



## **Bankers Institute of Rural Development (BIRD)**

*(A Premier Learning Center of NABARD)*

**Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India**

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**Brief on-line Course Design (e-ITEC)**

### **Program on Women Empowerment**

The contribution of women to the rural economy in developing countries including India remains very significant yet undocumented and unacknowledged. Women play a key role in agriculture and non-agriculture sectors, though they have limited access to property rights, credit and are not given their due share. Empowering women through programs like SHG-Bank linkage programs has brought in a paradigm shift in their role in the decision making process within their own families as well as their communities. The Central and Provincial governments in India have recognized the impact of such interventions and started implemented women focused credit and non-credit programs. Gender budgeting and Gender mainstreaming is also helping women to have a major share in polity resulting in creating a space for their voice to be heard. There are quite a good number of examples for learning and replication. Women Empowerment is crucial to achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

#### **1. Aim & Objectives:**

At the end of the programme the participants will be able to:

- Describe the Role of women in Rural Economy
- Explain various strategies for women empowerment
- Strengthen Livelihoods of Rural Women - Group approach (Self Help Groups / Joint Liability Groups and their Federations)
- Formulate policies for Farmer Producer Organizations / Community Based Organizations/ Development Clusters in Farm and Off Farm Sector
- Initiate measures to improve access to finance, technology, skill development and credit – Issues and challenges – Flexi Approach to work and lending
- Explain initiatives like Women Development Cells in banks, specific initiatives directed towards women like Women SHGs, Stand Up India etc.
- Explain Gender budgeting and Gender mainstreaming in developmental initiatives
- Initiate action plans to reduce Gender Gap
- Initiate measures to enhance the role of Women in Governance

## 2. Course Content

The Program will lay emphasis on the following -

- Role of Women and their contribution to Rural Economies
- Women in Agriculture - Issues and Challenges
- Strengthening of livelihoods of women through group approach
- Targeted approach to improve skills and credit to women – Stand up India, SHG-BLP
- Financial Inclusion of Women
- Women Entrepreneurship- Setting up of new Enterprises, especially rural units
- Gender budgeting and Gender mainstreaming
- Addressing Gender Gap at all levels in social and economic spheres
- Improving Role of Women in Governance (Board level presence / Local self governance) through better education and access to technology
- Achieve SDGs through Women Empowerment

## 3. Participants:

The program participants will be middle/senior Officers (Women) from ITEC member countries working in government, universities, banks, NGOs, Co-operatives, MFIs and other institutions concerned with agriculture, rural development and financial inclusion with around 3 years' work experience.

## 4. Duration:

**27 to 30 September 2021**

## 5. Day to Day Programme Plan

Day	Session Topic	Contents/topics to be covered	Methodology proposed
Day 1	1500 to 1600 hrs	Concept of Women Empowerment, Need for Gender Equality & Role of various stakeholders, Gender Budgeting and Gender Main Streaming	WEBEX Training Mode
	Self -Paced	Material on “Issues in Gender , Best Practices of Various countries in Gender Mainstreaming “ including Case Studies and videos / short films	Assignment on “ <b>Issues in Gender - Policies and Best Practices in Gender Development of my country</b> ” to be submitted by <b>Day 3</b>

<b>Day</b>	<b>Session Topic</b>	<b>Contents/topics to be covered</b>	<b>Methodology proposed</b>
<b>Day 2</b>	1500 to 1600 hrs	Gender perspectives in access to Finance - Micro Finance through Group Mode (Self Help Groups, SHG Federations and Joint Liability Groups of Women) – Policy Initiatives by GoI and other agencies	WEBEX Training Mode
	Self-Paced	Short films for viewing and two Case Studies on Access to Finance for Assignment	Assignment on <b>two Case Studies relating to Micro Finance</b> to be submitted by <b>Day 4</b>
<b>Day 3</b>	1500 to 1600 hrs	Models of Holistic Approach to Women Development – Social, Health, Finance etc. Financial Inclusion - Social Security Schemes and Leveraging Technology for Financial Inclusion of Women	WEBEX Training Mode
	Self- Paced	Experience sharing on “ <b>Issues in Gender - Policies and Best Practices in Gender Development of my country</b> ” The presentations or videos submitted to BIRD will be up loaded. Success stories of holistic women development, Financial Inclusion and Leveraging Technology including videos will be uploaded for self - study	Participants will go through the presentations or videos of the fellow trainees for cross country learnings. Self-Study material to be seen for reaffirmation of the concepts learnt on Day 3
<b>Day 4</b>	1500 to 1600hrs	Policy and Credit Interventions for Women Entrepreneurship - Skill and Business Development Initiatives for Promoting Women Enterprises (Farm and Off-Farm Sector); POs/CBOs of women into corporate registered business entities	WEBEX Training Mode
	Self - Paced	Case studies on Skill Development and Livelihoods through POs/CBOs of Women and individual women entrepreneurs as well as videos for comprehensive understanding.	Participants to go through and get insights into the various types of farm and off-farm rural livelihoods