

CPAF — Quick Start

A one-page guide to running the model. CPAF is a research instrument for structured reasoning about policy, not a forecaster: it shows how mechanisms interact, it does not predict specific numbers. Read the outputs as reliability and ranges, never as point predictions.

Run it in three steps

1. **Pick a case.** Choose one of the two craft archetypes — *Chikankari* (a distributional trap: value exists but is captured) or *Cheriyal* (a connective failure: viable but cut off from the market). Each starts at its own documented income level.
2. **Choose policies.** Toggle policies on and off, or load a ready scenario (No Policy, Market, Welfare, Integrated). Umbrella schemes activate their child programmes automatically.
3. **Run.** Step month by month or run the full horizon, and watch the system move — income, the co-op, middlemen, market access, heritage, and the regime label (TRAP / TRANSITION / GROWTH).

How to read what you see

- **Regime (TRAP / TRANSITION / GROWTH)** — which basin the case is in. Escape requires income to hold above the growth line for a sustained period (hysteresis), so a brief crossing is not an escape.
- **The two documented lines** — destitution $\approx$ ₹1,450, poverty/TRAP ₹2,000, viable/GROWTH ₹4,122 (anchored to World Bank poverty lines and India's HCES consumption survey).
- **Reliability and range, not a number** — the model carries $\pm 2\%$ monthly noise, so any single run is a draw. The reports run a configuration 24 times and report the *share* that escape and the *range* of timing. Trust the reliability, not one run's rupee figure.
- **Two coordination streams** — the *artisan co-op* (built by cluster investment; the lever that breaks the middleman) is distinct from *inter-ministry delivery coherence*, C_{eff} (which scales how much of every policy lands). More policies

do not automatically weaken delivery — coherence-building instruments can offset the friction.

The analysis tools

- **Policy Interaction Analysis** — finds the *structural backbone* (the smallest set that still escapes), flags redundant instruments, and runs leave-one-out to show what is load-bearing. Prune for parsimony, not for show.
- **Validation panel** — a live three-stage, 21-test suite (Barlas standard): accounting integrity, sound dynamics, and reproduction of the documented poverty-trap pattern.
- **Sensitivity panel** — stress-tests the parameters and shows which conclusions survive. About 61% of parameters are declared assumptions; the structural conclusions hold across ~98% of the tested space. Numbers are soft; conclusions are robust.

Export and share

- **Reports** — Executive Brief, Technical Report, and Policy Interaction Analysis (printable HTML).
- **Scenario JSON** — export your exact configuration so someone else can reproduce it. If you send feedback, attach this.

One rule for honest use

Every parameter is visible and adjustable in the admin panel. The outputs are only as strong as those choices, which is why the model reports reliability and ranges rather than single predictions. Use it to reason about *which kind* of problem you face and *which kind* of lever fits — not to predict a number.

Abboudi, B. (2026). CPAF — a complexity-based policy analysis framework. Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University.