

ANNUAL REPORT 2010-11





VISION

“Creating socially just, technologically improved and empowered rural communities, and taking development to the most to the most marginalized groups of the society”

MISSION

“To catalyze and facilitate development processes using local resources and wisdom, through investing in building human capability and creating synergy between traditional knowledge and technological advancement for social and economic development of the region”

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A woman collecting fresh vegetables from her Kitchen Garden.
In MUNDRI Village in Anandpuri Block of Banswara District
WADI PROJECT-NABARD



SECRETARY'S DESK

We are pleased to present the Annual Report for the year 2010-11. We sincerely believe that for the realizing the dream of rural development, with the special context of tribal area, and building sustainable agricultural systems there is need to have the presence of strong social structures, which allow for an improved management of individual of shaved local resources, mutual learning, improved information exchange and whenever required collective and advocacy foe common good. More so, because the personal aspirations, needs, economic potential and socio-cultural situation are key determinant factors in individuals life. Therefore, capacity building of rural masers to bring about a change in their attitudes becomes important and essential.

With the above genesis **VAAGDHARA** have been continuing its efforts to influence individuals/families of the tribal area development, health, agriculture, animal husbandry, education, natural resource management and advocacy relating to their basic rights search as Right to Education, Right to food and nutrition, elimination of child labor, etc. we shall strive to continue our efforts to remain a source of sprit and a bridge for smooth travireition from exclusion to inclusion for the marginal real community in our area of operation. Therefore the see objective mould be to increase our outreach with various solutions to be implemented applied through community based organizations for the betterment of the community.

We plan to have our full fledged Research and evolution system for own introspection and to reorient ourselves to enhance and strengthen our proximity, interaction and strengthen for the betterment of the community for which we exit.

VAAGDHARA fretfully express and Acknowledge the support of our partner institutions, financial institutions State Government departments and agencies, district Administration Panchayati Raj institutions and public representatives for their support, guidance, assistance and feedback. I'm also grateful to the members of Board of **VAAGDHARA** for their guidance we are immensely grateful to our donors, friends and well wishes for their direct and indirect contribution.

Last but not the least, I wish to place my appreciation on record for each and every member of the staff for their tireless efforts in making the multi-dimensional efforts of **VAAGDHARA**- success **Ms. Surbhi Saraswat** deserves special mention for her efforts is preparing the Annual Report.

While placing the report in your hands, we wish to have your constructive suggestions for making our endeavour more meaningful so as to bring the smouldered community to a level of vibrant society.

Thank You.

**Snare Regard
Jayesh Joshi**

Executive Summary



The year 2010 has ended and 2011 started on a high note with the colossal convergence programme in which Government policy makers and community were at the same platform. It offered a great opportunity to present the challenges of Tribal Community being faced in achieving equity and social inclusion, at the same time some remarkable initiatives such as the Model Village Health and Nutrition Day, Model Village Health and Sanitation Committee, which reaches out to number of women and children in villages and offers integrated services every month. With this, we got an opportunity to attend Government policy makers to share some visible changes in various categories including Health, Nutrition, Livelihoods and Agriculture in the Tribal Area. It was reconfirmed that these intervention based on Livelihood Development, Agriculture, Human development etc to ensure the holistic development of the vulnerable tribal community of Southern Rajasthan.

During the year 2010 most of our interventions were to ensure young child survival and development will continue to focus on accelerating reduction of under nutrition and neonatal, infant and maternal mortality; improving hygiene and sanitation with protective environment for children through Education, Child Protection, etc.

Different partners bring different Expertise. Therefore, our innovations in Disability and Integrated Agriculture approach also showed us great opportunity to work with these and were able to see many positive changes across the fields. The learnings from these projects would enrich our own insights and contribute to the development understanding of other actors in the field.

Vaagdhara always believes that development is a process of change in which the use of resources, the direction of investment, the orientation of technological development and institutional change are in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations.

In 2010, a strategy for engaging Panchayati Raj Institutions and community-based organisations was developed to ensure social inclusion, guiding state-level initiatives such as capacity building of organisations of excluded communities. VAAGDHARA conducted the Village Health and Sanitation Trainings of all 8 blocks of Banswara District to strengthen the local governance and build the decision making concept in the respective areas. VAAGDHARA envisages the community to take leadership at local level, concerning to health and its related issues.

Vaagdhara has emphasized the need for creating and strengthening community institutions at different levels. On one hand, this has meant organizing village action groups, women's self help groups at the community level; on the other hand it meant working actively with Panchayat Raj Institutions, both by directly working with the representatives of PRIs and through enhanced interface between PRIs and VAGs organized by Vaagdhara. The organisation believes that ultimately it is the responsibility of PRIs to implement and take up the development work in the long term.



VAAGDHARA AT GLANCE

Vaagdhara (Voluntary Association for Agricultural General Development, Health and Reconstruction Alliance) is a non-for-profit non government organization committed to the empowerment of most deprived and vulnerable groups of the society, in particular the indigenous population of South Rajasthan, an already exploited and excluded group, which has been further marginalized over the past fifteen year when market economy has started pervading all spheres of governance and civic life.

Located in Banswara town of Rajasthan, Vaagdhara focuses its efforts in the district of Banswara, Dungarpur, Udaipur, Pratapgarh, Chhittorgarh, Jaipur and Tonk. Vaagdhara aims at promoting and facilitating development processes in water and resources scarce region through investing in human and technological development and augmentation of natural resources towards long term well being of its partner communities, i.e. women, children, peasants and deprived tribal population.

The major objectives of the organisation as enshrined in its MoA are:

- To address issues relating to *equitable natural resource management and livelihoods*, with a focus on hunger and food sovereignty, access to water and forest produce
- Organizing and supporting activities towards *promotion of bio-diversity, ecology and environmental protection* and conservation
- *Action research and undertaking pilots* on specific issues which could be lead to knowledge and skill building on the issues including education, health and gender
- To promote *networking and policy advocacy* around the issues which have a wide ramification, and as such require interventions at meso and macro levels.

Vaagdhara is associated with a number of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and networks at the state, national and international levels. It is a member of CIVICUS at the international level. It also partners with UN WFP, Welthungerhilfe, save the children fund (BC), IGSSS, NABARD, CAPART, Indraprastha Public Affairs Centre (IPAC), PAIRVI, Cecoedecon, Global Week of Action, and UN Millennium Development Goals; and has participated in World Social Forums and Make Trade Fair, Campaign. Vaagdhara has forged effective partnerships with different stakeholders such as media, government officials, and academia. Recently in February 2011, the NGO committee recommended to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to grant Special Consultative Status to Vaagdhara along with the 17 organizations around the world.

INTEGRATED TO WADI DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



Goal and Purpose of the Project

The ultimate goal of this project is “Improved Agro-horticulture and agro-forestry (WADI)” to sustain socio-economic status for resource poor families” and assisting 500 poorest of poor in enhancing livelihoods and bring them above poverty line.

1.2 Specific Objectives

- To provide sustainable income for 500 families.
- Promoting water efficiency and organic

farming as a tool for sustainable agriculture leading to food security for poor families as a component of drought proofing.

- Organizing community into participants groups, village planning & development committees and federation.
- Promoting gender balance in the project villages.
- Initiating knowledge and skill building process in the area.
- Establish training center to support backward-forward linkages in project outputs.

The “Wadi” model of tribal development is holistic in approach addressing production, processing and marketing of the produce and also other needs. The core of the programme is “Wadi” and other development interventions are built around “Wadi”. The “Wadi” in Gujarati means a ‘small orchard’ covering one or two acres. The “Wadi” is an effective tool for tribal development with suitable soil conservation, water resource development measures and other measures for improving the quality of tribal life such as community health & sanitation, women development, institutional development, etc. VAAGDHARA realizes the need for specialized focused approach to train rural youth to enable them to compete for various positions in different fields and create additional livelihood opportunities for them. The project was undertaken to check migration of work forces and providing them appropriate knowledge and skills to grow permanent crops. The major component of strategy is poverty eradication, through improved access to resources and community participation in formulation, implementation and monitoring activities. All activities planned are to address important aspects of agro-horti-forestry and allied activities, including plantation of fruit saplings.

Exposure helped Nagendra to look into possibilities

In Wadi Project, Nagendra ji from ghanewa Village of Anandpuri Block initially did not take interest to undertake wadi. However, gentle persuasion by the project staff and an exposure visit to the Wadis at Ghatol Block motivated him to undertake plantation and develop a Wadi in one acre. His wife helped in digging pits for the plantation of saplings of mango. Initially His wife watered the saplings by fetching water from a nearby stream. After then, with VAAGDHARA and NABARD support, group of families including Nagendraji acquired a Motor pump and pipeline for irrigation of the plants. Nagendra Ji is now cultivating vegetables as an intercrop which provides fresh vegetables and as a livelihood sources as his wife sells those vegetables in the nearby market area.

Learning from farm; learning to farm

Wadi Project with the support of NABARD helped community to acquire new technology for agricultural system and creation of wadi in their drought prone area. Their past failures had created disenchantment with the land and their association with it lasted for only a few months, sometimes weeks, in a year. The introduction of the tree-based system made them realise that their land is a valuable resource. As a result, they built a permanent relationship with their land and devoted more time and energy towards its development.

Now, Tribal community feels more secure with their land and they are learning technology with their farm only.

VAAGDHARA also increased the role of women in decision making and take them towards a gender balanced society. Community participation is a great source for the enlistment of the project.

Water resources development: Even though the programme area receives an annual rainfall of 1800 mm, because of steep slopes and rocky terrain, water retention is poor resulting in severe soil erosion and nutrient loss. As existing water resources are not sufficient to irrigate “Wadi” plots, run off water is harvested through construction of temporary check bunds across river streams and development of perennial springs. The Pot drip irrigation is provided for the fruit plants in the initial 3 years of plantation as protective irrigation. Well deepening is another form of water resource management.

Soil conservation measures viz., Bunding, tree platforms, the combination of these two and trench-cum-bund based on field level requirements have been introduced. The participants are paid for the soil conservation and plantation work done by them in their fields.

Health Programme: Some of the basic problems faced by the tribal families are related to malnutrition, illness and inaccessibility to health care. Community health programme focuses on mother and child health care (MCH) as well as primary and preventive health care. The participants are educated on sanitation and hygiene. The local youth, especially women, called Village Health Guides (VHG) are trained in diagnosis and treatment of common illness and serious cases are referred to appropriate facilities.

Women Development: There has been an increased emphasis on women’s participation in the programme. The major activities taken up are promotion of SHGs, income generation activities, drudgery reduction along with awareness generation about reproductive health and development aspects.

The income generating activities included fruit and forest plant nurseries, vegetable cultivation, vermin composting etc. In order to reduce drudgery of women, three major activities are taken up in the field. They are Fibre sheets, chaff cutter, solar lights.

PEOPLE 'S EMPOWERMENT FOR ACCESSING RIGHT TO LIVELIHOOD

GOAL:

Ensuring household food security and improving livelihood opportunities and overall quality of life of the tribal population of 25 villages of Banswara district of Rajasthan through sustainable and equitable use of natural resources.

OBJECTIVE:

- To organize tribal community in 25 villages of Banswara district as functional community Action Groups.
- To group 1800 families in 25 villages of Banswara district as SHGs.
- To build environment for improved access to various schemes ; to enhance livelihood opportunity for tribal community in 25 villages of Banswara district.
- To enhance knowledge, skill and resources of communities in 25 villages of the District to get benefits of various livelihood opportunities.

The People's Empowerment for Accessing Rights To Livelihood (PEARL) is being implemented with the support of IGSSS. The programme addresses livelihood through three Rights:

- Right to Food
- Right to Work
- Right to Credit
- Right to NRM



It is aimed at addressing the key needs of the people, viz., Natural Resource Management, Credit, Food Security and access to the government resources. Building capacities for collective and articulation of voices, access to credit to invest on livelihood and forming the community based organization like CAG; SHG has been the key strategies to deal with the poverty issues. Besides these, entitlements of the government resources and schemes, Like the MNREGA, PDA, ICDS, Mid day Meal etc. are all driven for poverty alleviation and livelihood enhancement.

Mr. **Bapulal**, aged 32 years has been residing along with his family in Roopji Ka Kheda. This village is having no permanent source of irrigation. The whole area looks like desert. *Facts show that 70% of people migrated from the village because of low agriculture productivity..*

Bapulal is an active member of CAG & his wife Babali Devi is member of SHG of **PEARL Project intervention of VAAGDHARA**. VAAGDHARA provided training of ‘**Vegetable Cultivation & Seed Improvement**’ & distributed seeds to develop the vegetable cultivation & kitchen garden practices to the groups. **Bapulal** tried to use some low cost techniques for agriculture even with less irrigation facilities with the facilitation of PEARL team. He started vegetable cultivation and used dry Wadi technique for tomato for increased production. He undertook cultivation of “**Gram**” crop, it’s known as “**Sukhi- Kheti**” among the community. Bapulal developed his own small nursery to minimise cost of plants. Along with that he started his own ‘Tea Stall & Kirana Shop’ in the village. PEARL team facilitated Bapulal to link with some Govt. Schemes of Horticulture Department.

Mr. Bapulal proudly says, *“This intervention of VAAGDHARA changed my life. VAAGDHARA made CAG & SHG groups in my village last year. VAAGDHARA provided Vegetable Cultivation Training and that changed my whole way of farming. VAAGDHARA is also helping me & others to establish linkages with government line departments to promote savings and agri based practices among them.”* A lot of changes can be seen in the quality of life of the rural families.



Strong Community based organizations have emerged and are taking initiatives at the community level. Initiatives by Community Based Organizations (CBOs) are foundation stones towards achieving sustainability. Under the PEARL Project, Some innovative approaches and tools like Job cards, Kisan Credit Cards, Regularization of PDS to deal with the access to food and address the issues of marginalized tribal community.

The Programme has successfully contributed to monitoring of the government food security schemes like PDS, ICDS, Mid day meal through active CBOs.

WOMEN SELF EMPOWERMENT:

Objective:

To bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaries) above the Poverty Line by ensuring appreciable sustained level of income over a period of time.



The Programme for self-employment of the poor has been an important component of the anti-poverty programmes implemented through government initiatives in the rural areas in India. The Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is the major on-going programme for the self-employment. The basic objective of the SGSY is to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above the Poverty Line by providing them income-generating assets through a mix of bank credit and governmental subsidy. The programme aims at establishing a large number of micro enterprises in rural areas based on the ability of the poor and potential of

each area. The programme focuses on organization of the poor at grassroots level through a process of social mobilization for poverty eradication. Social mobilization enables the poor to build their own organizations Self-Help Groups (SHGs), in which they participate fully, directly and take decisions on all issues that will enable them to cross the poverty line.

Under the SGSY, assistance is given to the poor families living below the poverty line in rural areas for taking up self employment. The people taking up Self Employment are called “Swarozgaris”. The objective is to be achieved by inter-alia organising the rural poor into Self Help Groups (SHGs) through the process of social mobilization, their training and capacity building and provision of income generating assets. The SHG approach helps the poor to build their self-confidence through community action. An interaction in group meetings and collective decision enables them in identification and prioritization of their needs and resources. This process would ultimately lead to the strengthening and socio-economic empowerment of the rural poor as well as improve their collective bargaining power.



It has been conceived as a Holistic Programme of Self Empowerment which includes following features:

- Organizing the Rural Poor into Self Help Groups
- Key Activity and development of Activity Clusters
- Training and Capacity Building of SHGs

Vaagdhara's foremost aim is to empower the women and their development. Women Self-Help Group is an informal association of 10 to 15 poor women belonging to the same village and sharing a common socio-economic background. The group enables its members to gain their identity as individuals, while realizing – and utilizing – the immense power of mutual aid. It provides them with a platform from where they can access banks and public services, and spearhead changes that affect them as poor women.

VAAGDHARA promoted SHGs in different programme for their holistic development and with the continuous efforts, VAAGDHARA formed 139 active SHGs which are working and trained by VAAGDHARA team members. Some of them are already taking up some income generation activities.



Entering into Enterpreunship- Sheela

Sheela with other 10 members formed the Self Help Group and they started with a contribution of Rs. 50 per month per women and developed the habit of cooperating with each other. The regular meetings of SHG, facilitated by the field functionaries of Rural Development, helped to facilitate proper understanding and establish rapport among themselves. They started giving internal loans to the needy members of the SHG and charged two percent interest on such loans.

Sheela is a president of JAI MATA SHG Group which introduced their business of formation of bamboo baskets and other craft material and sell into the market with the help of VAAGDHARA training session.

Now, the economic status of members of SHG is better than it was at time of group formation, the clear evidence of which is the confidence and exuberance displayed by them during their interaction with each other. Before they became the members of the SHG, their families were dependent on meagre resources that their husbands could generate by virtue of their irregular labour wages. Now these ladies have become more or less self dependent and even contributing to the overall income of the family. The members of the group have become torch bearers and they are now advising the other people to form more and more SHGs to come out of the poverty and enhance their status of living.

GRAIN BANK

GOAL:

To attain food security in marginalised tribal communities of Banswara by enhancing accessibility to food grains through establishments of grain banks and to make the grain banks a strong CBO for versatile development in the villages.

OBJECTIVE:

- Enhance accessibility of food grains to marginalised communities through operationalization of grain banks
- Mitigate drought induced migration and food shortages.
- Enable village based groups to manage food related program

Our farming community depends heavily on the borrowed money for the agricultural operations. The

borrowings are at an unreasonably high rate of interest, mostly from the money lenders. As a result, they are forced to sell their produce immediately after the harvest although price is very low. Thus, the farmers lose heavily on their investments. This vicious cycle is recurring year after year making the farmers poorer.



GRAIN BANK securing livelihoods

Rasi Devi-a member of self help Group-Grain Bank of NAROTO KI GOJ which is highly drought prone area with terrain lands .But, in such adverse conditions, she cultivates lot of fresh green vegetables free of cost from her farm. This is done through the Grain bank Project-Oriented of Agricultural Practices. She started reusing the water which is used in cleaning utensils and for other purposes in kitchen for growing small kitchen garden in her area.

Such initiatives helped others to motivate and move towards the livelihood sustainability.

Emerging a new business women –Kesar Devi

Kesar Devi- A member of Foolwati Self Help Group is now a role Model of other SHG Members as well as for tribal women. She proved herself to be a responsible and intelligent person despite the fact of being illiterate. With the intervention of VAAGDHARA-Grain Bank Project, she associated herself with the Self Help Group and started savings INR 50 per month. With the help of savings, she borrowed some amount from SHG and bought a flour mill and started her own venture. Now, she is moving towards sustainable livelihood.



The establishment of an infrastructure of grain banks in food insecure areas has an additional dimension as part of a disaster mitigation strategy. On the one hand, grain banks serve as a form of pre-positioned supplies while, on the other, they represent an operational infrastructure eminently suitable for providing relief should there be an urgent need to do so, such as in the case of a severe drought.

As the groups get empowered and their capabilities are totally built VAAGDHARA would back up by making the groups self-reliant. As the groups start developing corpus of grains they will motivate neighbouring groups to start grain banks by providing the grains to the respective group on loan basis. Initially the groups are start and in future course they will be dovetailed with the government programmes available for developing infrastructure.

As the bank matures, the SHG is expected to take on the role of distribution of subsidised grains being channelled through the PDS, thus becoming a fair price shop, which offers grains on credit. For the PDS at the

field level, the SHG run grain bank is probably the ultimate answers to ensuring off take, by solving the problem of purchasing power in the hands of the BPL consumer.

Vaagdhara continues efforts with the support of NABARD, It also aimed to attain the food security by saving grains during harvesting season and using them to meet their consumption requirements during the dry period. VAAGDHARA completed the construction of 3 grain bank buildings for 6 grain banks with the linkage of different group of SHGs in 3 villages' viz. **Bhagoro Ka kheda, Narroto ki goj and Mudhasel.**



CAPACITY BUILDING OF VILLAGE HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE

GOAL:

To make Village Health and Sanitation Committee functional by providing them knowledge, scope and importance of the Committee.

OBJECTIVES:

- To create awareness in the village about available health services and their health entitlements.
- To develop a Village Health Plan based on an assessment of the situation and priorities of the community.
- To maintain a village Health Register and Health Information Board and Calendar
- To analyse key issues and problems pertaining to village level health and nutrition activities and provide feedback to relevant functionaries and officials.



VAAGDHARA envisages the community to take leadership at local level, concerning to health and its related issues. It will be possible only when the community is sufficiently empowered to take leadership in health matters. Clearly, it requires involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the management of the health system. This could be possible if a committee is formed in each village under the chairmanship of Gram Panchayat member and representative from the community such as gaon budha, women's group, and SC/ST/OBC / minority communities etc. Hence, for the development of the village in each village wherever there is an ASHA Village Health & Sanitation Committee has been formed by providing untied grant for village level activities

Role of Village Health Committees in Improving Health and Nutrition Outcomes:

In Ummed Garhi village of Bagidora Block, the seven members of VHSC Committee expressed their views "Before this VHSC training held, we did not know the proper utilization of united fund and they always use their fund in construction activities like formation of public tanks, purchasing chairs but with this training, we get to know they can use this fund in health related issues as well as some emergency matters." With the help of ANM, ASHA, they planned the VHSC Health plan and so as to improve the nutrition and health indicators of women and children.

The Coordinator of this committee is ASHAs Sahyogini and the representatives of and like ANM, Aanganwadi workers, Self Help groups, Matru Swasthya Samiti and the representatives of NGOs are the permanent members. Others like Janmangal Joda, Trained midwife, teachers, youth representatives, Nehru youth Kendra's representative and other people who wish to work in the area of health , also can be the part of the committee. There are 1173 Village health and sanitation committees in Banswara district. The following are the main functions of the VHSCs-

- Awareness creation for health in their villages
- Prepare the Village Health Plans
- Monitoring of health services
- Motivate villagers to avail the facility and benefits of the health services
- The VHSC will be responsible for the overall health of the village. It will take into consideration of the problems of the community and the health and nutrition care providers and suggest mechanism to solve it
- It will create public awareness about the essentials of health programmes, with focus on people's knowledge of entitlements to enable their involvement in the monitoring.
- It will discuss and develop a village health plan based on an assessment of the village situation and priorities identified by the village community.
- Analyze key issues and problems related to village level health and nutrition activities, give feedback on these to the Medical Officer of the PHC.
- The committee will monitor all the health activities that are conducted in the village such as Village Health & Nutrition Day, mothers meeting etc.

We completed the Village Health and Sanitation Committee Training in eight blocks of Banswara District. The figures are as follows:

Serial No.	Name of Block	No. of Villages	No. Of VHSC Training
1.	ANANDPURI	133	19
2.	BAGIDORA	172	24
3.	CHOTI SARVAN	88	13
4.	GARHI	188	27
5.	GHATOL	295	42
6.	KUSHALGARH	211	30
7.	SAJJANGARH	182	26
8.	TALWARA	406	48

Community based Monitoring for sustainable approach

In Ghatol block, with the VAAGDHARA VHSC Training, Chaukadi VHSC Members started monitoring of Aanganwadi Centre, preparing village health plan for decreasing maternal mortality and child mortality. VHSC Members got to know their duties and responsibilities and started creating awareness through campaigns with the help of untied fund. Now, they know how to utilise the untied budget in an emergency need.

They also brought weighing machine in each Aanganwadi Centres and to make aware community to weigh each child fighting against malnutrition.

COMPREHENSIVE EYE SERVICES

Goal:

No person in Banswara district should become needlessly blind and those with irreversible blindness or blindness or low vision should have the same rights and access to services as their sighted counterparts.

Objectives:

1. To generate awareness in the project area on prevention, cure and cause of blindness and inclusion.
2. To ensure 60% of the identified individuals with treatable eye problems receive appropriate treatment.
3. To build the capacity of persons with disability and organizing them to form a district level network
4. All the identified children, with visually impairment from the project area are assessed rehabilitated and are integrated into the main stream education.
5. To build the capacity of government, non-government agencies and parents for appropriate planning and implementation of the inclusive education Programme.
6. To work towards the enhancement of social inclusion of the visually impaired (VI) persons and ensure 70% of the identified VI persons receive timely need based rehabilitated services.



Kumari Kesar Age 30 lives in village Miyasa of Ghatol Block, Daughter of Mr. Harji is suffering from locomotor disability (whole lower back). Her condition is worst due to rugged terrain ground of the village, which affected her mobility. Ku. Kesar is a beneficiary of “Viklang Pension”. She faces problems daily, when she goes for natural calls (sanitation activities) because rugged terrain ground affected her mobility. During “Prashasan Gaon Ke Sang” campaign she visited the camp and asked the Sarpanch (Gram Pradhan) for approval of Toilet under “State Water and Sanitation Policy” . But Sarpanch refused her request, there after she met our Rehabilitation Staff and discussed her problems for sanitation which made us to intervene. We understood her problems and initiated her request through our platform and intervened in the “Prashasan Gaon Ke Sang” campaign for a cause. Rehabilitation Staff discussed the problem with Sarpanch of the Panchayat but the result was nil. However our Rehabilitation worker didn’t give up the issue and decided to discuss with SDM Mr. Bhavani Singh Palawat . In the very first reaction he refused our plea for the toilet but when we made him understand the plight of the candidate, approval for construction of toilet was given to sarpanch to built a toilet at her home as early as possible.

VAAGDHARA with the support of Sightsaver interfaced with the programmes run by Government to benefit children with disability in their education; social inclusion of persons with disabilities; and bettering the eye health conditions of the local communities. VAAGDHARA is working closely with the population of whole Ghatol Block with the purpose:

1. Community of the targeted area become knowledgeable about the eye health and start accessing better eye care services.
2. People with visual impairment are able to maximize their physical and mental abilities to access regular services and opportunities, and to become active contributors to the community

VAAGDHARA saw the making of further inroads in primary eye health, the keystone for the health and wellness of any community. Our innovations in this area provide good learning and demonstrate various

approaches through which eye health can be embedded in development initiatives through engagement with local communities. We provided eye care awareness with SHG group members to avail the eye services and increase the number of patients in district hospitals. We organized various awareness camps to promote the eye care services inclusive education, social welfare for the needy community.



We organized various workshops for the sensitization of mainstreaming the disability and advocacy done with the different government departments. The basic purpose was to develop human capital for promoting inclusion of disabled people in the policy

planning and decision-making process; and enabling them to access their rights and entitlements to a life of dignity.

When we met Sohan Lal first time on 28th September 2010, he was a person without a hope. He had medical certificate and eligibility to get Viklang pension but Social Welfare Department refused his request several times.

During “Prashasan gaon ke Sang Campaign” we motivate him to apply again for Viklang Pension. But as usual Social Welfare Department (SWD) rejected his application, we didn’t give up and our Rehabilitation staff went to SWD officials to know the exact reason for the rejection.

SWD official expressed his apprehension that Shri Sohan Lal S/o Shri Thawra has faked his age as 20 years and sought concrete proof of his age. Our plea that his appearance is disguising as he looks like 12 year old went in vain. Vaagdhara team approached the former school principle for seeking age proof. school principle understanding the plight, verified the actual age of Shri Sohan Lal. All required documents were refurnished to SWD, only then Shri Sohan Lal was sanctioned “Viklang Pension”.

AGRICULTURE-ANIMAL HUSBANDRY SYSTEM

GOAL:

The ultimate goal of this project is “Resource Management in Integrated Agriculture-Animal husbandry System (AAS) to Enhanced Resilience of vulnerable Communities”

OBJECTIVES:

- To assist vulnerable families in raising their land based livelihood
- To promote “Alternate Land Use Systems (ALUS)” for families with small holdings and sloping lands as livelihood support to poorest among poor.
- To inculcate scientific management of animal husbandry so as to ensure rights to food for landless, marginal and shepherd families
- To promote technical interventions for increasing productivity of agriculture land for better crops and food security
- To increase the access of tribal families on scientific knowledge.
- To facilitate Community owned Service delivery mechanism

Vaagdhara believes that development is a process of change in which the use of resources, the direction of investment, the orientation of technological development and institutional changes are in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations. Vaagdhara is committed to rural work based on the appreciation of many positive features of rural life and society. Vaagdhara has taken upon the challenge of revitalization of the rural economy whilst strengthening its ecological base.

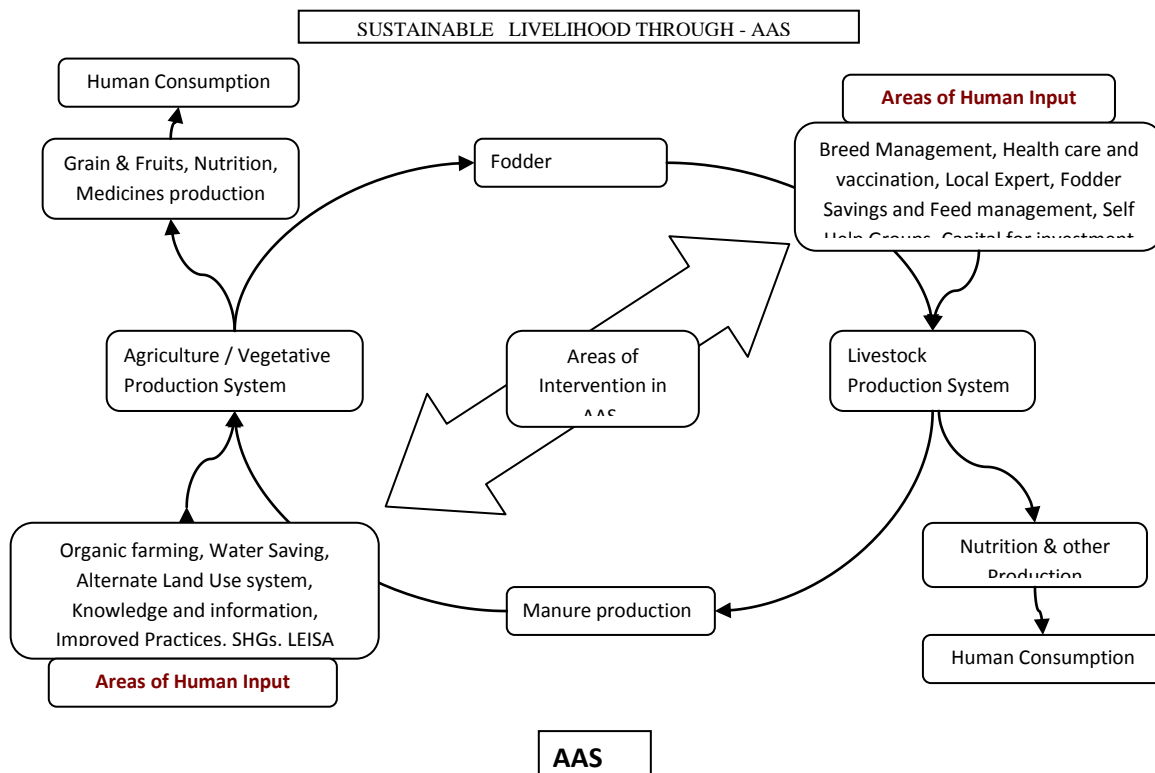
Poor families have limited land holdings characterized by high slopes and limited top soils. The main sources of sustenance of these communities have been primitive agriculture and minor forest produce. However, most of the tribal people are now deprived of their lands, and live off animal husbandry, lumbering and providing manual labour to agricultural farms. Vagar region in Rajasthan stands quite low in term of human development indicators and lack basic infrastructural facilities critical to the development of area.

The overall strategy is to improve the resource management at family and group level to result into increased productivity of per unit water and per unit piece of land for poor families which can be achieved through reduction in input cost, additional area/source of income Our approach is of food accessibility for resources poor families with active and informed participation in formulation,



implementation and monitoring of Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRS), Organizing target community and building their capacity in an integrated manner so that aspects leading to provision of a sustainable livelihood are addressed.

These projects includes number of following activities PTDA Exercise, SALT which are very innovative to this dry area and helping farmers to increase livelihood opportunities , enhance agriculture produce, increase the time consumption which also helps to reduce migration.



INNOCENT KIDS GOT THEIR RIGHTS ON MID DAY MEAL

Its an incident of Upper Primary School of Ratapan Village in Anandpuri Block of Banswara District, Rajasthan where the mid day meal was not being given to the kids for the past 2 months. School teacher revealed that they have sent the procurement demand order but still material was not provided by the higher officials and it was a regular behaviour of the higher authorities of the Education Department. When the VAAGDHARA AAS Project team came to know about it, they suddenly took action for it as it was the basic right of every child enrolled in government schools of the country to have self sufficient nutrient food and to ensure proper implementation of Right to Food. Vaagdhara team intervened and informed the district magistrate on the same day itself when they came to know about it. The District Head quickly responded to our request & information and took the required action immediately. The quick response of the district authorities and Vaagdhara team helped in providing the meal to the kids on the next day itself. The meal was not only ensured for the Government school of Ratapan but also to other schools in Anandpuri where such discrepancy/ irregularities existed.

SEVA NETWORK SCHOOLING

GOAL

To promote a unique education model consisting of formal and basic education based on true Hindu Values for the empowerment and sustainable development of the deprived and marginalized people.

OBJECTIVES:

- To reconstruct and run nursery and primary schools for elementary education at village level.
- To initiate the basic education along with formal education in local language apart from Hindi and English for mainstreaming the down trodden and tribal.
- To form **VAAGDHARA SEVA EDUCATION NETWORK** comprising of local community for improving quality & moral of education that is based on Hindu Values.
- To organize development Programme for capacity building of staff to upgrade their teaching method for quality education.
- Help community to generate additional and sustainable employment opportunities within value chain of agriculture and animal husbandry.



The main target group of this project are children from the age of 4 to 10 years and along with it this project also targets guardian of the children and youth of the villages who will act as change agent. the scattered form of in habitation and the undulating terrain marked with hills and streams made distance of schools from villages (house) more difficult for the school going children .In project area government schools exist but their quality of education is not up to the mark .Moreover because of economic compulsions, deprived children do not get opportunity to attend schools .

Interactive study session decreases drop out Rate

Community of selected villages of Anandpuri Block are happy due to the holistic development of their child. Children would enjoy coming to the schools and learn from interactive sessions with the experienced Teachers.

VAAGDHARA also provides School bag kit where students find text books, stationary, etc. These included children do more of their schoolwork from home, getting local people involved in their education, and schools become more inclusive and provide vibrant atmosphere for studies.

Migration out!!! School In...

When Shubhash Chandra, 13 years old, left his village with his father to work into the cotton field, he missed home very much. He would wake up at 4 am to start pollinating the cotton plants.

After a brutal 14 hours work, he would leave to prepare the food for himself as well as his siblings and father. He constantly felt sick from the pesticides spread over the crops. When he returned from the Gujarat with his Father after harvest season, he vowed never to go back. On hearing that Shubhash was out-of-school, VAAGDHARA volunteer, knocked on the family's door to talk to his mother about re-enrolling him.

VAAGDHARA volunteer met his Father and shared the street play with him. He makes them aware about the migration, child labour through these activities which helped him to change the mind of his father.

Now, Shubhash is enrolled in the government school and he is a regular and intelligent student of class 7th.



The project proposed as Education Network Model which is owned by guardians of students under “VAAGDHARA SEVA EDUCATION NETWORK”, which not only reconstructs the existing infrastructure but also lays the foundation of education system. It provides quality education in Hindi, English and local language for the empowerment and sustainable development of deprived and marginalized people specially tribal, scheduled and backward class of Anandpuri Block of Banswara

district. 1843 households of 18 villages were benefitted from this project. Under this project, apart from education some awareness programmes were conducted to build the capacity of children guardian especially village Development committees.

VAAGDHARA SEVA Schools have been started with the enrolment of 840 tribal's students in which 427 were girls and 413 were boys. Vaagdhara enrolled many students with the awareness related to the inclusive education. For ensuring holistic development, VAAGDHARA Seva Schools celebrated National days, festivals and also organized some cultural events which helped students to be extrovert and show their talent.

STRENGTHENING CHILD RIGHTS TO PREVENT CHILD LABOUR

GOAL

“To create an enabling social and policy environment which ensures the prevention of all exploitive child labour in India?”

OBJECTIVES

- 1000 migrant child labourers access appropriate educational or vocational programmes.
- 400 access vocational and life skill training



The project seeks to facilitate and strengthen civil society organisations and networks to bring about progressive changes in policies pertaining to child labour in the agriculture and cotton sector. This is envisioned as the establishment of a state level action committee, which will work to strengthen the implementation of Child Labour (P&R) Act and strategise on ways to enhance child labour policies to include children working in the cotton sector. This approach will compliment community-based approaches for reducing child labour in the cotton and other

agricultural industries and seeks to leverage the efforts of numerous stakeholders, rights holders and duty bearers.

VAAGDHARA with the support of Save the Children has implemented a pilot project named “**Strengthening Child Rights to Prevent Child Labour in Gujarat’s Cotton and Seed Farming**”. This two month programme has a specific objective to have a first-hand experience in devising mechanism which can prevent exploitative nature of child labour. Generally the interventions to prevent child labour is carried out at destination sources, this time VAAGDHARA with the support of Save the Children is experiencing



the interventions at the source station of migration.

This Project has three main activities which are:-

- ❖ Accelerating Learning Process (ALP)
- ❖ Life Skill Training
- ❖ Bal Mela

This Project has been started in the month of February with the Identification of 1000 migrant and potential migrant Children through Baseline survey, conducted in 55 Villages of Anandpuri Block of Banswara District. Once migrant and potentially migrant children have been identified, Volunteers for ALP(Accelerating

Learning Process) and Trainers for Life Skill Training were Identified and selected. We have selected 55 Volunteers for Accelerating Learning Process and 24 Trainers for Life Skill Training.



ALP Accelerates learning Process

Sangeeta , 12 years old hails from Barjadia village of Anandpuri Block, Banswara. She was forced to dropout as her father was no more. Because of the poor economic condition, she was not only excluded from the schooling but also pushed into work as a domestic worker to support her family.

“I’d like to go to school and read books but the condition doesn’t allow me”

One day while working, she met our Volunteer, who helped him to sensitize and aware about the child labour and her rights to play and seek education. With the continuous efforts from the Project Volunteers, her mother realized the importance of education and her right not to be a child labour. With this Sangeeta linked up with the ALP and VAAGDHARA provided the Education kit. She now attends ALP classes regularly and wishes to become a good citizen of India.

AAPNO SWASTHYA AAPNE HAATH

Goal:

To decrease newborn and child mortality and child malnutrition by increasing access/availability of quality services, improving healthy practices and enhancing capacities of the Ministry of Health, NGOs and community partners.

Objectives:

- Increased use of health and nutrition practices and services
- Increased use of potable water sources and use of latrines.



VAAGDHARAs Programme “Aapno Swasthya Aapne Haath” is being implemented by Save the Children and our objectives are to increase the chances of survival of children between the ages of 0-5 years, to reduce levels of malnutrition in children and to improve new born and maternal health. We aim to steer the behavior of communities towards better child health and nutrition Practices.

VAAGDHARA always work within the existing public health structure to ensure that government policies are translated into better health, hygiene and nutrition outcomes for women and children. In this regard, we work

closely with the government’s Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) program and the National Rural Health Mission to strengthen the skills of public health workers (AWWs, ASHAs and ANMs) who are charged with improving child health and nutrition at the community level, but who could greatly derive benefit from additional training and skills enhancement. Our proposed program will be one of the few integrated projects in India that holistically addresses health, nutrition, water and sanitation at the community level through lay health workers.



The approach is to strengthen the demand on the supply side. Our Primary focus with the project is on triggering a community level mechanism which enables every community and each and every family to understand the importance of all basic essential care and services related to maternal, new born, child Health and Nutrition. This also includes developing coordination between sectors like Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, Department of Health and Family Welfare Department and Panchayati Raj Institutions.



To strengthen the supply side VAAGDHARA is working upon enhancing the capacities of grass root level workers and government functionaries like Aanganwadi Workers, ASHAs , ANMs to deliver maternal , new born , child health and nutrition services with improved quality.

Water and sanitation improvements, together with hygiene behaviour change, can have significant effects on children's health by reducing a variety of disease conditions such as diarrhea, intestinal helminthes and skin diseases. These improvements in health can in turn lead to reduced morbidity and mortality and improved nutritional status. VAAGDHARA aimed to ensure availability of adequate quantities of safe water, appropriate disposal of excreta and better personal and domestic

hygiene practices (hand washing, food washing, and household cleaning). The effort includes rehabilitating existing wells in the operational areas, repairing hand pumps, increasing household water connections, and water harvesting in places where there is no safe water source within certain proximity. The following hygiene practices promoted through courtyard sessions where participants discuss:

- Importance of using potable water, safe latrines and hand washing practices.
- Convergence of health care, hygiene, sanitation and drinking water at the village level
- Increased attention to information on health, hygiene, safe water and sanitation issues at village level.

With the support of Save the Children, VAAGDHARA constructed 10 Model Aanganwadi Centres , 8000 kitchen garden, 186 Nadep, 779 water sources test for the biological contamination, 1140 individual toilets, 12 installation of hand pump and moreover cadre development in the form of Hand pump Mechanics, Masons, SHGs , Community Based Organization for its sustainability purpose. In this project, Convergence with government is major part of advocacy with the government functionaries.

COUNSELLING HELPS TO ATTAIN NUTRITION INDICATORS

Tulsi Shantilal is a 29 year old mother of 1 child Kanta Shantilal Who brought her child at Aanganwadi Center on MCHN Day for Growth Monitoring. One time in March Month it was found that her 3 year old Girl Kanta was Malnourished with stunted growth. . At this point, the field coordinator asked her about her life style and daily routine with this, she admitted to not being able to feed the child enough as she could not afford to feed herself well. The child was not able to play like normal children. Additionally, the parents were also not able to afford the appropriate healthcare for the children. After hearing this, the Community health worker on the case decided to counsel her about a proper diet that she may be able to afford and still be able to feed herself as well as her child. She was also counselled about food and water hygiene to prevent further infections. Tulsi Shantilal has started following our counselling and Kanta, her Girl is gradually improving in health. After proper feeding Kanta started to gain weight rapidly, in Month of April she got 7.600 Kg., in May she got 8.680 Kg. and now she put on 10 Kg. weights. And now she is in Normal Condition.

COMMUNITY LIFT IRRIGATION SYSTEM



There are few perennial streams in Banswara area, but the rugged and impregnable geography along with lack of proper infrastructure makes the irrigation possibilities very difficult. Therefore, the organisation with the help of the State government, especially the TAD department, has set up three lift irrigation units in the region, which contributed to a substantial increase in the agricultural productivity of the user beneficiaries.

The objective is to serve the farmers of lift irrigation schemes, bore wells and tube wells and other irrigation means by way of providing technical guidance, supplying information on modern techniques and farming methods and a meeting place to discuss the problems, present and future trends.

Community lift Irrigation Scheme” must accomplish two main tasks: first, to carry water by means of pumps from the water source to the main delivery chamber, which is situated at the top most point in the area. Secondly water must be distributed to the field of the beneficiary farmers by means of a suitable and proper distribution system.

The concept behind the lift irrigation scheme is to benefit the tribal community which are living near water source and does not get benefit of them. Therefore, After Resource mapping and proper irrigation planning according to the situation of field, by new technologies we designed the structure with the community support and their contribution. Advocacy with government plays an important role in constructing and implementing the community lift irrigation scheme.

No. of benefitted families =



ADVOCACY

Advocacy is about influencing people, policies, structures and systems to bring about change. It is about influencing key decision-makers and those in power to act in more equitable ways, holding them to account, and empowering people to speak for themselves.

Networking and advocacy seeks to provide a synergy between the efforts of voluntary and non-government organizations for optimizing the impact of their work for regional and community development by bringing the relevant issues of the area on the state and district Platform. With the evidence from Field and the community needs, we lobby and advocate at different levels.

Advocacy is an increasingly important part of our work, usually working with our partners or other coalitions to ensure our voice is as effective as possible. We have found that advocacy – based on the solid work we do in our programmes – has a profound and long lasting impact.

In order to influence governments to affect change, we have to ensure we provide adequate evidence, research and policy documentation illustrating that the issues we are concerned with need serious consideration.

ADVOCACY EFFORTS FOR ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

GOAL:

“Preparation of State Plan of Action for elimination of child labour and Mass awareness for Reducing child Labor in Rajasthan”

OBJECTIVES:

- The Government would strive to make Rajasthan child labour Free State
- Create protective and conducive environment for all children
- Establish mechanism for proper coordination with other relevant department to provide social protection to the vulnerable family
- Ensuring all the children attending schools, their proper nurturing and overall mental, physical and moral development.

Child labour continues to rob children of their childhood and we take a multi pronged approach to solving this by advocating with all the key departments to prepare the State Action Plan for eliminating the Child labour. VAAGDHARA advocate

VAAGDHARA hired resource persons to facilitate the process of preparing state action plan with their rich and wide experience. For this we appointed Prof. Surjeet Singh, Director, Institute of Development Studies, Dr. Preet Rustagi, Senior Fellow, Institute of Human Development, Prof. Varsha Joshi, and Institute of



Development Studies, Mr. Sanjay Nirala, Consultant, UNICEF, Mr. Narendra Kumar, Child Development Expert for preparing the state Action plan for eliminating Child labour.

VAAGDHARA collected the data for identifying the magnitude of child labour in Rajasthan with different criteria viz. state, district, age, gender, caste and sector wise. VAAGDHARA is on the process of

making situation paper for Rajasthan state which will depict the existing situation of child labour in Rajasthan

Name - Prabhakar Kumar

Age- 6 yrs

The boy was a native of Sitamari, Bihar and came from a very poor family. In his family, he has father, mother, three sisters and three brothers (including him). Out of three sisters his two sisters are married and his brother in law was supposed to bear all the family expenses, because his father was not earning. He came with a person, who was known to his family, who enlightened his family by saying that I will take your son with me, and I have a shop he will sit idle in that shop. But, he also informed to the child's parents that he will not get any money for doing this work, he will only get two square meals in return. Prabhakar came with the men and started working, not in the shop, but in an informal set up for bangle manufacturing. He used to make bangles. His working hours were Morning 9 a.m. to 2 a.m. in the night. He worked for 17 long hours a day just for the sake of two square meals. Long working hours, with physical abuse and very little food were a part of his life. One day, he was beaten up by pipe by the employer. Unable to take more of this kind of ill treatment he finally eloped from the workplace.

COMPLEMENTARY FEEDING CAMPAIGN

AIM:

To identify, counselling and Refer the Malnourished children in 60 villages of Ghatol Block of Banswara District”

OBJECTIVES:

- To increase awareness among care givers and general community for the right complementary feeding practices
- To identify malnourished children and to provide their care givers appropriate counselling and advice



Campaign adds up to Awareness Level

In Banswara, a large number of children are suffering from malnourishment. Most of time, the problem is poverty and poor access to government services. In addition, many parents are not aware of the malnourishment. They even do not know how harmful it is for their children. In village Choti Padaal, one girl identified as severely malnourished. Her family is from BPL as poverty striking her family very badly. Her mother never sought any health services or nutritional services from AWC despite regular contact with ASHA as well as AWW. Our Community Health Volunteer followed up with efficient manner. She also took help from Field Coordinator Shobha soni, She visited her regularly with Shobha and tried to convince her that it is the critical condition of her child and she needs treatment, then, Shobha ji provided information regarding MTC where free of cost treatment was done and in addition you get 30 INR per day. Finally, as a result of continuous effort, she was ready to take her child to Banswara district hospital. After the 10 days treatment, the condition of child improved to a satisfactory level.

COMPLEMENTARY FEEDING COUNSELLING DECREASES MALNOURISHMENT RATE

Hakru Bai is a 26 year old mother of two children named Bimla and Hitesh who brought her children for growth monitoring in Complementary feeding Campaign. During the visit it was found that her 3 year old son Hitesh was severely malnourished with stunted growth. At this point, the field coordinators asked her about her life style and daily routine with this, she admitted to not being able to feed both the children enough as she could not afford to feed herself well. She herself was malnourished. The children were not able to play like normal children. Additionally, the parents were also not able to afford the appropriate healthcare for the children. After hearing this, the Community health worker on the case decided to counsel her about a proper diet that she may be able to afford and still be able to feed herself as well as her children. She was also counseled about food and water hygiene to prevent further infections. She was taught about the importance of breast-feeding, but in the absence of this, she was taught what she may substitute breast-milk with. Hakru Bai has started following our counseling and Hitesh, her boy are gradually improving in health. He is gradually catching up with their peers in their growth. They regularly visit the growth monitoring programs at the anganwadi's and trust the

This campaign was spread over a period of two months- August and September, 2010. Following activities were being proposed to meet the project and campaign objectives:

- One day orientation of AWWs, AWHs and ASHAs on identification of malnourished children, their counselling on infant and young child feeding practices and referral



- Healthy Nutrition, Healthy baby competition
- Rallies with School Children
- WSG, MSG, VHSC and Bal Panchayat meetings
- Complementary feeding booklet and Demonstration of Recipes
- Wall writing
- Street plays

The activity of Complementary Feeding Campaign enabled all of the families with malnourished children to rehabilitate their children and to learn how to sustain their children at home on their own, by inviting them to

practice the demonstrably successful but uncommon behaviors in between the community. The pilot project resulted in the sustained rehabilitation of several malnourished children and the promotion of social change in their communities

WATER AND SANITATION CAMPAIGN

AIM:

To improve the sustainable hygienic practices and usage of safe drinking water in 60 villages of Ghatol Block in Banswara District”.



OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the importance of hand washing practices and other key sanitation habits/practices in order to reduce diarrhea and water born disease.
- To increase awareness regarding the safe water drinking as well as proper sanitation facilities to reduce the preventable diseases.

With a creative initiative of long two month sanitation campaign to raise the awareness amongst community, children and frontline health workers on proper water handling practices, proper solid/liquid waste disposal practices, proper human excreta disposal practices, food hygiene, personnel hygiene and community sanitation practices.

The water and Sanitation Campaign is quite learning process for the tribal community. Community get benefitted upon the knowledge and information provided by this Campaign. Women and children benefit very significantly from access to safe sanitation facilities and it is important that we make them central to any programme that seeks to in still higher standards of personal hygiene and health care. School sanitation, and in particular the needs of the adolescent girls, should be an important part of sanitation and health education.

Community Aware about Hygienic habits..!!

Surajmal s/o Roopji is an inhabitant of Nathu khedi village in Ghatol block of Banswara District. Earlier Surajmals family was not following good hygiene and sanitation practices in their daily life. The family members were taking water for drinking purpose by putting their hands in drinking water pot. As a result of this the children of family were frequently suffering from diarrhea. The C.H.V. of Nathu khedi village went to Surajmal's house. She provided information to the family regarding good hygiene and sanitation practices and motivated them to use dandidar lotta for taking water from drinking water pot. After continues efforts of C.H.V. finally the surajmal's family realized the benefit of using dandidar lotta. Now the family is taking water from drinking water pot by using dandidar lotta.

BANSWARA VIKLANG MANCH

BANSWARA VIKALANGA MANCH is an innovative initiative for the advocacy upon the rights and the entitlements of the disabled people.

The condition of Person with Disability (PWDs) in the country is vulnerable; In one sentence we can say 'they are more poorer from the poor section of the society'. They are socially excluded and experiences biasness not only in government departments or schemes but also in society traditions or customs. To ensure their basic necessities and to secure their rights VAAGDHARA with support of Sightsavers International organized a meeting with PWDs to discuss the importance and Purpose of formation of Disabled People Organization-“Banswara Viklang Manch” in the Ghatol Block of Banswara District on 20th September,2010.

The main purpose of formation of this manch was to give new direction to the PWDs of Banswara district and to promote their partnership in the ‘Banswara Community Based rehabilitation

Program’. In this meeting total 235 persons including 163 PWD (which covered almost all forms of disability and from all age group of 6 month to 65 yrs) were present and gave their valuable participation.

“Banswara Viklang Manch” is a group of Person with Disability, who come from different villages of Ghatol Block and unite on a common platform to work jointly to ensure “ every PWDs in the District should have the same rights, which other general people have and to work collectively for mainstreaming disability in every government program through advocacy.



PRASHASHAN GAON KE SANG

VAAGDHARA contributed Rajasthan Government which has recently conducted a survey to identify no. of Person with disability in the state. This survey is conducted to ensure that no eligible person with disability is left out. The main purpose to conduct a survey is to identify the people needing the certificates as eligibility for the government assistance. Survey covered seven kind of physical and mental disabilities, including blindness, low Vision, hearing impairment, locomotors disability, and Mental retardation.

Rajasthan government wanted to ensure that no person with disability should be left out from getting benefits of various welfare schemes run by central as well as by state government. And for this purpose Rajasthan government simplifying the procedure for these certificates and initiate a program “Prashasan Gaon Ke Sang”(administration with Village) campaign.

‘Prashasan Gaon Ke Sang’ Campaign simplified the process of Issue of Certificates with “fairness and sensitivity” and ensure extension of benefits of various welfare schemes to the disabled people. Here the details are as follows:

S.no	Panchayat	No. of Identified PWDs	No. PWDs came in Camp	Disability Identity Card	Disability Certificate	Refer to Camp	Pension
1	Choti Padal	59	59	7	59		2
2	Kaanji Ka Gada	58	40	25	40	10	2
3	Savaniya	40	36	Nil	36	10	5
4	Dunger	160	96	Nil	80	16	5
5	Borpighata	47	30	Nil	25	5	2
6	Padoli Rathore	150	80	40	60	15	7
7	Devda	101	70	30	69	39	7
8	Bhoongra	92	40	Nil	5	Nil	Nil
9	Mordi	109	54	Nil	37	12	Nil
10	Chandu Ji Ka Gada	79	50	13	2	10	Nil
11	Borda	50	40	Nil	9	13	Nil
12	Bhoyar	58	30	Nil	5	12	Nil
13	Chiravala Ka Gada	83	45	Nil	28	17	Not Confirm
14	Miyasa Ka Paadla	51	33	20	Nil	33	Nil

EYE CAMPAIGN

VAAGDHARA organized an eye camp with the support of NABARD on 14th May, 2010 in the Anandpuri block of Banswara District. The camp organized was to provide service to the cataract blind patients and other eye related problems suffering tribal community of remote place. Vaagdhara’s initiative with the goal of working towards raising eye health awareness amongst the Tribal Community. The campaign also aims to establish quality and affordable refractive error services through community based organizations and hospital *Drishti Netralaya*. In this initiative, the Campaign screened more than 100 patients and carried out 15 cataract operations.

VISITORS

IN VAAGDHARA:

VAAGDHARA always had a big opportunity to welcome their visitors and show the real aspects of Tribal Community. Some of the awaiting visitors in VAAGDHARA of 2010 are as follows:



Mr. Harpal Singh, Chairman Save the Children and Chairman, Fortis Healthcare. He is also the Founder Chairman of the 'Nanhi Chhaan' Foundation, which is an inspirational initiative in support of the girl child and the environment. Mr. Singh is Chair of INDIA800 Foundation, India Office. He is currently the Chairman of the Save the Children, India and is also a Director of the Global Board of Save the Children International. Mr. Harpal Singh is a Member of the India-UK Round Table. He has chaired the 2nd and 3rd India Health Summit in New Delhi. The dignitary person visited the VAAGDHARA and its projects in May, 2010. He interacted with the large number of villagers to get exposure to the state of affairs about child health and nutrition at grassroots.

VAAGDHARA also overwhelmed with the visit of **Mr. Thomas Chandy. He is currently the CEO of Save the Children, India.** During the visit, He interacted with grassroot Families and gets impressed by the use of individual toilets, child friendly toilets at Aanganwadi Centers, maintenance of cleanliness around hand pumps and the habit of Personal Hygiene.

Dr. Rajeev Tandon is another bigwig personality who visited VAAGDHARA for look of Tribal condition in context of Health and Nutrition. **Dr. Rajiv Tandon, Presently Senior Advisor of MCHN, SAVE THE CHILDREN,** who serves as the Coordination for the Coalition. He brings over 25 years of clinical and public health expertise and experience, in both the public and private sectors. He visited some of the projected villages, interacted with community and impressed with the knowledge and rapport of Community Health Volunteers of VAAGDHARA. He appreciated the efforts and advised us to have convergence with the government by electing CHVs as AWW, ASHAS OR ANMS in their areas. He also visited Complementary Feeding Campaign and distributed prizes to the most Healthy Baby Competition in respective villages.



Mr. Radj Bhondoe from SEVA Network Foundation, Netherland came to Banswara on 24th - 25th November, 2010 to meet VAAGDHARA SEVA Education Network team and to visit VAAGDHARA SEVA primary schools which are running in 18 tribal villages of Anandpuri block of Banswara District. The visit was scheduled for two days. On first day Mr. Radj Bhondoe visited the VAAGDHARA SEVA primary schools and had meeting with the VAAGDHARA SEVA Education Network members and local community. On second day a welcome ceremony was organized by VAAGDHARA team in honour of Mr. Radj Bhondoe. He said that by getting proper education the marginalized community of Banswara will not only uplift their life standard but also they will be able give a bright future to their progeny. He also said that formal educations as well as values are very important for the holistic development of children.



Mr. Eric Swedberg, Senior Director Child Health and Nutrition, Save the Children visited VAAGDHARA and interacted with the Tribal women and children to have a clear picture of health and nutrition at grassroots. He shared some valid advices and also helped us to explain the behavioural change of tribal community. He interacted with the community health volunteers on several local problems/issues .

Mr. Mahendra Jeet Singh Malvaiya, Honourable Tribal Area Development Minister, Govt. of Rajasthan can be represented as torchbearers of the Tribal Community.

He is the face of Government policy makers in the aspects of Tribal Development. With the visit of Esteemed Mr.

Malvaiya Ji, Tribal community besieged with his presence. He also expressed his pleasure that the VAAGDHARA is working very hard for the Tribal upliftment and showed remarkable changes in the field of Health, Nutrition, Education and Agriculture Development.



He also paid attention towards Tribal community which is facing challenges and assured them to solve their problems with greater efforts.

Mr. Nanalal Ji Ninama, Parliament Secretary of Govt. of Rajasthan also marked his presence in the VAAGDHARA Organization and took stock of the overall development of the Projected Villages. He was impressed with the Model creations of Aanganwadi Centres, Child Friendly Toilet, Individual Toilets, Handpump Installation

with Ground water recharge system. He was also astounded with the community based organization knowledge upon Health and Hygienic Factors. He expressed his heartfelt pleasure to see the noteworthy changes in projected villages.



DNA PINK CITY

DAILY NEWS & ANALYSIS

Women and children from rural families take part in the Aapni Swasthya Apni Health drive.

Complementary feeding making tribal kids healthy

The project was launched in 60 villages in Banswara to prevent malnutrition

DNA Correspondent

A pilot project on complementary feeding launched in about 60 tribal-dominated villages of Banswara district in south Rajasthan has successfully prevented malnutrition among infants and children.

The project was achieved through new interventions which were integrated with maternal and child health services and incorporated into primary health care activities.

The project, implemented under the Aapni Swasthya Apni Health (our health in our own hands) during the months of August and September 2010, identified over 450 malnourished and 119 severely malnourished children in Ghatal block and helped their families in rehabilitating them and advising them how to sustain the children at home on their own by practising new guidelines, focusing about social change in the communities.

The project made some significant interventions at the household and community levels accompanied by a change in the behaviour patterns of caretakers and families, besides monitoring nutrition indicators. The Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) in the district was involved in a big way for the orientations.

Banswara-based voluntary organisation — Vasaphara, supported by 'Save the Children', undertook this drive for educating the rural families

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Project was implemented under Aapni Swasthya Apni Health in August and September 2010

It identified over 450 malnourished and 119 severely malnourished children in Ghatal block

It helped their families in rehabilitating them and advising them how to sustain the children at home on their own

about the significance of providing complementary feeding to infants after exclusive breast-feeding for six months. Emphasis was also laid on adequate Vitamin A intake by both mothers and children.

Vasaphara secretary Jaish Joshi said on Thursday that the complementary feeding campaign highlighted the simple methods by which the traditional feeding practices could be improved with the modification of composition, frequency and quantity of food given to infants and young children.

'Malnutrition setting in children aged 6 to 36 months contributes significantly to the chronic growth stunting and high prevalence of malnutrition in children of less than five years of age. In Rajasthan, 47 per cent of the 100 million live for want of care and nutrition every year. This condition is almost impossible to reverse during adolescence,' said Joshi.

MT Correspondent

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JAINP: A pilot project on complementary feeding was

launched in 60 tribal dominated villages of Banswara district.

The project, implemented under the 'Aapni Swasthya Apni Health' (our health in our own hands) from August to September, identified 450 malnourished and 119 severely malnourished children in Ghatal block.

The project had also made interventions at the household and community levels, accompanied by a change in behavioural patterns of families, besides monitoring nutritional indicators.

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) in the district was involved in a big way in this venture.

Voluntary organisation Vasaphara of Banswara, sup-

ported by Save the Children, an NGO, undertook the drive to educate rural families about the importance of complementary feeding to infants after exclusive breastfeeding for six months.

Malnutrition in children from six years and 18 to 24 months contributes significantly to chronic growth stunting.

In Rajasthan, 47 per cent of the 100 million live for want of care and nutrition every year.

'This condition is impossible to overcome during adolescence,' said Vasaphara Secretary Jaish Joshi.

We focused on Vitamin A intake by mothers and children. The complementary feeding samples highlight the methods by which traditional feeding practices could be improved.

As part of the project, Programme Coordinator Subhash Kumar Agarwal regularised Sanskrit, Telugu, six languages

camp, street plays, wall writings and healthy baby competitions in the Ghatal block.

The objective was to encourage rural families to provide nutritious food to children and enrich staple food such as wheat, millets, cereals with vegetables and fruits.

Families were also informed local food such as dalia, soyabean, chhole, rice, bananas and green vegetables had a tremendous value.

This campaign addressed the issues of recurring infections among children.

The campaign's key finding campaign was related to sending across messages for taking of breast milk by pregnant women and regular use of iodised salt.

Joshi said rural women understood their children were not getting enough diet or as the feeding practices were poor

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COMPLEMENTARY FEEDING

Pilot project launched in backward Banswara

MT Correspondent
hraj@tribune.com

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SHGs enhance quality of life in Vangad

[illegible]

U.N. project a boon for Rajasthan villages

Special Correspondent

RAJIB: A pilot project on Food for Human Development (FFHD), sponsored by the U.N. World Food Programme, has benefited hundreds of villagers in the tribal-dominated Bastar, Durgapuri and Fotkaguri districts in southern Rajasthan by way of distribution of 155 metric tonnes of food grain through service delivery centres.

A total of 337 self-help groups were involved in co-

implementing partners in reaching out to the beneficiaries in 250 villages of the three districts. The project of two years' duration, which brought major changes in the lives of rural people, was implemented through the State Government and a Banwara-based non-government organisation.

Dr. D. O. Vaidyanathan, who led the SFHD in establishing service delivery centres as the successful replicable models for promoting human development through food

grain distribution and generation of awareness on health, hygiene and education.

Vaughan's secretary Jayash Joshi said here on Sunday that the SHGs functioned as trustworthy partners during PFMD's execution for helping out the tribal populations which made out their livelihood through primitive agriculture and minor forest produce. The project benefited a total of 2,702 persons in the three districts.

While using food as a

source for human development, the SHGs learnt the art of campaigning for generating awareness on health and education and motivate women to make progress. Two of the SHG members have been offered the government assignment as Anganwadi workers.

Though Vangdihara functions primarily as a grass roots development agency, it has also addressed its work to the issue of rural migration, which it believes is linked with globalisation. Mr. Joshi said the local development issues, rather than being resolved in isolation, should be addressed in a "larger national perspective".

OUR BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Narendra Nath Joshi, Chair Person: Mr. Joshi is an Agriculture Economist. He has specialization in rural finance, cooperative and farm management. He has 5 published works in his credit. He is Ex General Manager of Rajasthan State Cooperative Bank, Jaipur. He was working as Managing Director of Sikkim State Cooperatives Bank, Gangtok and subsequently functioned as consultant of National Federation of state Cooperative Banks ,Navi Mumbai .

Mr. Jayesh Joshi, Secretary: Mr. Jayesh Joshi is a Development Analyst & Practitioner and a social worker of “Vaagar” region of Rajasthan. He has been associated with VAAGDHARA from the last 8 years.

Miss Josphin Joshwa, Treasurer: Miss Joshwa has specialization in education and did her masters in arts and education. She is Ex-Deputy Director (Education), Govt of Rajasthan.

Mr. Brij Mohan Dixit, Member: Mr. Dixit is an Agriculture Economist with 34 years of experience. He received “Gold Medal” in his Post Graduation. He has 12 research papers in his credit. He has vast experience of working in the field of Environment, Bio-diversity, Agriculture, Sericulture, Animal Husbandry and Irrigation Management.

Ms. Sachi Bhatt, Member: Ms. Bhatt is a gold medalist of master’s qualification in Social work. She has specialization in Health.

Dr. Meeta Singh, Member: Dr. Meeta Singh is a qualified medical doctor having long experience of working on gender and women reproductive health. Currently she is the State Director of IFES, an international support organization.

Mr. Kanji Bhai Charpota : Mr. Kanji Charpota is a dedicated farmer and represents the community in VAAGDHARA BOARD .His proximity and rapport with the community is an asset to VAAGDHARA .

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

OUR PARTNERS

- ❖ **PLAN INTERNATIONAL**
- ❖ **SAVE THE CHILDREN**
- ❖ **WELTHHUNGERHILFE**
- ❖ **SIGHT SAVERS INTERNATIONAL**
- ❖ **UNICEF**
- ❖ **SEVA NETWORK FOUNDATION**
- ❖ **NABARD**
- ❖ **IGSSS**
- ❖ **GOVT. OF RAJASTHAN**