





IMPACT OF

SOLAR SILK REELING AND SPINNING MACHINES ON RURAL LIVELIHOODS



Energy-efficient, solar-powered silk reeling and spinning machines enable users (usually women) to reel high-quality silk. The machine, reduces the drudgery of traditional manual thigh reeling, increases productivity, and promises increased incomes. Till date, approximately 14,000 solar-powered silk reeling machines have been deployed in India.

The findings below are from a primary survey conducted through in-person and telephonic interviews between February - September 2022.

States surveyed (share of respondents)

55% Odisha 45% Chhattisgarh Respondents*

494Total

92% Females

49% OBC

45% SC/ST

General

Users

73%First-time silk reelers

71% SHG members

 * All respondents procured the machines for at least one year before the survey, with 61% using them for more than one year.

INCOME IMPACT

Users experiencing income increase



70%





₹ 36,000 increase in annual income for a typical user from a baseline income of ₹ 60,000.



13% female users earn for the first time.

Top five spends of increased income



Source: CEEW analysis 2022



18% invested in the livelihood activity of silk reeling



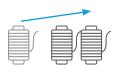
17% invested in family





6% bought assets

PRODUCTIVITY IMPACT



2x

increased productivity compared to earlier reeling practices (manual and gridpowered machines)



users experienced an improvement in yarn quality



2 hours a day, average time saved on silk reeling



users reported no physical strain/reduced effort with

Source: CEEW analysis 2022

Technology usage at the time of survey

65%

31%

4% Never used it

Top five reasons for not using it

36%

Raw material unavailability

17%

16% Produce/ output not as expected

Lack of marketing knowledge

Source: CEEW analysis 2022



SOCIAL IMPACT

94%

users experienced increased support from family members/spouse

87%

users now have a better ability to buy assets and save on own

Source: CEEW analysis 2022

93%

users reported improvement in confidence to earn and work



IMPACT ON WOMEN

94%

believe they have the relevant knowledge & skills to become self-reliant

believe they have better agency to take decisions in family

Source: CEEW analysis 2022

report increased participation in public/ community events

more confident about using public/private transport on own



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

1.1 MT

CO, abatement*

*For every 100 units of Unnati (silk reeling) machine used for 5 hrs for 192 days a year. Source: CEEW analysis 2022

About Powering Livelihoods

Powering Livelihoods, a CEEW-Villgro initiative, mainstreams clean energy-based livelihood solutions. The findings presented here are based on the Programme's interim impact assessment conducted by CEEW.

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