

ACTIVITY PROFILE OF VASUNDHARA FOUNDATION



YEAR
2019-20 TO
2021-22



Vasundhara Foundation

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Activity

About the organization:

Vasundhara Foundation was founded by multi-sectorial professionals and formally registered in 2003 under Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950. Our Aim is to provide handholding support to CBOs, village institutions, GO-NGO- CSRs and development activities to promote sustainable lives in rural and semi-rural areas.

Vasundhara foundation has a multi-disciplinary and experienced team of professionals that helps in capacity building of key functionaries, performs handholding operations to contextualize the output and outcome indicator of the program and build strategies to strengthen the development sector. Our Intervention was initiated in Surendranagar district of Gujarat in the year of 2015-16 where we have been able to reach 57 villages of Dhrangadhra, Dasada (Patdi), Chotila, Muli, Sayla, Wadhwan, Halvad and Limdi block with the extreme support of Forest Department - GOG.

During 2016 to 2018 we have established our intervention in Sami and Shankheshwar block of Patan District. Formation and strengthening of Village Child Protection Society (VCPS) was our main activity. We got financial support from the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment of the State Government which was our project-based intervention.

In cyear 2019-20, we expanded our sphere of activity in Radhanpur block of Patan district and Bechraji and Mandal block of Ahmedabad district. Now we are working as a resource organization for Reliance Foundation. Our main activity is community empowerment process and capacity building of PRIs, SHG and CBOs and another village's institution. We are also in robust process for prepadness of village development plan with the participatory approach in Patan District of Gujarat.

Currently we are working in 8 districts Patan, Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Surat, Chhotaudepur, Narmada and the Dang District of the Gujarat state.

Our thematic area of work are....





Institution building

Institutions are humanly devised constraints that structure political, economic and social interaction. They consist of both formal rules and informal constraints. Village Institutions (VI) work as mechanisms to ensure norms to govern or regulate the access of villagers or outsiders to resources and specify relations among them. The challenge of sustainability is to ensure perpetuation of appropriate institutional arrangements. The experience of civil society initiatives in the development sector in the last few decades has underlined the importance of the sustainability of village institutions and the need for a better understanding of the sustainability question in the context of Village Institutions.



As an organization we formed, build their capacity and enhanced to the various local institutions.

Institution	Associated department or agency
Village Child Protection Committee at village level	Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India
Formation of Taluka Child Protection Committee	
Coordination with District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) Patan and UNICEF	UNICEF
Village Water and Sanitation Committee	Water and Sanitation Management Organization
SHGs	Gujarat Livelihood Promotion Company
Village Water and Sanitation committee	Jal Jivan Mission
Farmer Producer Company	Agriculture





Capacity Building

It has become accepted in last few decades that empowerment is only way in development sector for sustainability and with the following basic fundamentals VF has involved in the stake holders and community capacity building programmes. We organized various type of training and capacity building programme for the various stake holder. VF also being a partner involved in the empowerment process who are working on same theme with the various department, NGO, CSR and individuals.

VF has involved with various kind of capacity building programme. There are three major sector where VF involved.

1. Institutional Capacity building:

- a. **Forest Committee (VAN SAMITI). : 57 Villages**
- b. **Village Water and Sanitation Committee. : More then 100**
- c. **SHGs. 28**
- d. **Life skill training for youth and children.**
- e. **Panchayati Raj Institutions, Village leaders and CBO Members. 98 Villages**
- f. **STEM Club and School Management and Development committee: 20 Schools**



2. Farmer's capacity building for the sustainable agriculture

To enhance the capacity of farming community, to demonstrate models for sustainable and low-input agriculture production system and conservation and management of associated natural resources we established a “Joognu” (A learning centre for educate to farmers and school going students among ecology and sustainable farming) at Shankheshwar in Patan district.



પાટણ 19-03-2021

ભાસ્કર વિશેષ | શંખેશ્વર ઉત્તર બુનિયાદી હાઈસ્કૂલમાં પર્યાવરણ અને ટકાઉ ખેતીનું લર્નિંગ સેન્ટર શરૂ નવી પેઢી ખેતી તરફ વળે તે માટે “જુગનૂ” સેન્ટરનો પ્રારંભ

શંખેશ્વર તાલુકામાં ટકાઉ ખેતી અને આનુષંગિક ઉધમ શીલતા વિકાસ કાર્યક્રમ ચાલી રહ્યો છે. જેમાં નવી પેઢી ખેતીને પ્રથમ વ્યવસાય તરીકે અપનાવવા માટે કટીબધ્ધ બને તે માટે શંખેશ્વર ઉત્તર બુનિયાદી હાઈસ્કૂલ ખાતે પર્યાવરણ અને ટકાઉ ખેતીનું લર્નિંગ સેન્ટર શરૂ કરવામાં આવ્યું છે, જેને નામ આપવામાં લિમિટેડ-સી.એસ.આરના



સહયોગથી” સેન્ટર ફોર એન્વાયર્નમેન્ટ એન્ડ સોશયલ વિકાસ કાર્યક્રમ” અંતર્ગત કન્સર્ન- અમદાવાદ સંસ્થા દ્વારા શંખેશ્વર તાલુકામાં “ટકાઉ ખેતી

નવી પેઢી ખેતી કરવા ઈચ્છતી નથી. વહિયાર પ્રોડ્યુસર કંપનીના ચેરમેન દ્રજુભાઈએ જણાવ્યું કે હવે ખેતી કરતા પરિવારો તેમના સંતાનોને ખેતી પ્રથમ વ્યવસાય તરીકે સ્વીકારે એવું નથી ઈચ્છતા આ એક ચિંતાજનક બાબત છે. જેના મંથનમાં થી લર્નિંગ સેન્ટર શરૂ થયું છે. લર્નિંગ સેન્ટરનો મુખ્ય હેતુ શાળા કક્ષાએ વિદ્યાર્થીઓ નાના નાના પ્રોજેક્ટ્સ દ્વારા ટકાઉ ખેતીની જરૂરિયાતોને પ્રોત્સાહન આપવા અને પ્રત્યક્ષીકરણ સાથે પરસ્પર શીખવાની તક તથા પ્રોત્સાહન મળે તેવી સુવિધા શાળા કક્ષાએ જ ઉભી કરવાનો છે.

ડિરેક્ટર મહેશસિંગ, નિવૃત્ત ગ્રામ સેવા મંડળના ટ્રસ્ટી કેતનભાઈ ભારતીય વનસેવા ભરત પાઠક ઠાકર, રિલાયન્સ ફાઉન્ડેશનના સેન્ટર ફોર એન્વાયર્નમેન્ટના નિરપરિચિત કીરાર અને દ્રજુભાઈ અરુણ માની દીક્ષિત વસુંધરા પ્રમુખ વહિયાર કિશાન પ્રોડ્યુસર ફાઉન્ડેશનના હરગોવનભાઈ પટેલ કંપની હાજર રહ્યા હતા.



સહયોગ
SUPPORTED BY

અમલીકરણ સંસ્થા
IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

અમલીકરણ સહયોગીયો
IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

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UGVCL
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કમ્પની લી.



Education

Education plays a significant role in all of our lives to get success. Education is the medium that gives us the skills, techniques, information and knowledge to know, understand and respect the duties we have towards our society, families and the nation. Therefore, conscious effort to underline the importance of education, VF started work on education.

From January 2020 we started our organizational interventions in the “STEM for Girls” education program with support of CSR of IBM Company through their Indian national partner QUEST Alliance. Aim of the project to promote girls to take Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics as a career path and more inclusion of girls in further education in STEM fields.

STEM for Girls:

India is now the sixth-largest economy in the world, with a 2017 GDP of \$2.6 trillion, according to the database of the International Monetary Fund’s World Economic Outlook (WEO) for April 2018. The country’s labour force is also expected to grow significantly and touch 160- 170 million by 2020, based on rate of population growth, increased labour force participation, and higher education enrolment, among other factors, according to a study by ASSOCHAM and Thought Arbitrage Research Institute.

However, the labour force participation rate for women, remains one of the lowest in the world. This gender disparity is particularly high in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

Importance of STEM

Seven important skill have been identified globally that need to be emphasized in the foundation years around STEM-based skill development. They are problem-solving, creativity, argumentation, intellectual curiosity, statistics, data-driven decision-making and flexibility. Work on these dimensions must start early; Grades 6 to 8 act as a foundational

S= Science (ବିଜ୍ଞାନ)

T=Technology (ଟେକ୍ନୋଲોଜି)

E=Engineering(ପଞ୍ଜନେରୀ)

M= Maths ଗଣିତ

period for nurturing leadership skills, scientific enquiry and innovative thinking, which become the building blocks enabling the next generation to contribute in the future. That's why STEM is playing role for impacting the carrier building. However, infrastructure for children to take the first steps to experience science is missing.



Given brief introduction to Shri Mansukhbhai Vasava (Member of Parliament) about STEM For Girls project at Model school Selamba, (Narmada)

When facilities exist, the ability of teachers to impart and encourage STEM education, especially amongst girls, is another important consideration. Gender norms must be broken, and teachers must have the faith that girls can do science, become engineers, scientists and perhaps one day contribute to India's space programme. Teachers need to be in turn supported with access resources, tools and methods to address the diverse teaching-learning needs of children, especially girls. They need to break their own notions of what girls can and cannot do that they learned in childhood.

The Project:

Positive role models for girls in their immediate context need to be created and community's perception that girls cannot learn Science and

Mathematics broken. Girls need to be mentored to use methods based on scientific enquiry not only for career options, but also to evolve innovative solutions for their everyday problems around health, nutrition, sanitation and ways of living. Encouraging girls to develop Science-applicative projects and technology-based solutions to address problems in their community enhances their scientific aptitude and self-esteem. A broader STEM network of mentors supporting children from marginalized contexts, like teachers, scientists, academics and STEM professionals expose these children, especially girls to positive role models. Such an ecosystem will also help the new generation to pursue career options of their choice, enabling them to make a difference for themselves and society at large.

Geographical spread and outreach numbers:

With the ambitious vision towards Girls empowerment, we started STEM for Girls education program with support of QUEST Alliance (Funding support by IBM CSR) from January 2020. The program is mainly focused on to promote girls to take Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics as a career path and more inclusion of girls in further education in STEM fields. We're working with more than 7000 students in total 24 schools of 5 districts of Gujarat (Mehsana, Surat, The Dangs, Chotaudepur and Narmada).

પરિસ્થિતિ ભલે ગમે તે ઉભી થાય,
દીકરીનું ભણતર ના ક્યારેય રોકાય



એકવીસમી સદી થશે ચરિતાર્થ, ભણે જો દીકરી **STEM** સંગાથ
STEM એટલે,...

Science (વિજ્ઞાન), **Technology** (તકનીકી), **Engineering** (ઈજનેરી), **Maths** (ગણિત)



Partner Facilitator

Implementation Partner



શિક્ષણનો અધિકાર
સમગ્ર શિક્ષા
સૌ ભણે, સૌ આગળ વધે



Sustainable farming & livelihood

It is recognized that the preparedness of farmers to tackle challenges is critical especially in those geographical areas where agriculture production system transforms rapidly. Farming systems in Sankheswar Taluka of Patan district in Gujarat is changing rapidly with arrival of Narmada canal irrigation water. While, Narmada water opens new economic opportunities for cultivators, it raises several important questions in terms of environmental and social-institutional sustainability.

Considering the above situation, we take following actions in the villages of Shankheshwar and sami block.

1. Mobilized to farmers for development of appropriate institutional set. A consortium of Four key partners viz. Vadihiyar FPO, Vasundhara foundation, Uttar Buniyadi High School and World Around You (WAY), are involved in achieving different project objectives. Vasundhara Foundation is a key organization for the mobilizing to farmers for the activities.
2. Promote education and awareness program at different levels for adoption of sustainable agriculture practices. With the support of Reliance Foundation



Sustainable farming demonstrated with 10 individual farmers

3. Water harvesting activity to conserve water and ecological sustainability.
4. Wormy composting for the land fertility and productivity.

20 wormy beds constructed through individual farmers



20 wormy beds constructed through SHGS



20 defunct borewell recharge pit constructed



Water and Sanitation

JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN (JSA)

Inspired by the Hon'ble PM of India the JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN (JSA) was celebrated with mission-mode. The main theme of campaign was water conservation. During this campaign all states and UTs Government was involved for create awareness and assets.

During the campaign, officers, Ground water experts, Scientist, NGOs, CSR and volunteers was involved and work together with the coordination of district officials. Reliance Foundation and Vasundhara Foundation was also being a part of campaign.

With the the financial support from reliance Foundation we various type of activity to make a success to JSA aims. We have been organises activity as under in school and colleges of PATAN Districts.

Organized drawing completion, tree plantation and various type of awareness and physical activities executed in 70 villages under “JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN” with the support of RF and association with Govt of Gujarat. Nearly 13000 trees were planted during the campaign.



SANITATION

The work on the "Sanitation project" was done by the Vasundhara Foundation with the partnership of JEEVANTIRTH organization. The project was financially supported by **Maruti Suzuki Foundation Hansalpur-CSR.**

The whole project activity was on focussing on Sanitation and Environment in three villages of Shankhalpur, Hansalpur and Sitapur village of Mehsana and Ahmedabad respectively.



Drawing, Slogans and essay writing competition were organized in 4 Schools in three villages. Theme of the competition was only on Sanitation.

Total 297 students were participated in competition. All participants were appreciated.

Under the project one exposure was organized for Hansalpur village. 25 Participant was participated for two days exposure. Rajsamadhiyala and Ovangadh village was visited under exposure. Participant was highly impresses among Rajasamadhiyala Gram Panchayat activity and Ovangadh Women's SHG's activity





Menstruation and health

Adolescent girls and women empowerment:

Empowerment is not an immediate result based task, but a process of change. Empowered adolescents and women recognize their inherent worth and the fundamental equality of men and women, boys and girls. They critically examine their lives and the inequalities in their societies.

In the view of the adolescent girls and women can participate civically and make personal and public choices to act for the improvement of their lives. Vasundhara Foundation involves in transforming the structures, institutions and norms that can reinforce and perpetuate gender discrimination and inequality.



Provided sanitary napkins and incinerator machine

Menstruation is a normal biological process, which is the key in maintaining the reproductive wellbeing of a woman. Myths and taboos in the society have resulted in a high level of secrecy about the basic menstruation facts leading to shame and exclusion for women and girls. A mother discussing the same with her adolescent daughter at menarche is a hush hush topic and, in some cases, adolescent girls, find themselves surprised and scared by a natural event.

Regressive socio-cultural norms pertaining to menstruation are responsible for the use of unhygienic products to manage periods instead of safer and clean sanitary napkins. About 80 per cent of Indian women don't use the most basic form of menstrual protection available, resulting in missing out on school, work as well as daily work commitments. To add to that not keeping a proper menstrual hygiene can lead to health risk well. According to studies some reproductive infections in Indian women are caused by poor menstrual hygiene, putting them in grave health risks if adequate sanitary measures are not taken.

To Create Awareness among menstrual health management (MHM) to the school Girls students we initiated MHM activity. With the approach of school girls' students led management mechanism with the support of Head Master or Female teacher at the school level we provided Sanitary napkin to the school girls.

With the support of Head master of female teacher, identified the girls who can take a responsibility for the activity. Selected girls oriented for the responsibility of inventory management.

with the support of "Jal and Jivan Foundation-Selavi" we provided sanitary napkin incinerator machine for dispose used sanitary napkins safely. Used sanitary napkins are often disposed of in dustbins or open surfaces, thereby giving rise to various contagious diseases. We trained to girls for how to operate incinerator machine.

Some of girls never seen the sanitary pad and those girls are using the pad now. More than 2000 Girls are benefited through this activity. Girls are happy to use the sanitary pad.



Awareness among cancer and general health

In India, health care is not taken care of as much as it should be. Different diseases are found in human beings. Some diseases are inherited but some of diseases are found due to life style. In rural area especially in women and girls are suffering from diseases due to unhygienic practice.

Cancer is a terrible disease and precautionary measures need to be taken.

There are three main types of cancer are found in India. One is Liver cancer, second one is breast cancer and third one is cervical cancer. Out of the above three cancers, only liver cancer occurs in men while women get all three types of cancers i.e. more than 70% of the cancers directly affect women.

Cancer can be prevented in women if care is taken in advance, especially if cervical cancer can be prevented by timely scanning for cancer.



To create awareness among rural women about this, Vasundhara Foundation in collaboration with Indian Red Cross Society Ahmedabad and organized a health check-up camp at Orumana village in Shankheshwar block of Patan District. Expert and technician form Indian Red Cross Society, Ahmedabad guided to

women of Orumana village. After the awareness 43 women underwent cervical cancer checkup. In this camp, women were given information about the treatment and prevention of diseases, as well as sexually transmitted diseases affecting women and its solution.





Consulting Service

We provided services like training, Impact assessment and hand holding support to CSR, Govt. institutions, NGOs and Community leaders who are associated with development sector.

