants* to meet institutional development costs of NGO and technomanagerial support in the context of the livelihood program being supported by RGVN. Returnable Grants carry a service charge of 12% with a payback period of two years.

#### New initiatives

**NGO- Revolving Fund** - New NGOs to be provided Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1,00,000 as Revolving Fund for two years to do micro credit. Capacity Building requirements to be looked into simultaneously. Book keeping and accounting to be perfected during this period.

NGO Micro Finance (NGO-MF) - NGOs which have partnered with RGVN for 5-6 years, availed more than 2 loans from RGVN and have evolved to handle larger credit, generally fall under the purview of NGO-MF. RGVN plans to work with these NGOs with borrowed fund and groom them into sustainable MFIs.

**Gender Budget and Analysis Centre (GBAC)** - Gender issues have always been a concern of RGVN. This center have been initiated to bring in a more systematic effort towards gender. The purpose of GBAC is not only to analyze budgets' but also an attempt to address various gender issues.

## THE CREDIT AND SAVINGS PROGRAM (CSP)

The Credit and Savings Programme was initiated in 1995 to provide credit and other financial services to the people who cannot access the formal sector. The main focus of CSP is to enhance the livelihoods of poor women and empower them in the process. This is done by providing credit to Joint Liability Group (JLG) and Self Help Groups (SHG).

CSP is headed by a Director, who is responsible for all operational matters of the Program and reports to the Executive Director, RGVN. There is a Central Coordination Unit (CCU) which assists the Director. The CSP operates through Unit Offices.

### CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

RGVN looks into the institutional development needs of these Community Based Organizations (CBOs). This is done through:

- training to SHGs
- interaction amongst NGOs
- workshops on institutional development
- sectoral exposure and training
- sponsorship to renowned training institutes in the country.

### FELLOWSHIPS

RGVN's Fellowships are awarded to persons who show an aptitude for developmental activity and are keen to work in areas which have far reaching effects on the lives of the poor. The fellowship is awarded for directly working on income generation programs, conducting research of high quality in the field related to RGVN's work and encouraging community action and participation in the field of health, primary education, gender issues, adult literacy and other such programs.