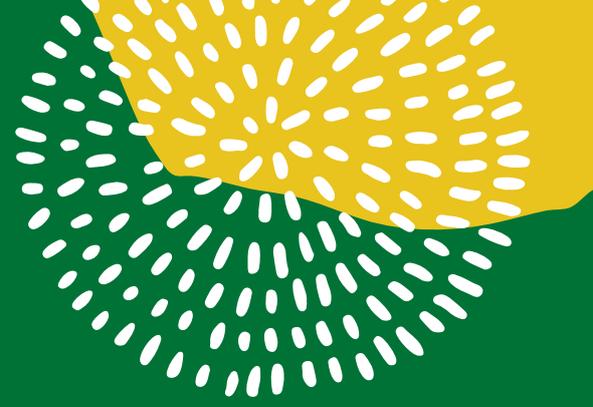




**Gram
Vikas** 

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22





Gram Vikas is a rural development organisation working with the poor and marginalised communities of Odisha, since 1979, to make sustainable improvements in their quality of life. We build their capabilities, strengthen community institutions and mobilise resources to enable them to lead a dignified life. More than 600,000 people in 1700 villages have advanced their lives through this partnership.

www.gramvikas.org

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Abbreviations

AB PM-JAY	Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
BIS	Bureau of Indian Standards
BSSK	Bandhu Shramik Seva Kendra
CHC	Community Health Centre
CPP	Community Professionals Programme
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DLC	Digital Learning Centre
FCO	Field Coordination Office
FCRA	Foreign Contribution Regulation Act
FHTC	Functional Household Tap Connection
FPC	Farmers Producer Company
FPG	Farmers Producer Group
FTK	Field Testing Kit
GIS	Geographical Information System
GP	Gram Panchayat
GPDP	Gram Panchayat Development Plan
GST	Goods and Services Tax
ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research
ICC	Internal Complaints Committee
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
IEC	Information Education and Communication
IFC	Integrated Farming Cluster
ISA	Implementation Support Agency
IT	Information Technology
JJM	Jal Jeevan Mission
KRC	Key Resource Centre
MG	Management Group
MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MRC	Migration Resource Centre
MT	Management Team
NRLM	National Rural Livelihoods Mission
ODF	Open Defecation Free



PDS	Public Distribution System
PMJJBY	Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PRI	Panchayati Raj Institutions
PWD	Persons with Disability
PWS	Piped Water Supply
PWSS	Piped Water Supply System
RCRC	Rapid Community Response to COVID
SBM	Swachh Bharat Mission
SBSK	Shramik Bandhu Seva Kendra
SDC	Staff Development Cell
SDMP	Safe and Dignified Migration Programme
SHG	Self-Help Group
SnS	Strengthening and Sustaining
TBR	Toilet and Bathing Room
VDC	Village Development Committee
VISP	Village Institution Service Provider
VLM	Village Lekha Mitra
VPRP	Village Poverty Reduction Plan
VWSC	Village Water and Sanitation Committee
WaSH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WQM	Water Quality Management
WRTG	Water Resources Technology Group
WSGP	Water Secure Gram Panchayat
WSS	Water Source Sustainability

Chairman's Message

The year 2021-22 was a bitter-sweet one. Many colleagues fell ill and had to undergo anxious days of recovery during the second wave of COVID. The loss of Jashoda Devi continues to be a shock. The village communities faced health issues, but the economic implications of the pandemic and lockdowns were more severe. I am happy my colleagues did their best to help the communities manage the situation.

The legal environment in which we operate has become more constraining. The Board and senior management of the organisation have to spend a considerable part of their time catering to various statutory compliances. The cost of operations has increased – funds which Gram Vikas can hardly afford. More importantly, it diverts precious time away from actual work. I can only hope that the government revises some of these stipulations and makes it easier for non-government development organisations to continue contributing to building an equitable and sustainable nation.

I am happy to note the programmatic progress made during the year. It is particularly commendable given that the first five months of the year went almost entirely to managing the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. The commitment and result orientation shown by my colleagues are commendable.

Gram Vikas staff is a good mix of young and old, many with long years of field experience and others with competence in new technologies and methods. It has helped build an environment of learning and sharing. I am particularly happy to see the addition of young men and women from among the communities that Gram Vikas work with to the staff pool.

I am sure that Gram Vikas will continue to be an organisation that brings about relevant changes to the lives of the village communities we work with.

Joe Madiath
Chairman

Executive Director's Report

During the early part of the year, we struggled with the rest of the world to come to terms with the changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. The devastating second wave affected staff members of Gram Vikas and members of our partner village communities. We deeply mourn the loss of Ms. Jashoda Devi, Thematic Coordinator in Ganjam district, who succumbed to the virus in June 2021. We devoted a lot of organisational energies to supporting our partner communities to cope with the distress caused by the pandemic. It was only by September 2021 that we could bring our activities onto the planned tracks.



Gram Vikas was awarded the Sat Paul Mittal National Award 2021 by the Nehru Sidhant Kender Trust, Ludhiana. The prestigious award carrying a citation and cash award of ₹5 lakh was conferred at a virtual ceremony held on 9 November 2021.



Programme Platforms – Water Secure Gram Panchayat and Safe and Dignified Migration

The Gram Vikas Decade V programmatic approach that Gram Vikas adopted in April 2019 envisaged strengthening our work in six thematic areas: Village Institutions, Water, Livelihoods, Sanitation and Hygiene, Habitat and Technology and Education. We organise the implementation and management structures, the results framework to plan and measure our work and internal capacity-building efforts along these six areas. These six programme pillars form the basis on which we build our work at the community level.

Between 2019 and 2021, we continued several of our past activities and built new ones based on the needs assessment with our community partners. Based on our experiences in these years, we identified two programme platforms to help Gram Vikas strengthen our work in the villages. The Water Secure Gram Panchayat (WSGP) Programme and the Safe and Dignified Migration Programme (SDMP) have emerged as the key programme platforms. These two programme platforms bring together our work in the six focus areas in an interconnected manner.

Brief descriptions of the two programme platforms are provided later in this report. During the year, we could not fully roll out the two programme platforms. The Water Secure Gram Panchayat Programme began implementation in 27 Gram Panchayats in five districts. We are implementing the Safe and Dignified Migration Programme in two blocks in two districts. We expect to expand the coverage of the two programmes in the coming years.





Programme Implementation and Management Structure

We completed the Programme Implementation and Management Structure revision during the year, setting up Field Coordination Offices (FCO) to replace the earlier structure of Project Offices. FCOs are now clustered under District Offices, each under the responsibility of a District Manager. District Managers are part of the Management Team. District Managers were appointed through an objectively conducted selection process from among staff members, facilitated by three external resource persons. The District Managers are responsible for managing all Gram Vikas' activities within their geographic limits. District Offices cover one or more administrative districts, except in Ganjam district, where two District Offices manage the work.

In May 2019, we introduced the collegial programme management and coordination style. Management Groups comprised two or more senior managers responsible for guiding and leading the work in each Focus Area. This system extended to the Field Coordination Offices through the creation of FCO Steering Committees. The Steering Committees comprise Thematic Coordinators of different programmatic areas within the FCO. They are responsible for planning, implementing, and monitoring activities under all focus areas in the villages under the FCO. The Thematic Coordinators were appointed through an objectively assessed selection process from among staff members and were in position by August 2021. The Steering Committees faced initial difficulties, but by the end of the year, they were active in all FCOs.



Gram Vikas Saathi – diversifying capabilities

Human resource deployment is crucial to our activities' sustenance and overall success. Strategic deployment of human resources has been a focus for us in building the Gram Vikas Decade V programmatic approach on the ground.

In the fifth decade of operations, we envisage expanding our activities and coverage to about ten times what we achieved in the first four decades. Achieving this requires building human resource capabilities closer to the communities we work with. We have been working on building the technical and managerial capabilities of Village Development Committees to take up and manage development interventions in the village. We are specifically building a cadre of the Village Institution Service Providers (VISP) cadre for autonomous handling of development activities. The VDC or the VISP cannot manage all activities and functions voluntarily, given the time and effort needed. Many activities also need strong technical and managerial skills.

The Gram Vikas Saathi, an intermediate structure between the staff and the village institutions, engages trained men and women from the villages with aptitude, willingness, and entrepreneurial spirit to support development interventions. We developed the first batch of Gram Vikas Saathi in thematic areas such as Water Source Sustainability (Jala Bandhu) and Access to Entitlements (Samajik Suraksha Saathi). The Gram Vikas Saathi is initially engaged in a fellowship, during which they get paid for their services and are prepared to set up their service-providing enterprises by the end of the fellowship period. During 2021-22, we engaged 282 persons as Gram Vikas Saathi across various programmes. We will deepen and expand this endeavour in the coming years.



New forays

After a few years, we resumed working in Angul and Bolangir districts and Lanjigarh block in Kalahandi district. We are working in one Gram Panchayat in the Chhendipada block in Angul and 12 villages in the Bangomunda block in the Bolangir district. Gram Vikas

implemented successful watershed development programmes from 2002 to 2008 in Bangomunda. Eight villages in Bolangir and Loisinga blocks, including one where we had helped set up a water and sanitation system during the early 2000s, are also part of this intervention.



Knowledge and programme partnerships

ACWADAM, Pune, has supported us with capacity building and knowledge management for springshed work since 2018. The partnership continued during the year, enabling the Water Resources Technology Group to take up more intensive resource mapping exercises to prepare for the Water Secure Gram Panchayat Programme. INREM Foundation, Anand, Gujarat, has helped deepen our work on water quality management in the villages. The collaboration with Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University for the action research on Child Faeces Management came to a successful end during the year. Vikas Anvesh Foundation, Pune, is supporting us in building a baseline and data monitoring system for the Water Secure Gram Panchayat programme.

The Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group, WOTR Pune and SkyMet is helping us build a village-level weather advisory system. Partnership with The Goat Trust, Lucknow, strengthens our work in the animal husbandry sector. Xylem Corporation, the global water services company, supports Gram Vikas in conducting pilot testing of an atmospheric water generator device as the first step of a longer-term partnership around ensuring safe water for rural communities.

The new partnership with the International Centre for Free and Open Software (ICFOSS), Kerala, will help us build cost-effective methods to deploy technology tools in the field. The first step in the partnership is around building open-source technology-based weather stations that will decrease costs, allow data transmission even in no-network conditions and reduce power for operating the equipment. Rang De, the online peer-lending platform, continues to support farmers in our operational areas by providing low-interest loans. HighBEE Consulting, Bhubaneswar, has helped us with business planning for the women's self-help group enterprises.

Our partnership with the Centre for Migration and Inclusive Development, Kerala, continued in the Safe and Dignified Migration programme in the Odisha-Kerala corridor. The partnership with Urban Management Centre Asia, Ahmedabad, helped us strengthen our work on access to social protection schemes among migrant workers in the Ganjam district. We continued our partnership with Life Circle Health Services Limited, Hyderabad, to train women in geriatric caregiver services, enabling many young women to find meaningful skill-building and employment. Sunlit Future, Auroville, continues to support us with our work in the area of solar energy applications.

The partnership with the Youth for India Fellowship of State Bank of India Foundation continued into its ninth year. We used books provided by Pratham Books and toys by Anthill Creations to work with children in the villages.

Two partnerships built during the year are helping us improve our understanding and response to the needs of the younger generation. Listeners Collective, Bengaluru, is conducting an intensive programme among the Community Professional Programme (CPP) participants to improve their self-confidence and bridge the aspiration-achievement gap. The Community Professional Programme launched in 2019 has enabled Gram Vikas

to strengthen internal capabilities by recruiting and training young men and women from our partner villages at the cutting edge of our community development work.

The partnership with Social Shapes Foundation, New Delhi, has helped Gram Vikas understand the aspirations and dreams of parents and children, school and college-going students in our operational villages. We rolled out the Vikalp programme in a few villages in the Lakhanpur block of the Jharsuguda district during the year.



Resource Support

The immense support from our donors and resource support agencies has continued through the year. We are grateful to all of them.

Arghyam supported our work on safe and dignified migration in the Kalahandi-Kerala corridor. Azim Premji Foundation-Philanthropy supports the first phase of the Water Secure Gram Panchayat Programme and the COVID-19 vaccination campaign. Support from B1G1 Singapore, the corporate donation integration platform, increased substantially during the year. The support from charity: water, USA, continues to enable us to take up piped water supply projects in smaller, remote habitations not covered under the plans of the State Government. Essel Mining and Industries Limited have helped us resume our work in the Angul district as part of its CSR activities.

ESAF Small Finance Bank supported the resource centres for safe migration in Kalahandi. Godrej and Boyce supported the revival of a community-owned canal irrigation system in the Gajapati district. InterGlobe Foundation has continued supporting the revival of natural resources in the Thuamul Rampur block of Kalahandi district. The HDFC Bank Parivartan partnership for the Holistic Rural Development Project entered a new phase with a new collaboration for work in the Bolangir district after successfully completing the project in the Nayagarh district.

LIC Housing Finance Limited is supporting our work in seven peripheral villages of Bhubaneswar City. The Poul Due Jensen/Grundfos Foundation support has enabled us to strengthen solar-based water supply systems in smaller, remote villages. SBI Foundation is now supporting the work in Lanjigarh blocks under its Gram Sewa programme, in addition to the ongoing support for our work in renewable energy.

Support from Tetra Tech USA for our work on child faeces management and sanitation behaviour change as part of the WaSHPaLs programme of USAID ended during the year. The support from Skoll Foundation through Gram Vikas USA continued during the year.

We received generous support from several donors for taking up COVID-19 relief efforts. Medical Oxygen for All (MoFA) Australia provided medical equipment. Sarojini Damodaran Foundation (SDF), Bengaluru, funded the supply of food kits. Crypto India Relief Fund Dubai, through the RCRC coalition, funded food relief and mobilisation for vaccination support. Swasth supported us with safety kits. Klockner Desma Machinery Private Limited and the Australian Odia Community provided support for setting up village level libraries for children.

We remember with gratitude individuals from around the globe who supported our work with financial contributions. During the year, 30 persons from India and six persons from outside India donated to Gram Vikas.

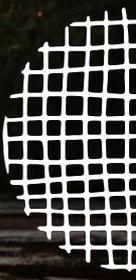
We worked closely with the National Jal Jeevan Mission, the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India to strengthen the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission. Our partnership with the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation organisation under the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department of the Government of Odisha continued during the year. We also work closely with the Mission Shakti Department to strengthen the network of women's self-help groups in the village.

Members of the Governing Board have been available regularly for discussions and clarifications. I am grateful for the constant guidance and support from the members of the Governing Board.

I am honoured to present the year's annual report from April 2021 to March 2022. The report begins with a brief description of the Water Secure Gram Panchayat programme and the Safe and Dignified Migration programme, followed by details of our COVID-19 response. There are updates from different thematic areas and key support functions. A summary of the annual financial statements is at the end, with a link to access more detailed accounts statements.



Liby T Johnson
Executive Director



In Remembrance

K. Jashoda Devi or **Jashoda didi** as everyone fondly called her has been with Gram Vikas since 2006. On 5 June 2021, she succumbed to the COVID-19 virus and left us forever. She worked with many villages in the Ganjam district, motivating them to build and use toilets and bathing rooms and manage the village water supply system properly. We miss her affable smile and humble personality. The communities that she supported and we will always remember her.



“If everyone in the area knows me as Ramana Babu of Kanamana village, It’s only because of Jashoda didi. If it wasn’t for her, I wouldn’t be who I am today. Our village would not be what it is today”

– Venkatrama Swami
Member, Village Development Committee
Kanamana village



Water Secure Gram Panchayat Programme

The Water Secure Gram Panchayat (WSGP) Programme is the first programme platform for Gram Vikas' work in the villages.

The programme aims to enable community-led water resource management and resilient, sustainable and gender equitable institutions. It brings together work in the areas of Village Institutions & Convergence, Water, Sanitation & Health, Livelihoods and Habitat & Technology, contributing to improved health and economic outcomes for rural households. The Gram Panchayat, as a federation of its constituent habitations, is the unit of implementation. It envisages bringing together all households in the habitations within a Gram Panchayat, to effectively manage their water resources and building the capacities of the local governance system to facilitate this. The WSGP Programme is built on four components:

- **Equity and Resilience:** Equitable access to water and other natural resources and resilience to multiple forms of vulnerabilities
- **Sustainability:** Availability of adequate water to meet the drinking, domestic, and productive needs ensured by technical know-how, financial and human resources at the community level
- **Safety:** Clean drinking water, safe and hygienic village environment, and the attended capabilities to control these variables
- **Prosperity:** Effective and smart use of water and natural resources along with market linkages can ensure livelihood security for communities

We envisage covering 1000 Gram Panchayats in Odisha and Jharkhand by the year 2030.

Safe and Dignified Migration Programme

The Safe and Dignified Migration Programme (SDMP) seeks to promote opportunistic or aspirational migration, as against migration out of distress, to enable a dignified livelihood for the rural communities we work with. It will contribute to the overall social and economic development of remote areas and enable stronger coping with the impacts of climate change. The COVID-19 pandemic aggravated the situation for those who are already migrating, and the emotional and social costs of migration need to be addressed. The migrating persons, staying behind families, local communities and local governments are the key stakeholders in the process.

The programme will ensure occupational, emotional, financial and social security for migrant workers and their families; create community-level capabilities and institutional systems; build skills and establish a safe corridor for migration between source and destination.

The SDM Programme will cover 450 Gram Panchayats of 22 Blocks in the southern and south-western parts of Odisha by 2025.

2021-2022

Our year in numbers

COVID-19 RESPONSE



2,40,000
people reached
with COVID awareness



14,000
people screened
for COVID



5600
medical and protective
equipments distributed



5500+
migrant workers
received food kits



9900+
migrant workers received
their first vaccine dose



59,000+
vaccination coverage in
Mohana block, Gajapati district



89,000+
vaccination coverage in Thuamul
Rampur block, Kalahandi district

VILLAGE INSTITUTIONS & CONVERGENCE



1200+
habitations reached in
Odisha to strengthen
village institutions

200+
new VDCs formed

1300+
persons trained as
Village Institutions
Service Providers

1100+
persons identified
for accessing social
protection benefits

1800+
SHG leaders trained in
organisation management

*VDC – Village Development Committee

WATER



4900+
HHs build piped water
supply infrastructure

2000+
HHs get FHTCs

20,600+
HHs benefit from
water source
sustainability actions

80
acres of land get
more water for
irrigation

150
habitations map
spring water sources

*HHs - Households | FHTC – Functional Household Tap Connection



LIVELIHOODS

5900+

HHs reached with farm livelihood initiatives

1700+

farmers get weather and crop advisories

450

farmers form new producer groups

3200+

HHs covered by SDM programme

430+

migrant workers access insurance products and services

*SDM – Safe and Dignified Migration



SANITATION & HEALTH

250+

villages get water quality & surveillance systems

120+

villages become open defecation free

2600+

HHs set up nutrition gardens

4500

HHs practise solid waste segregation

109

villages, adolescent boys and girls get menstrual health education



HABITAT & TECHNOLOGY

6800+

HHs covered by the renewable energy programme

70+

villages get solar pumps for piped water supply systems

250

HHs get solar home lighting solutions

DISASTER RESPONSE



8
community kitchens
serve Cyclone Yaas
affected villages

1100+
HHs get household-
level water filters

1000+
HHs get dry ration

800+
HHs get tarpaulins

1000+
farmers get seeds and
training to replace lost crops

NETWORKS AND PARTNERSHIPS



40
organisations
partnered with
Gram Vikas

₹18.68 crores
raised as grants
from 15 donor
partners

₹21 lakh
raised from
individual
donors

5,00,000
people benefitted
from diverse
initiatives



COVID-19 Response

As villages of Odisha battled the second wave of COVID-19, Gram Vikas adopted a multi-pronged strategy to support marginalised communities struggling with issues of health, livelihoods, food, education, and deteriorating mental health because of the pandemic. We undertook large scale awareness programmes, established quarantine and care facilities, and accelerated vaccination drives. We mobilised and trained community volunteers, frontline health workers, and local government representatives in COVID-19 response planning, care and surveillance. Dry ration kits, a COVID Care Centre, 24x7 helpline, and a mobile vaccination unit at the destination sites offered comprehensive support to the villagers, the migrant workers, and their families. Technology-equipped learning centres made continued education possible, while recreational games minimised the psychosocial impact of the pandemic on children. Below is a report of Gram Vikas' response to COVID-19 in 2021-22.



Covid Care in Remote Villages

Our COVID Care programme for remote villages in Odisha included mass awareness drives, augmentation of healthcare infrastructure, and supplementing human resources for frontline response. Mobilised community volunteers supported by Gram Vikas staff implemented the response.



Mobile vans with mounted speakers and 560 trained community volunteers reached 2.4 lakh people across 1,325 habitations with messages on COVID-19 and safety measures to prevent an infection.



Volunteers helped in the door-to-door screening of 14,000 persons.



We set up and operated a 50-bed Temporary Medical Centre in collaboration with the Thuamul Rampur block administration in Kalahandi, which hosted 130 returning migrants in three batches.



Distribution of cleaning materials, sanitary boots and gloves supported the decontamination of the COVID Care Centre in the Baliguda block of Kandhamal district and ensured the safety of the sanitation workers.



We supplied 10 Oxygen Concentrators to five Dedicated COVID Health Centres in the Gajapati and Rayagada districts and seven BiPAP ventilators to the administration in Kalahandi and Rayagada districts.



We provided 1,480 pulse oximeters, 2,734 PPE kits including overalls, face shields and washable masks, and 1,367 bottles of hand sanitisers to ASHAs and community volunteers in our operational villages.



Supporting vulnerable households

Based on our two rounds of assessment on the impact of the pandemic in our partner villages, we extended immediate support to vulnerable families to mitigate the food insecurity crisis. We prioritised women-headed households, those with pregnant women or children in the lactating and weaning age group, and families without PDS entitlement. Households with only senior citizens, people with disabilities or prolonged illnesses, which lost an earning member to COVID-19, suffered a permanent loss of income for over two months, and daily wage earners also received priority support.

The Village Development Committees (VDCs) collaborated and finalised the list of those who needed help. The VDCs also led the vendor selection, procurement, packaging and distribution of support kits. Local procurement ensured transparency, reduced costs, and gave the business to local suppliers. Each kit contained about 12 items, including dry rations and personal hygiene items, with slight variations based on the local community's demand. We supported 2400 households with the kits.



Support to Migrant Workers

We support migrant workers through a partnership with the Centre for Migration and Inclusive Development (CMID) in Kerala. The Bandhu Shramik Seva Kendra (BSSK), a resource centre for migrant workers, provides a source-destination continuum of services for migrant workers who move from Odisha and other states to Kerala. The BSSK linked up with the Shramik Bandhu Seva Kendra (SBSK) in Odisha to coordinate efforts to provide support at source and destination.

Along with CMID, we collaborated with the Labour Department, Government of Kerala, to ensure that migrant workers from Odisha working in Ernakulam district received food and essential materials kits. We made special efforts to identify the most vulnerable migrant workers, those not supported by one particular employer and with families.

We distributed

 3,911 food kits to

 5,502 migrants

We set up a helpline to address different needs such as support to workers who needed jobs, help with employer grievances, rations during the lockdown, and information on vaccination and COVID care for those who tested positive.

 The two BSSKs in Kochi and Thrissur and SBSK in Odisha responded to 2,247 calls during the second wave.

In July 2021, the BSSK rolled out the first mobile vaccination unit for migrant workers in Kerala in partnership with the National Health Mission, which provided vaccines, syringes, and consumables, facilitated bio-hazardous waste management, linkages with primary health centres and technical oversight.

By September 2021,

 9911 migrant workers received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and

 110 workers were fully vaccinated.



Education and Psychosocial Support to Children

The COVID-19 response for children had three components: raising awareness of COVID-19, facilitating access to digital learning resources, and recreational activities to minimise the psychosocial impact of the pandemic. We took up the initiative in Odisha's 112 villages in Ganjam, Gajapati, Keonjhar, and Kalahandi districts. Village-level Child Clubs, with children aged 6-14, helped roll out these activities.

Tech-enabled Learning Centres in 35 villages made continued education possible for children from classes seven to ten. Each Learning Centre had a Raspberry Pi (a single-board computer that plugs into a display board) and a projector. Local volunteers with education up to Class-12 or those pursuing a college education and teaching experience became para-teachers.

We introduced a host of recreational activities to support the children's emotional well-being and enhance their learning abilities. We set up portable libraries in 112 villages, giving children access to Odia, Hindi, and English books. Children received books with stories, biographies, and poems for children with varied reading and comprehension levels. Engaging toys helped children learn through play. Child Clubs held games, music, dance, art and craft workshops.



Ensuring 100% COVID-19 vaccination

With the immediate threat of COVID-19 receding, our focus moved to ensure 100% vaccination coverage in rural areas. Gram Vikas supported the health administration in Thuamul Rampur block of Kalahandi and Mohana block of Gajapati district to mobilise the rural population to ensure that everyone is vaccinated. Community mobilisation and vaccination camps continue in 24 Gram Panchayats in Thuamul Rampur block and 39 Gram Panchayats in Mohana block, covering 1723 habitations.

As of 19 March 2022,



We have facilitated coverage of 854 habitations through 401 vaccination camps.



We have achieved complete vaccination for nearly 70% of the eligible population in the 18+ age group.

We are now organising mobilisation and camps for the 15-18 age group.





VILLAGE INSTITUTIONS & CONVERGENCE

Gram Vikas firmly believes that strong Village-level Institutions are necessary to provide a platform for households to come together and take initiatives for their development and to ensure ownership and sustainability. Throughout our work in the past four decades, we have emphasised promoting and strengthening these institutions.

The COVID-19 pandemic, while severely disrupting regular activities of the village institutions, helped strengthen them by bringing the village communities together to respond to the situation and show resilience. New community leaders emerged, and young men and women volunteered for the COVID response initiatives. Many of them continued in leadership roles in the Village Development Committees (VDC) or as community cadres for anchoring regular development activities.

The pandemic gave us opportunities to better identify and understand the needs of different groups, especially children, single women, women of migrant households and other vulnerable sections of the village community. Women and children have gradually started participating in the VDC General Body Meetings.

During the year,

Gram Vikas' work in the Village Institutions & Convergence Focus Area covered



49,268 households



1291 habitations



162 Gram Panchayats
of 47 blocks



12 districts in Odisha and Jharkhand

Work in the Village Institutions focus area were organised in five thematic components:

- Strengthening Village Development Committees
- Strengthening Village Institutions of Women and Children
- Convergence for Development
- Community Cadre Management System
- Access to Entitlements

Strengthening Village Development Committees



Community members attending a village meeting in Sindhipanga village, Sirtiguda Gram Panchayat, Kandhamal district.

A Village Development Committee (VDC) is the most crucial institution in the village with representation of all the households. It plays a pivotal role in community development and grassroots democracy. During the year, our emphasis was on formation of VDCs in new intervention villages and strengthening the Committees in existing villages. Younger persons came into leadership of the committees. Training programmes were held for existing and potential leaders of VDCs. To encourage more women leadership in village development, a separate set of training programmes were facilitated.



“For any real development to take place in the village, the residents themselves have to take the lead. Whoever comes from the outside to help us will come for a limited time. We should take ownership of our resources and maintain the current infrastructure”, says Sangita Mallik, a resident of Jugusahi village in Kandhamal district of Odisha.



Restructuring Village Development Committees for continuing effectiveness

A strong and vibrant Village Development Committee (VDC) ensures the continuation and sustainability of developmental initiatives. VDCs are formed and nurtured during the initial phase of Gram Vikas' support in a village. Over time, the processes become fatigued, and the institution's effectiveness reduces due to fading interest and efforts. The second line of leadership within the community can step up to a leadership position to ensure continued, effective and efficient functioning. It also becomes necessary to review the representation of women and weaker social groups in the village in the Committee to ensure continued gender and social equity.

During the year, Gram Vikas supported 139 villages to develop and nurture second-line leadership for sustained functioning. We created awareness among the community members of the need for a second-line leadership and regular leadership rotation to ensure effectiveness and transparency. Women were encouraged to take up the role of key office bearers in the VDCs to strengthen their leadership. The Committees were motivated to select a woman to be either the President or the Secretary, thus enabling more than a token presence of women in leadership positions.

The inclusion of youth brought new perspectives on development needs and strategies required to fulfil these needs. The new generation of village youth has better education, awareness, and exposure to the outside world. We hope that their active engagement in the VDCs will help ensure enhanced transparency through improved bookkeeping, more vital collaboration with different stakeholders and also help in the adoption of technological solutions for the community issues. We also trained and built the new leaders' capacities to enable them to provide stronger leadership to the Village Development Committees.

Achievements in 2021-22

We promoted new VDCs in 201 villages. In 139 villages, the existing VDCs reformed to bring about generational changes in the leadership. A total of 846 VDC leaders, including 331 women from 212 VDCs, trained in organisation management.

VDCs in 204 villages can now produce updated records of their functioning and finances in real-time. Twenty-three villages fulfilled Statutory requirements such as VDC registration and PAN card.

In 33 villages, VDCs newly took up the management of water and sanitation services and ensured that their villages are 'Open Defecation Free' (ODF) and with '100% Functional Household Tap Connections' (FHTC).



Strengthening Institutions of Women and Children



Children participating in recreational activities as part of a Child Club in Maliar village, Ukhura Gram Panchayat, Serango block, Gajapati district.

This year, our work with women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs) focused on social and community issues. As a matter of principle, we do not focus our efforts on supporting the financial transactions of the SHGs to avoid duplication of efforts made by the State agencies, such as Mission Shakti and the Odisha Livelihoods Mission. There is a real need to work on other aspects like awareness of and collective action on social and gender issues and leadership development so that women actively participate in community development. Access to social protection schemes and emotional support to members are other areas where the groups have a crucial role.

Child Clubs serve as institutional platforms for the holistic development of children in the villages. Through Child Clubs, we create avenues for children to come together, develop rapport amongst themselves, discuss their issues and, at the same time, get suitable opportunities to develop themselves as responsible future citizens. This year's primary objective of our work with children was to minimise the impacts of COVID-19 on children through awareness of personal health and hygiene and COVID-appropriate behaviour. We also focussed on recreational activities for better emotional and mental health during the overwhelming COVID times. In selected villages, we helped children ensure learning outcomes through educational games, community libraries for children and Digital Learning Centres.

Achievements in 2021-22

In 432 villages, the Village Development Committees have at least one woman as one of the key office bearers.

In 86 villages, all eligible women above 18 years of age are members of SHGs. From 344 SHGs, 1885 leaders received training in Organisation Management, emphasising participation in comprehensive community development. In 40 villages, the SHGs brought their issues for discussion and action in the General Body Meeting of their VDC.

We promoted Child Clubs in 289 villages. In 241 intervention villages, 100% of the children became members of these clubs. A total of 931 sessions promoted COVID-appropriate behaviour amongst children, imparted financial literacy and enhanced their learning outcomes through educational games and community libraries.

With contributions and active participation from the village communities, 139 villages held arts, sports and cultural events for children.

STORY



Members of three SHGs in the village take up mushroom farming to supplement their family's income in Colonypada village, Lakhanpur Gram Panchayat, Jharsuguda district.

Cultivating paddy-straw mushroom to tide over income crisis

Members from self-help groups (SHGs) in Colonypada village in Lakhanpur block of Jharsuguda district have been harvesting two kilograms of mushrooms and earning ₹200 every day since July 2021. Gram Vikas facilitated three SHGs in the village Grama Devi-A, Grama Devi-B, and Maa Mangala, to start joint production of paddy straw mushrooms as an alternative sustainable source of income during times of distress.

The women typically work with their husbands on their land to cultivate vegetables. They sell these at the local market earning approximately ₹1000 every week. The COVID lockdown allowed only a few hours of sales on weekdays, and there was a complete shutdown during the weekends. Women sold most of the vegetables at low prices; some lay unsold, and the remaining vegetables rotted in the fields.

Kalyani Adha, a member of Gram Devi-A SHG, says, "I work as a farmhand where my husband grows vegetables and paddy. We faced losses in April-June 2021 during the lockdown in our district. The vegetables we grew rotted on the fields and we lost all the money we invested. With no other means of income, we faced a lot of hardships during that time."

Members of the three SHGs in the village were encouraged to take up mushroom farming to supplement their family's income. Paddy straw mushroom grows in readily available farm residue. The mushroom can be grown inside the house without needing a separate space. Initially, each group invested ₹2000 from the group savings to buy inputs like a water spray machine and a straw cutter.

In June 2021, the three groups attended the training programme organised by Mission Shakti with the support of Vana Suraksha Samiti and TRL Krosaki Refractories Ltd at the Lakhanpur panchayat office. During the 10-day training period, the women learnt to prepare mushroom beds, the optimum moisture required for the spawn and a favourable time to harvest the mushrooms. Women received spawn and polythene. Soon after the training, Mission Shakti provided financial support of ₹47,000 for each group in instalments.

Subhasini Adha, a member of Grama Devi-A SHG who underwent the training, says, "The training was extensive. We started the cultivation in the third week of June. In July, we sold the first lot of mushrooms we grew. It is convenient to grow inside four walls. Also, the market for mushrooms is very good. People from our village and nearby areas come and pick it up. Since mushrooms are nutritious and a good protein source, we cook them regularly for our children these days. During such times like lockdown, mushroom cultivation is a good alternative source of income."

Convergence for Village Development



Social mapping prepared by villagers of Marlaba Gram Panchayat, Rayagada block, Gajapati district.

Villages should be able to prioritise their development needs, prepare plans, and mobilise resources to implement them. Building a strong relationship between the Village Development Committees as representative citizen bodies and the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) is integral to Gram Vikas' work. We envisage the Village Poverty Reduction Plan (VPRP) as a tool to help achieve meaningful engagement between communities and local governments. The VPRP is an organised citizen effort to include their priorities in the Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP).



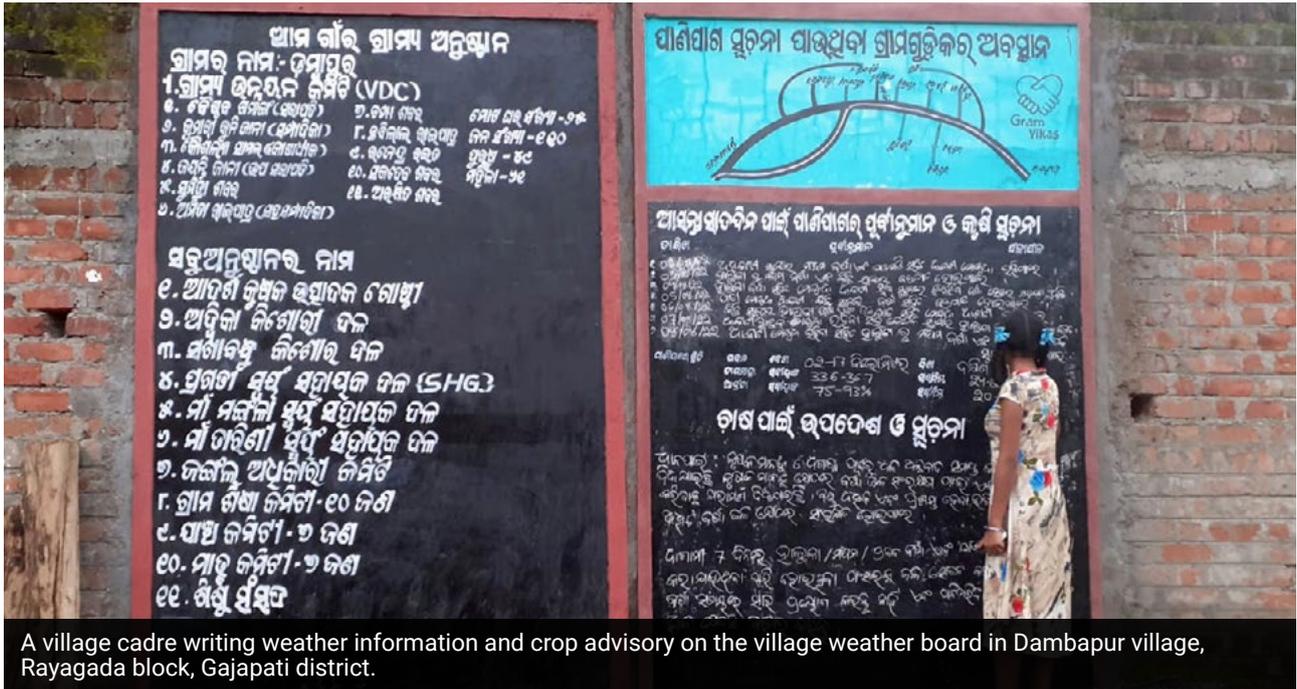
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"If we remain united, the Sarpanch and other government officials will come forward to support our VDC to leverage government schemes", says 26-year-old Sunanda, who attended a meeting of VDC in Jugusahi village in Kandhamal district.

Achievements in 2021-22

Overall, 74 villages took up the preparation of Village Poverty Reduction Plans (VPRPs) and the General Body of Village Development Committee (VDC) approved the plans in 46 villages. The process involved training of 724 VDC leaders, including 387 women, from 121 villages.

In 14 villages, the VDC participated in Palli Sabha and presented their VPRPs for approval. In eight villages, VPRPs presented in the Gram Sabha were incorporated into Gram Panchayat Development Plan.

Fifty-Six VDCs raised funds from various line departments for village development activities.



A village cadre writing weather information and crop advisory on the village weather board in Dambapur village, Rayagada block, Gajapati district.

Gram Vikas supports villages by establishing a cadre called Village Institutions Service Providers (VISPs). VISPs are volunteers from within the village who support various development tasks taken up by the Village Development Committees. They take up the operation of piped water supply system in the village (Pump Operators), regular water quality testing (WQM cadre), measures for water source sustainability (WSS Cadre); sharing weather and crop advisory (Pani Pago Mitra) and knowledge and skills on animal husbandry (Pashu Mitra).

We have also mobilised a specialised cadre, Village Lekha Mitra, for book-keeping, accounts reconciliation and auditing of the records and accounts of the Village Development Committees.

Achievements in 2021-22

We supported 748 villages to identify and train 1,319 men and women as VISPs, and 43% of the trained VISPs continued in their role for more than six months. However, only 12% of these cadres are women, despite our firm intent to have at least 50% women as VISPs.

Sixty four persons, of which 18 are women, trained as Village Lekha Mitras (VLMs). VLMs took up work with 28 Village Development Committees and completed audits in 12 villages.



Village Lekha Mitra: Providing accounting and auditing services to village development committees

The Village Lekha Mitra (VLM) is an entrepreneurial approach to developing accounting and auditing skills and service providers in rural areas. The VLMs are identified and trained to maintain records and registers and to reconcile the Village Development Committees' (VDCs) book of accounts.

The VLM will function in the entrepreneur model and receive payments from the VDC for their services. Those who have passed Class-12 with good mathematical ability, comfort with using a smartphone, and adequate time to invest in the work are selected as VLMs. Applicants undergo a written test and an interview. The selected candidates then receive training on understanding the types of records and registers maintained by VDCs and their regular maintenance. They undergo field exposure to understand the processes described in classroom sessions. Currently, the VLMs are functional in Keonjhar, Gajapati, Ganjam, Sundergarh, Jharsuguda, Kandhamal and Rayagada districts.

During a meeting, the VDC, the SHG and community leaders of Abarasing village in Gumma block of Gajapati district discussed the need to audit account books maintained by the village committee to reconcile records. Sri. Ispat Bhuyan, Secretary of the Abarasing village committee, was happy that his community agreed to select a person from their village to facilitate a process of maintaining records in future. "We don't have much idea on keeping records, cash receipts, or writing a resolution of a meeting. The registers or ledgers we have maintained so far are sometimes confusing. It's a good thing that a person from our village will be trained in accounting. Records can be maintained in order and with complete transparency. It will be easier to understand. During the General Body meeting, we will be able to explain the expenses incurred more clearly."



Access to Entitlements



Andriya Digal, a Gram Vikas community mobiliser collects details to apply for social security schemes in Kandhamal district, Odisha.

Providing access to entitlement for different social security schemes was taken up as a targeted activity in 2020-21 under a project that Gram Vikas took up in 18 blocks in six districts of Odisha during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some sections of the community could not access social security benefits from the State and Union governments for various reasons. Some of these were related to awareness, but some others were systemic. We realised that the Village Development Committees, as the key institutional platform in the village, are critical for facilitating access to entitlements for the most marginalised.

In 2021-22, we took up the Access to Entitlement programme in four districts. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we could only start actual work in December. We engaged a trained cadre of volunteers called Samajik Surakhya Saathi in 10 villages in one Gram Panchayat on a pilot basis. For the programme's sustainability, we ensured the direct involvement of the local community.

Achievements in 2021-22

Twelve Samajik Surakhya Saathis (SSS) worked in identifying government schemes, online and offline application processing and liaising with different department officials to link beneficiaries to the schemes.

The SSS identified and enumerated 1174 cases of eligible persons without access to any schemes and submitted 515 applications to different authorities benefiting 217 eligible households with access to at least one social protection scheme.

Four Aadhaar camps organised in remote areas helped people who could not get scheme benefits because of anomalies in the Aadhaar Cards. Linking bank accounts with Aadhaar Card is a significant step for pension holders and MGNREGA card holders to get Direct Bank Transfer benefits.

STORY



Community Champions give hope and comfort to families

Thirty-eight-year-old Susant Kumar Sethi had worked as a technician in a power loom factory in Surat since 2007. He earned ₹18,000 every month and sent half of his earnings to his wife back home in Pankalasahi village in Birajpur Gram Panchayat in the Ganjam district. His wife, Nandini, lived with their two children and his mother, Saraswati Sethi. In 2016, Susant had to leave Surat and return to his village when he was diagnosed with oral cancer. His 62-year-old mother, Saraswati, farms their one-acre land to cultivate paddy, pulses, and vegetables. She takes help from her relatives and employs daily-wage labourers to work the land that produces food for the family for one year.

Jhunilata Nayak is a member of the volunteer group trained by Gram Vikas to provide occupational and financial literacy, emotional security, and access to social entitlements among migrant households in the Ganjam district. The support provided includes opening bank accounts, accessing health insurance schemes and mobilising women's groups to start productive enterprises.

When Jhunilata met Susant in September 2021, he mentioned enrolling in the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) scheme on the advice of a well-wisher from his village six years back. He had been regularly paying the annual premium of ₹330 though he was unaware of the scheme's benefits. Susant's wife, Nandini, had also enrolled in the scheme but was unaware of the benefits and procedure to access those. Susant had exhausted his savings and taken loans to meet the expenses for his three operations in the past six years. Jhunilata asked Susant to apply for the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) Health ID card.

A few weeks later, while conducting the door-to-door survey in 434 households in Pankalasahi, Jhunilata heard about Susant's death. Nandini informed Jhunilata that they had requested the ASHA worker to get Susant's death certificate released soon after he had passed away. They knew they needed this to submit the claim under PMJJBY but were unaware of the one-month deadline for claiming the insurance.

Jhunilata went to the Community Health Centre (CHC) in Buguda Block the same day and requested speedy processing of Susant's death certificate. Twenty-nine days after Susant's death, the CHC handed over the death certificate to his wife.

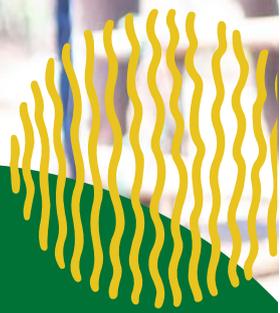
The day after getting the certificate, Jhunilata and Nandini reached the bank and filled out the required form to raise the insurance claim. Since it was the last day to raise the claim, they

requested the bank to help process it the same day. They submitted the necessary documentation, including a copy of the death certificate, his bank passbook, copies of Aadhar cards of policyholder and nominee, and the voter ID-card.

Nandini feels she could not have gotten the certificate if it was not for the support from Jhunilata, "I relied on the ASHA didi to get the death certificate released from the CHC. I don't think I would have received the certificate on time if Jhunilata had not pressured the CHC officials to release the certificate and persuaded the bank officials to urgently process the insurance claim. I am grateful to her for helping us at a time when my family lost the only earning member. I am also carrying the additional burden of paying off the loans we took to meet Susant's medical expenses. The money I will receive from the PMJJBY scheme will help to a great extent to reduce that burden."



A Community Champion conducts the door-to-door survey in a village in Buguda block of Ganjam district.



WATER

The Water Focus Area works to ensure continuous availability of safe drinking water, adequate flow of water for domestic and productive uses and sustainability of water resources. The focus area approach aligns with the Decade V approach, which envisages our work to be consolidated and expanded in a way as to make past results more sustainable and contribute further to improving the quality of life of the rural communities we work with.

In the last year, the Water Focus Area had two programmes.

- Water and Sanitation Infrastructure
- Water Source Sustainability

The Water Resources Technology Group (WRTG) provided technical and knowledge support.

Water and Sanitation Infrastructure



Gram Vikas has been supporting village communities to build, operate and maintain household sanitation facilities and piped water supply since 1995. It has been among Gram Vikas' most important development interventions. The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) has reduced the need for organisations like Gram Vikas to engage with issues of household-level sanitation infrastructure. With the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), the state government has provided functional household tap connections to all rural households necessitating a change in the activities taken up by Gram Vikas.

While both SBM and JJM have taken up work on a nationwide scale, there always are smaller, remotely located villages that do not get their due share. There are villages that need support for the upgradation and augmentation of such infrastructure created years ago. Our focus in the Water and Sanitation Infrastructure programme has been on such habitations.

During the year, we supported villages, where household toilets and bathing rooms had been built for all the households, to build their own piped water supply systems. It was to fulfil Gram Vikas's commitment to these communities that we would support them to ensure water supply

to all households. In such villages, we also worked to ensure that new families got the necessary support to build their toilets and bathing rooms, thus ensuring 100% coverage.

The Status Assessment Survey conducted in 2018, and 2019 gave us a clear understanding of the status of the infrastructure that Gram Vikas had supported building. We helped village communities to revive, repair, and strengthen them as necessary to ensure continued 100% coverage. We have adopted the Strengthening and Sustaining (SnS) approach to ensure that older village community partners are supported to sustain the results they achieved in the past.



Strengthening and Sustaining (SnS) Intervention

Gram Vikas initiated the Water and Sanitation Infrastructure Strengthening and Sustaining (SnS) intervention in 2021-22. The intervention aims to support village communities that built household and village-level sanitation and water infrastructure to revive, repair, and strengthen them to ensure further sustainability. In many villages, the infrastructure has become partially dysfunctional for various reasons. Some of these reasons are beyond the control of the Village Institution or the concerned household.

The SnS intervention is necessary for the context of changes that have emerged in the water and sanitation sector over the last few years. When many of the villages built such systems with the support of Gram Vikas, limited technological options were available. Construction methods, tools and equipment, water pumping technologies, and pipe materials have changed and improved.

As part of the rehabilitation efforts, we mobilised user contributions for household infrastructure repairs against the estimated repair cost. In some cases, Village Committee resources (Corpus Fund, other funds) were utilised for undertaking the village-level infrastructure repairs/augmentation, in addition to possible household contributions.



Household Level Water Meters

We are facilitating the installation of water meters in villages where new piped water supply systems are set up. Many households had inhibitions in accepting the metered use-based water tariff. The fear of not knowing the potential bill amount compared to the certainty of a flat rate contribution drove the fear.

The Village Development Committees and the operators underwent capacity-building activities to understand better and manage the meter setup. A cost-benefit analysis is being undertaken to determine if household-level meters improve revenue collection and the system's overall effects on maintenance and sustainability.

The social effects of metering programs for rural community-managed programs can have far-reaching environmental and societal benefits. The study hopes to cover such areas, which will help strengthen the ongoing efforts through the water source sustainability programme.

During the year,

	Work in piped water supply covered	Work in household sanitation infrastructure covered
	4,926 households	19,415 households
	83 habitations	593 habitations
	53 Gram Panchayats of 28 blocks	109 Gram Panchayats of 26 blocks
	13 districts of Odisha and Jharkhand	10 districts of Odisha and Jharkhand

Achievements in 2021-22

During the year, 33 habitations had Piped Water Supply Systems (PWSS) commissioned with 2,049 households getting Functional Household Tap Connections. All public institutions in these villages, such as the Anganwadi Centre, Primary Schools and Health Centres connected to the PWSS, receive water throughout the year.

We initiated the construction of PWS in 50 more villages, completed the repair and augmentation in 10 habitations, and Strengthening and Sustaining (SnS) Interventions in 587 villages.

Additionally, intensive survey and estimation work across 27 GPs covered 254 communities. The staff motivated 58 beneficiaries to take up construction works using their local resources.

STORY



Jayanti Mahanta in front of her toilet and bathing room in her house in Ghodaghaguri village, Mayurbhanj district.

Three women's persistence solves the water crisis in a village

Jashoda Mohanta arrived at the village Ghodaghaguri as a new bride in 2012. She was shocked when she realised there were no toilets in her new house. Jashoda was not used to defecating in the open or fetching water from outside. But Ghodaghaguri in the Mayurbhanj district of Odisha faced a severe water crisis.

Jashoda remembers the struggle, "For women, it was a daily struggle to find a safe place in the vacant area next to the pond or defecating along the canal banks. They were not only vulnerable to snake bites but also feared for their safety". Though the village had seven tube wells, only three had safe water fit for drinking. The remaining four wells provided only muddy water unsafe for drinking and household purposes.

Instead of complaining about her situation, she decided to sensitise others about the need for an in-house toilet. "Young girls go out and defecate in the open. It is not only unsafe but also embarrassing. But men do not understand this," says Jashoda thinking about her struggle to convince the community to get a water and sanitation system in the village.

Back home in her village, Sialijoda in Keonjhar district, women did not spend hours fetching water. Sialijoda's women had led the efforts to bring safe water and sanitation to their village community by partnering with Gram Vikas. By 2010-11, all houses in the village had 24x7 household piped water supply, toilets, and bathing rooms. Jashoda knew she had to do the same in Ghodaghaguri.

She began motivating the residents to support her in constructing toilets and bathing rooms (TBRs) in homes and installing a piped water system in the village. "Not everyone agreed at the time. Some 15 families refused to budge. They found the cost of constructing the bathroom and toilets beyond their means. But for Gram Vikas to help us, we had to have the approval of all the residents," she says.

Like Jashoda, Rashmi Rekha Mohanta and Jayanti Mohanta went door to door explaining the benefits of having piped water at home. Though both women did not receive any support from their husbands, they decided to do daily house visits. Women who wanted to join the campaign were rebuked at home and outside by the men. Men refused to give money for constructing a bathing room and a toilet. They believed that women had, for generations, fetched water for cleaning, cooking, and washing and that it should continue. Some others thought that money spent on sanitation at home was unnecessary and wasteful.

When more women joined them, Rashmi Rekha, Jayanti, and Jashoda persisted with their requests to the village committee for a chance to engage with residents on the sanitation issue during village meetings. After over a year of meetings and convincing, most residents agreed to build a sanitation system for their village. In 2013, the Village Development Committee (VDC) finally agreed and reached out to Gram Vikas.

For 15 families in the village who were not ready to build TBRs in their homes, as they could not afford the cost, the Village Water and Sanitation Committee (VWSC) supported by contributing ₹1000 per household. In November 2014, work on constructing the TBRs started. By 2018, all 101 households of Ghodaghaguri had built their toilets and bathing rooms. The community, with support from Gram Vikas, completed the work on the piped water supply system in August 2021.

Every household started receiving safe water in their three taps. Jayanti Mahanta, a member of the VDC, and Maa Parbati SHG cannot hide her excitement, "Last two weeks have been a dream come true. I can cook meals and serve food to my family on time. My son used to go to his coaching classes in the morning without breakfast as I was engaged in fetching water. I have more time to rear and look after my goats. I am planning to increase my livestock for better income".



Women of Ghodaghaguri during the construction of the piped water supply system in their village.

Water Source Sustainability



The work within this thematic area has been planned and taken up as part of Gram Vikas' efforts to mobilise and support the village communities to address the rapidly deteriorating ecological balance, leading to adverse effects on the overall quality of life. Over the years, owing to variations in rainfall patterns, land use changes and forest cover reduction, water sources have dried up or become seasonal with low discharge.

Afforestation and land development work in the previous years aimed to enable communities with limited access to forest resources to create, own and manage their own productive forests. The interventions have also led to pulses and oil seeds cultivated as intercrops on the hills. From the three years of experience taking up social forestry plantations, we have realised that more needs to be done to restore the ecological balance and make the land-forest-based livelihood systems more sustainable.

Planting trees on the degraded hills initially was a measure to prevent soil erosion and protect water sources. While this in itself will significantly contribute to improving the situation, we feel that the focus of planting trees has to move to restore the larger bio-diversity and ecological balance as well. The choice of species planted will be the crucial matter here. Presently, the focus is on sturdy species with a fast growth rate and those that can withstand browsing/grazing by cattle.

In future plantations, we will also focus on small fruit-bearing wild, growing trees that will enable the return of birds and smaller animals. The return of birds will have a substantial effect on the natural regeneration process, and it is expected that we will be able to add the presence of birds in the plantations as an indicator to be measured.



Jal Bandhu

Gram Vikas launched the Jal Bandhu fellowship in 2021 with eight fellows trained on springshed, watershed management and its monitoring. They also implemented the project activities in the communities to gain on-site experience.

Once trained, they conducted refresher training and capacity building for VDC members and cadres from the neighbouring villages in the Gram Panchayat. The fellows mapped and inventoried water sources in the area to create a 5-year village groundwater plan, forming the basis for the work undertaken in the Gram Panchayat.

The first batch of eight fellows graduated in March 2022. With increasing focus on water source sustainability activities under MGNREGS and the newly launched Jal Jeevan Mission, there will be a demand for technically trained local youths who can assist Gram Panchayats with the implementation of soil and water conservation works. They have also taken up nursery establishment in the area continuously.

Gram Vikas believes it's possible to build an entrepreneurial system around plantation nurseries that can cater to the Gram Panchayats' local needs and that of Gram Vikas. We expect the nursery operations to become self-reliant from the second year, enabling the entrepreneurs to set up and run viable enterprises.

During the year,

Work on Water Source Sustainability covered



20,605 households



501 habitations



76 Gram Panchayats of 29 blocks



10 districts of Odisha

Achievements in 2021-22

Newly built water harvesting structures increased water access for irrigation on 80 acres of land. Two hundred ninety-eight acres of the catchment area had new water recharge infrastructure built following the springshed and watershed principles.

Completion of mapping and inventorying of spring-based water resources in 150 habitations for the Spring Water Atlas, produced information on springs in the form of an online GIS inventory that is available for monitoring and future planning.

A total of 314 Village Institution Service Providers (VISPs) got trained with technical skills for monitoring afforestation and land development work. Two central nurseries set up in Thuamul Rampur Block of Kalahandi cater to the year-round requirement of saplings for afforestation works. Fruit-bearing species were introduced into the central nursery to increase diversity among plantations. In three habitations, the seed ball method for random dissemination of seeds yielded a success rate of close to 40% germination.

STORY



Women participate in the plantation work in Nuasahi village, Jagannathprasad block, Ganjam district.

Community action for strengthening springs

Nuasahi is a small habitation in Odisha in Tarasingi Gram Panchayat of Ganjam District. All 35 households in the village have a tap connection supplied from a spring. The village receives water throughout the year, sufficient for household consumption and other domestic uses. However, the spring dries during summer, and the village faces a water shortage. “Two or three years ago, we had sufficient water availability. We used it for drinking, for domestic purposes and for farming as well. We never had to depend on other sources of water. Now we struggle to fulfil the water for drinking purposes also,” says Murali Jani, a resident of Nuasahi.

Gram Vikas conducted a close analysis of the springshed area. We found that the intake well did not receive sufficient water due to increased rainwater runoff in the spring’s catchment area. The most runoff was in the empty patches of land near the intake well area. The village collectively decided to plant trees around the catchment area of the spring.

During community meetings, the residents discussed the plantations in the reserve forest area by the Forest Department. They suggested plantations around the intake well and catchment area and getting support from the Forest Department. Gram Vikas staff then took this issue to the Forest Department, who agreed to provide 1,200 saplings.

The community planted saplings of plants such as Simarouba (planted for its water holding capacity), Tamarind (as it is not cut off for usage by the Adivasi communities) and Amla (for its soil holding capacity). All the work was done voluntarily by the villagers. They see it as an investment today to secure future generations’ water needs when climate change has affected natural resources.

The Village Committee and SHG members have taken the responsibility of caring for the plants. Through this activity, they understood the need to secure their water needs. They have decided to work further towards this by working on small drainages and runoff areas of the springshed. They will reach out to the forest department and MGNREGS for this work.

Mandakini Jani from Maa Changudi SHG talks about the urgency to act now, “20-30 years ago, when we were growing up, the water did not have any price. It was free and available to everybody in sufficient quantity. Nowadays, there is a price to pay for water. We must spend even to drink water when we go out in the town or cities. The condition from 30-40 years from now will be more drastic. We need to take steps now.”

Water Resource Technology Group



Vertical Electrical Sounding Testing in S Badapur village, Samanthurapur in Patrapur block, Ganjam district.

The Water Resources Technology Group (WRTG) was set up in January 2020 to provide technology and knowledge support to programme teams in water resource management. The group aims to provide inputs for preparing water security plans at the Gram Panchayat (GP) level, combining scientific and indigenous knowledge of natural resources.

The group provided technical support to Gram Vikas programme activities in terms of assessing potential water sources for habitations for domestic and livelihood needs, research and analysis on water resources, preparing groundwater prospect maps for better village level/GP level planning, and providing data-based inputs on identification, testing, development and conservation of water resources, incorporating indigenous knowledge and practices in development and conservation of water sources and developing the capacity of field staff and village cadres on water resources for the Water Secure Gram Panchayat Programme.

Achievements in 2021-22

During the year, the group played an essential role in building the capacities of staff and village-level service providers to implement the Water Secure Gram Panchayat Programme. The work focused primarily on the 27 Gram Panchayats from the first phase of the Water Secure Gram Panchayat Programme. In these GPs, the group created a database on water resources, undertook groundwater inventory mapping and prepared groundwater potential maps. They also set up rain gauge networks.



LIVELIHOODS

Our work in the area of Livelihoods has focussed on building institutional and technical capabilities of village communities to engage with markets and improve their production systems. Over the last few years, the efforts have been to bring different tracks of work into a more common approach with these two key objectives. The work in 2021-22 can be seen as an additional step in the right direction. Work on strengthening livelihoods is an integral part of both the programme platforms – the Water Secure Gram Panchayat Programme and the Safe and Dignified Migration Programme. It is expected that the approaches, activities and results in this Focus Area will gain in the coming years, from the work done during 2021-22.

During the year, our work was organised in two programmatic areas.

- Farm livelihood
- Safe and Dignified Migration

Farm Livelihoods



The work under this programme area covers all aspects of farm and off-farm production systems. We found that producer collectives are necessary to strengthen the work around crop husbandry and horticulture crops. Clusters such as farmer producer groups (FPG) have eased farming operations through collective planning, input, and harvest management. Integration of technology, especially access to weather information and agri-advisory, is an area of emerging work.

During the year,

Work on Farm Livelihoods covered



5,956 households



121 habitations



25 Gram Panchayats of 10 blocks



6 districts of Odisha

Achievements in 2021-22

Farmer Collectives

Two Farmer Producer Companies – the Prakruti Bandhu FPC in Ganjam district and Pattani Samanta FPC in Nayagarh district – with an active membership of more than 800 farmer households, took up various activities to strengthen the income base of their members. Improved package of practices, water availability-based cropping planning, collective procurements of farm inputs etc., are being done.

Thirty-seven new Producer Groups, with 450 farmers, have been formed during the year. These groups are the first step toward building a bigger collective. Each farmer contributes ₹1,000 as a joining fee, and the group maintains a bank account and necessary records. The groups are formed after a thorough land and resource mapping, documenting the cropping pattern, market information and key issues related to farming.

The Groups get support for crop planning, seed selection and seed treatment. Improved cropping patterns and livestock management suitable to agroecology are promoted through a mix of traditional and modern approaches. Farmer-to-farmer peer learning sessions on crop and livestock management guide them to adopt good crop and livestock practices. Thirty-four FPGs revealed an increase in income up to ₹6,800 per acre on average from the improved package of practices in rice and vegetable crops.

Localised weather forecast and crop advisories

Four new weather stations were installed during the year in Nayagarh, Gajapati, Ganjam and Kandhamal districts. The Weather Forecast uses the base data collected by these weather stations to generate forecasts for villages in a 10km radius from the weather stations. Through a technique known as statistical downscaling, weather station data allows the forecast accuracy to go above 85% within the 10km radius. Currently, 1,758 farmers in 74 villages receive these forecasts.

Other activities

We are piloting a model of Bio-floc model fisheries to encourage fisheries-based livelihoods. The promotion of community pisciculture with scientific inputs is picking up, and we worked on promoting improved Goat Husbandry to strengthen animal husbandry activities.

In the Chandaka and Nayagarh project areas, activities were planned with women SHGs in convergence with Mission Shakti and the Banks for raising loans to the SHGs. Business units were established for mushroom production, poultry farming and bio-floc fisheries. We coordinated with input suppliers and linked them with the respective SHGs in the form of entrepreneurship development training.



Dambapur Canal Renovation

The Mahendra Tanaya Canal (Dambapur Canal) in the Gajapati district is a marvel built using the traditional stone masonry knowledge of the local Lanjia Saura tribe. Gram Vikas worked with the community in 2000-01 to strengthen the canal system, increasing irrigation potential.

The canal is fully gravity-led and optimally uses the perennial stream that arises in the Bisampadu forest, near Dambapur village in Karadasing Gram Panchayat of Rayagada block. The total length of the canal is 2.1 kilometres. Before the severe cyclone Titli in October 2018, the canal benefited nearly 1,345 farming families from 17 villages. The landslides caused by the cyclone severely damaged the canal. Since then, the command area of the canal has shrunk substantially and left the locales prone to water scarcity for agriculture.

Gram Vikas facilitated the repair work of the canal infrastructure with the community's support and contribution. The Mahendra Tanaya Canal Committee mobilised nearly ₹10 lakh from local resources, including members' contribution of ₹1.2 lakh. The community undertook the hard job of breaking the larger stones obstructing the canal path and used the stones in the repair work. The villagers contributed 1,024 person-days of work. The Gram Panchayat contributed 100 kg of rice and ₹1,000 for pulses so that the community could stay at the work site to do the job.

After the partial repair, water reaches nearly 150 acres benefitting 250 marginal and small farmers. Gram Vikas has plans with the Canal Committee to cater for the water needs of around 860 households. We will undertake phase-wise repairs of the sub-canal and branches with community contribution and local materials.



Villagers of Dambapur and surrounding villages come together to inaugurate the Mahendra Tanaya canal, Dambapur village.

STORY



Krushna Chandra Bhuyan in his field in Raghunathpur village, Rayagada block, Gajapati district.

Boosting productivity and incomes through crop planning

Krushna Chandra Bhuyan is a marginal farmer from Raghunathpur village of Rayagada block in Gajapati district who cultivates tomatoes on half an acre of land during the winter season.

“During the Rabi season in 2020, in September, I cultivated only tomatoes hoping to harvest 25-28 tons over a three-month period.” He had invested ₹10,000 for buying fertilisers, pesticides, field preparation labour, and electricity costs for running a motor for irrigation. After meeting the input cost, he had hoped to earn ₹45,000 during this period as tomatoes sell at a high price during the beginning of the season.

In the past years, during the same time, he sold tomatoes at ₹25 per kg in the wholesale market. But unseasonal and heavy rainfall washed away more than half of his crop, causing a considerable loss. “Heavy rainfall during October 2021 washed away more than sixty percent of my crops. I could only recover the input cost of ₹10,000 from the crop that survived. I needed the money badly during that time but could not earn even a rupee.”

In December 2021, with the help of an agriculture specialist, Gram Vikas conducted awareness sessions on agriculture, nutrition, water budgeting, organic farming, nursery raising, and composting. During the sessions conducted in Raghunathpur, farmers from two Farmer Producer Groups (FPGs), Maa Thakurani Krusaka Utpadaka of Raghunathpur village and Anugraha Krusaka Utpadaka Goshti from Saura Kujasing village were present.

Krushna, a member of Maa Thakurani Krusaka Utpadaka Farmer Producer Group, says attending these sessions made a lot of sense to him, “If a small farmer like me cultivates multiple crops on a single piece of land, crops which are comparatively resilient will help salvage the situation even if there is inclement weather. If one crop cannot survive an unfavourable climate condition, another crop growing on the same land might survive. This time, I shall cultivate tomatoes, radish, and grow pumpkins as a border crop. This will minimise my loss to a great extent and will not be a total washout.”

Farmers, with the help of the agriculture specialist, prepared crop plans for Kharif and Rabi seasons. The plans were based on the previous year’s agriculture data and local weather conditions. The aim was to promote crop diversity. Through crop planning, farmers are provided with low-cost technical solutions to help them improve irrigation methods, fight pest attacks and practice mixed cropping. The initiative will cover 450 farmers in 38 villages in Gajapati and 643 farmers in 10 villages in Nayagarh district.

Safe and Dignified Migration



The Safe Migration programme was initiated on a pilot basis in 2019 and has grown to become a key programme platform. The Safe and Dignified Migration (SDM) programme platform encompasses all the components developed through these pilot experiences with the work on Village Institutions and Habitat & Technology.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought back our focus on the lack of support systems for migrants and their dependents. Hence, setting up a system-level approach to migration which can address the issues of migrants and their dependents in an integrated manner was the main thrust of work in the year 2021-2022.

The programme covered



3,244 households



533 habitations



18 Gram Panchayats of 2 blocks



Odisha's Kalahandi and Kandhamal districts

Resource Centres for Migrant Workers



Shramik Bandhu Seva Kendra in Berhampur, Ganjam district.

The idea of a Migration Resource Centre (MRC) progressed from the pilot to the scale-up phase during the year. The individual components of MRC identified during the pilot phase in Thuamul Rampur are:

1. Shramik Bandhu Seva Kendra at Block level at Source in Odisha
2. Bandhu Shramik Seva Kendra at District level at Destination in Kerala
3. Community Champion network at Source
4. Helpline network for Grievance Redressal

We replicated the model successfully in Kalahandi's Daringbadi block during the year's second half. There are 16 community champions working in the two blocks, covering 16 Gram Panchayats.

Achievements in 2021-22

The telephone helpline for migrant workers encountering challenges and exploitation at the workplace acted as a robust grievance redressal mechanism resolving 71% of the grievances reported on the helpline.

The main achievements at the source in Odisha during the year were opening bank accounts for migrant dependents, insurance coverage (mainly PMJJY), enrolment of migrant dependents into SHG networks, and encouraging productive investments (like Rice Mill) with remittance incomes. In total, 492 migrant households began using the formal banking system for remittances, and 434 migrant workers secured access to insurance products and schemes.

The main achievements at the destination in Kerala were above 80% COVID-19 vaccination coverage for migrants in Ernakulam district, providing ambulance services for deceased migrants, and arranging compensatory payment by the employer in cases of unfair termination.

■ Skill upgradation in the construction sector



Many young people in the villages engage in construction work as unskilled workers as helpers to masons. To enhance their skill in masonry, Gram Vikas facilitated a three-month residential skill enhancement training at L&T Construction Skill Centre, Cuttack. In 2021-22, Gram Vikas trained 32 candidates in two batches and provided placement assistance in L&T construction sites. Some of the trainees continued working in their locality.

Achievements in 2021-22

The practical training conducted by highly qualified instructors helped the candidates gain a two-fold increase in their daily wages. The candidates have started earning about ₹ 500- ₹ 600 per day in their respective areas. Gram Vikas provided financial support by partially compensating their wage loss during the training period.

Skill training for Geriatric Caregivers



Gram Vikas began a partnership with Life Circle Health Services Pvt Ltd., Hyderabad, in November 2019 to facilitate a three-month residential training on geriatric caregiving to young men and women. Gram Vikas Mohuda campus has a dedicated Geriatric Training Centre. The training consists of one month of theory and demonstration classroom training at the Centre and two months of on-job-training at Hyderabad. The candidates are from impoverished families with an average monthly family income of about ₹5000. Most of the candidates are high school dropouts.

Achievements in 2021-22

During 2021-22, 59 students got trained and placed in Hyderabad, taking the total number to 122. The trainees earned an average between ₹ 8000 to ₹ 12000 during the initial months. The incomes increased to ₹20,000 within a year, depending on their performance.

STORY



Making banking accessible to migrant workers

Santasila Majhi of Jabang village, under Kaniguma Gram Panchayat in Kalahandi district, is a migrant worker in Kerala. Every month, Santasila would deposit money to a relative's bank account, who would then withdraw and send the cash to his family. Balabhadra Nayak, 22 years, from Karang village, in Thuamul Gram Panchayat, has been working in stone quarries in the Rayagada district of Odisha for two years. He returns to his village once in six months, carrying the entire sum of his earnings in cash.

Like Santasila and Balabhadra, thousands of migrant workers who migrate for work remit money to their families through friends, relatives or anyone else in their village having a bank account.

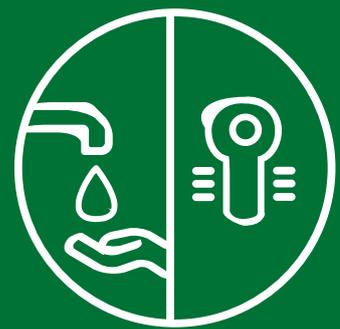
Balabhadra visited the bank in Gunupur, 10 km from his village, twice but could not open a bank account. "The bank officials thrust a form in my hands and asked me to fill it up. I didn't know how to fill out the form and didn't have the necessary documents. I was unable to understand the formalities required. So, I came back", he says.

Community Champions in the Safe and Dignified Migration programme identifies the migrants and their dependants without a bank account. They conducted financial literacy campaigns in villages to help them understand the process and documents required for opening bank accounts.

For workers in the destination locations, they coordinated with the employers to open bank accounts. At the source level, they provided the necessary support to open bank accounts for migrant dependents.

Santasila has a bank account now and no longer relies on his relatives. "This passbook gives me a sense of confidence. It's a big thing for us as my wife can now plan to save some money in this account from what I earn from Kerala", says Santasila.

More than half of the migrant workers from the Kalahandi district who work outside the state earn more than ₹9,000 per month. Opening bank accounts and promoting cashless transactions will encourage them to save more for the future.



SANITATION & HEALTH

The Sanitation & Health focus area aims to ensure adherence to safe personal, household, and community sanitation and hygiene practices by everyone in a community for better health and nutrition outcomes. The work will build the capacities of village communities and local village institutions to encourage individual behaviour change, influence social norms of healthy hygiene practices, and enable sustainable behaviour change.

During 2021-22, the programmes under the Sanitation & Health Focus Area were:

- Safe Water
- Health and Hygiene

Work on Sanitation & Health covered



15,710 households



303 habitations

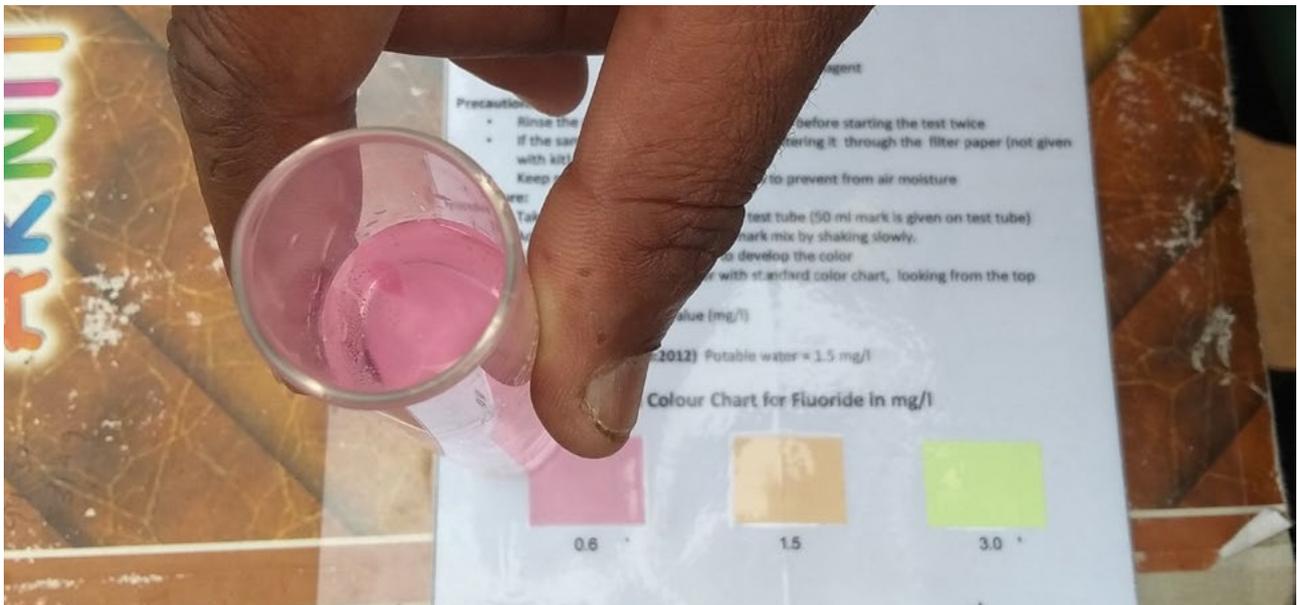


79 Gram Panchayats of
37 blocks



14 districts of Odisha and Jharkhand

Safe Water



The Safe Water programme integrates the outcomes of WaSH Behaviour and Water Quality Management. It focuses on water quality surveillance and tracing the geohydrological and behavioural factors that lead to water contamination. The overall approach is to enable village communities to monitor drinking water quality and sanitation and hygiene behaviours at home and community level for making drinking water safer at all times. This involves building awareness and technical capabilities in water sample testing, sanitary surveys, and infrastructure repairs that are needed. On the behavioural part, aspects related to transportation, storage and handling of water are covered.

The key step in the programme is the training and handholding for Village Institution Service Providers (VISP) for water quality surveillance and management. The VDC selects a person from the village who has studied at least up to Class 8 and can operate a smartphone as the VISP. Gram Vikas staff sensitises them on safe water properties, the necessity for testing and how it impacts health. They are trained in using the field-testing kit (FTK) to test fluoride, bacteria and nitrate in the water.

The FTK consists of equipment like test tubes, reagents and colour charts. The testing is done on water samples collected from various taps in the village. Testing for bacterial contamination is done on samples collected from the household. The tests take 10 minutes in the case of the nitrate test and up to 36 hours for the bacteria test. The VISP uploads the test results to the mWater app in her/his smartphone after comparing water colour against the colour charts.

The VISP share the test results with the VDC, who calls for a General Body meeting. During the meeting, the VISP explains the test results in detail. In case of contamination, the residents discuss ways to resolve the problem and decide the money needed for the repairs depending on the extent of repair. After that, the VDC members mobilise the resource in the village.

Achievements in 2021-22

Community-led water quality surveillance and management systems were made functional in 251 villages. In these villages, the village institutions manage their water quality systems independently without external support. In about 25% of the villages with identified water quality issues in potable water, the villages took action to mitigate the same on their own.

Gram Vikas team learned about different technical aspects of Water Quality with the technical support of INREM Foundation. The topics included BIS Standards, Sampling, Testing, Health and Nutrition, Mitigation, and Behavioural Change Communication strategies.

We set up SUJAL, the Water Quality Testing Laboratory and Training Centre at Mohuda. The facility will serve as the central hub for our work in the area of Safe Water in the coming days. We also set up a community-managed water quality lab in Ikri village in Nayagarh district. A Self-Help Group of women will own and manage the lab.



Collaboration with INREM Foundation on Water Quality capacity building

Gram Vikas became a part of the Water Quality Network led by the INREM Foundation. INREM and Gram Vikas worked together to create an effective water quality surveillance system in villages through staff capacity building and peer-to-peer learning.

The two organisations initiated a cross-learning platform for participants in Odisha and guided mentoring sessions in Odia. Sessions were organised and facilitated with around 40 participants, where Gram Vikas staff members presented case studies. The collaboration covered efforts to streamline Water Quality Management through brainstorming about solutions, with an intensive focus on Fluoride contamination and information dissemination through digitised IEC materials.

STORY



Gram Vikas staff demonstrating the water testing kit before the members of the Village Development Committee of Mandapathar village in Jagannathprasad block, Ganjam district.

Women-led Drinking Water Management

Mandapathar, a village in Jagannath Prasad block in Ganjam District, suffered from a lack of water and power supply. Twenty-two women from the village came together and partnered with Gram Vikas to get piped water supply, toilets, and bathing rooms. These women also became leaders of water quality management in the community.

Drapadi Jani, President of Mandapathar Village Development Committee, looks back on the struggle for water by the women of her village. “We held awareness meetings in the village for putting a piped water and sanitation system in place. None of the men supported us at that time.” When women of all 22 households agreed to own a sanitation system and piped water at any cost, Gram Vikas agreed to set up the system in the village.

Little by little, these women saved money. They collected leaves from the forest and made leaf plates to sell in the village market, worked as daily wagers during road construction in Khajuripalli village at the time or as labourers at construction sites earning up to ₹90 per day. The women could save enough within one year to make the initial contribution of ₹1,000 for the corpus fund kept in a bank on a fixed deposit. The Village Development Committee will use the interest to provide financial assistance to new families in the village to build toilets and bathing rooms.

The women’s determination to construct the TBR inspired a few men from our village to work on building the overhead water tank. “In 2012, pipes were laid, and water was supplied to our homes with the help of solar power. Our village still does not get power supply, but we have come a long way in our battle for water,” said Basanti Jani, Secretary of Mandapathar Village Development Committee (VDC).

Their problems did not end there. In 2020, the village had a severe incidence of diarrhoea, scabies, and flu. Women and children faced the brunt and fell ill regularly. In December 2020, the Gram Vikas team tested water from household tap connections and found it contaminated. Later, the team found cracked pipes in two places, and the valves had sprung up leaks. Water was tested from these two points and found contaminated with bacteria causing diarrhoea and scabies.

In January 2021, Anjani Jani became a trained Water Quality Management cadre in the Gram Vikas programme to ensure access to safe water free from bacteria and other particulate matter. She talks about the collective strength of women in making safe water a reality for every home in the village, “Unlike other villages, our village is in darkness, but we have ensured piped water supply to every household. The water supplied is safe for drinking now. I got training and have learned the water testing protocols. We do not have any cases of diarrhoea or itching anymore.” Anjani Jani is one of the 22 community-level water quality cadres in the Ganjam district of Odisha.



The health and hygiene programme integrates and deepens the water and sanitation interventions to ensure better health and nutrition outcomes. Promotion of the use of sanitation infrastructure by all household members and improving waste management practices at home and the community level are among the key elements of the programme.



Community-led solid waste management

The villages in Nayagarh district where we took up the holistic rural development programmes have a high density of population and peri-urban features. Solid waste disposal is a serious issue in these villages. Under the leadership of the Village Development Committees (VDCs), we helped establish an integrated waste management system in these villages.

In 2019-20, we conducted a detailed waste assessment. The communities have been practising source segregation at the village level since then. We supported the setting up Waste Sorting Centres at two locations, which facilitate community-level awareness of solid waste and its management. Chandibasta and Balugaon Gram Panchayats in Nayagarh Block provided land for the construction of the sorting centres.

Waste Management Committees facilitate the collection of non-degradable waste from nearly 2600 families in 13 villages on a fortnightly basis. Each Centre engages two individuals to collect the waste from villages in a vehicle and sort them.

Initially, one of the Centres earned an income of ₹28,000 from the sale of scrap items. The committees have bank accounts and maintain the books of accounts and stock details of the collection, user fees collected from individual households and village shops, wages paid to the personnel and maintenance cost of the vehicle and sorting centre. The estimate is that a centre can generate an annual income of ₹4.1 lakh from the waste items. Gram Vikas team provide hand-holding support for at least a year to make the units independently functional.

Another aspect is focusing on adolescent health, efficient management of menstrual hygiene, and teaching life skills for growing into healthier individuals.



Adolescent Groups

Most villages have adolescent girls' groups attached to Anganwadi Centres, and the Anganwadi Worker facilitates these groups. Distribution of sanitary pads and dry nutrition as the major activities. Gram Vikas teams identified the need to support adolescents with awareness of life skills, hygiene practices, and nutrition requirements for a healthy adulthood. The involvement of boys is vital in many ways, and so is the formation of peer groups to learn from each other.

The team formed Adolescent groups of boys and girls aged 10 to 14. The groups discussed issues like growing up, nutrition, menstrual health and life skills. The engagement was challenging in the initial phase. The team resolved the same with creative approaches by engaging the youngsters through cultural activities, sports events and art competitions.

Achievements in 2021-22

Regular monitoring of the use of toilets and bathing rooms by the village committee has resulted in 126 villages certifying themselves truly Open Defecation Free.

In 238 villages, 2657 households set up backyard nutrition gardens for proper disposal of wastewater generated from the kitchen and bathing room. A total of 4500 households practise solid waste segregation at source. Seven villages established a solid waste management mechanism at the village level.



Source-level Segregation

Biodegradable waste, such as farm and farm yard waste, kitchen and food waste, usually goes to agricultural fields and the backyard. Non-biodegradable waste, especially polythene, unclassified plastics, rubber, etc., is often disposed of with organic waste in landfills or burnt. The disposal practices lead to unhealthy surroundings and health disorders.

Gram Vikas initiated the awareness on waste management and disposal in 2019-20. During the year, we strengthened the process. Women's groups and the Village Institution Service Providers received training in understanding types of waste and "segregating" them according to their category.

Women and children exchange old paper, plastic bottles, and metal waste with scrap vendors for food items, toys, cosmetics, or cash. The programme tries to optimise these occasional practices and mainstream source-level waste segregation. Communities are also encouraged to minimise single-use plastics and use and throw items.

All adolescent boys and girls in 109 villages were part of peer groups that allowed them to come together, discuss and learn about menstrual hygiene management and life skills.

STORY



Adolescent girls lead health conversations and actions in villages

“We don’t talk about issues we face during menstrual days; we find it hard to dispose of used sanitary napkins. We use sanitary pads as we know this, but not sure if all the girls of our region are using and safely disposing of them”, says L. Kalyani of Nuagaon in the Gajapati district. She is one among the 16 girls in the adolescent peer group.

Kalyani adds, “We learnt from the sessions we attended that we should eat healthy food during this adolescent period as this happens to be the age where significant changes happen in our bodies. We need adequate iron supplements to replenish the blood loss due to monthly menstrual cycles”.

The adolescent group meets weekly, discusses sanitation and hygiene issues, and promotes appropriate WASH and nutrition behaviour. The group support children in the village with creative learning. Women in the community celebrate Nutrition Week at the Anganwadi Centres.

Rashmita Khanduala, the Anganwadi worker in Kujasingi, shares, “We observe the Nutrition Education events, especially the Nutrition Week. It is an appropriate space to discuss the 1000-day nutrition concept. Gram Vikas shares the importance of eating a balanced diet, water quality and the relevance of WASH behaviour in nutrition through the women and adolescent groups”.

“WASH interventions such as availability of safe water for drinking, use and maintenance of toilets and the water supply systems, solid waste and grey water management are some critical components of the programme. These simple yet important behaviours and practices help keep the infectious diseases especially diarrhoea at bay”, adds Manjula Ragas, SHG member from Nuagaon village.



The Habitat & Technology Focus Area works toward building Gram Vikas' capacities for creating sustainable and dignified habitats and physical quality of life for rural communities. The focus area promotes the use of renewable and appropriate technology options. The programmes under this focus area help build enabling environments for other programmes of Gram Vikas, in addition to creating an impact on its own.

The two programmes during the year were:

- Renewable Energy
- Smart Community Interface

Renewable Energy



The purpose of the programme is to establish and introduce energy-efficient technologies to improve rural infrastructure and harness energy to supplement the livelihoods of the rural community. Energy for cooking, lighting, and water pumping has been identified as a high priority for the communities where Gram Vikas operates.

Gram Vikas works on technology innovation to promote the use of energy-efficient technologies. Simultaneously, Gram Vikas will focus on innovating knowledge-sharing processes that enhance participation of communities, from monetary and labour contributions, towards taking up greater responsibility in managing and sustaining the installed systems.

During the year,

Work in the Renewable Energy programme covered



6,875 households



93 habitations



40 Gram Panchayats of 18 blocks



5 districts in Odisha and Jharkhand

Achievements in 2021-22

Seventy-three villages had solar pumps installed for the village-level piped water supply system to augment water supply and meet seasonal water deficit. Solar-based home lighting solutions in 250 households gave them access to a consistent electricity supply for home lighting throughout the year.

Ten village-level cadres and operators received training in preventive and general maintenance to ensure the sustainability of the solar pumping systems and the mini-grids. We initiated work for reviving and augmenting the micro hydro project in Karnibel village of Thuamul Rampur block of Kalahandi.



STORY



Lighting up homes with solar energy

“We have been living without electricity for a year now. Our village has a grid connection, but the transformer malfunctioned in March 2021. Nobody from the government department knows about the failure or ever comes for maintenance. We do not know where and to whom we should report for getting this fixed. Somebody was saying the machine has to be replaced and it costs a lot,” says Peru Majhi from Kanjiguda village in Sindhipadar Gram Panchayat of Thuamul Rampur block, Kalahandi district.

Peru is a farmer growing pulses and paddy on the one acre of land he owns. The produce he gets is for self-consumption, and the surplus he sells in the market. Peru also has livestock which he raises and sells in the market. His wife, Nargi Majhi, helps him in his work. They earn nearly ₹20,000 – 30,000 in a year. Peru and Nargi have three children, two daughters and one son.

Peru received a solar home lighting system in October 2021. They use the home lighting system for household purposes and children’s studies. They charge the system in the sunlight and use it when it is dark. “We use the light from 6 pm till we go to sleep. During this time, we finish our household work like cooking, cleaning, arranging beds, and children’s studies.”

Indu Majhi, Peru’s elder daughter, appeared for the matriculation exam this year. “I was hopeless about studies until we got this light. It came to my rescue during my class 10 board exam. Our schools were closed due to the COVID-19 lockdown. We couldn’t learn in school. The home lighting system at least helped me study for 4-5 months at home. I could prepare well for my exams. I have done well in my papers and am waiting for my results.”

Bipin Singh Majhi, Peru’s son, is in Class 6 in Sindhipadar Upper Primary School. The school is open now after two years. Every day, Bipin cycles four kilometres to his school. He is at school from 6 to 10 am and studies for 2-3 hours using the light at home in the evening.

Jogindra Majhi, 11 years old, is in Class 7 in the same school as Bipin. He has received the home lighting system and uses it daily for studies. “We charge the system till 1 pm through solar panels, placing it over the roof. We use it in the evening when it is going to be dark. I can now study in the evening even if electricity is not there at home,” says Jogindra.

Peru says, “All the users in the village say that the home lighting system is of good quality and gives long back up. The light is very bright and fills the room. There is no complaint from anyone yet. It is helping households do their work even in the dark, which otherwise used to be really challenging. Earlier, we used kerosene lanterns, which had poor light, was expensive and the smoke was hazardous to health too.”

Smart Community Interface

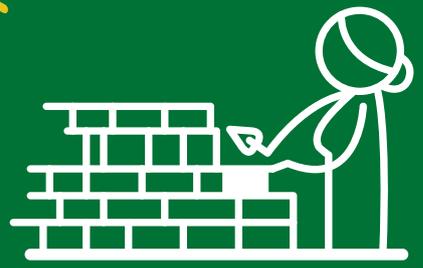


The Smart Community Interface programme aims to develop a community-owned and managed model of resource management using information and communication technologies to improve the quality of life of village communities in areas with limited physical access and connectivity.

The project's pilot stage has been ongoing for more than three years. The task is to put together the hardware architecture, content, software applications, and management mechanisms for village-level information-communication systems in remote villages without regular internet/mobile access.

During 2021-22, we continued the work in five villages in three districts. These villages in no-network areas got access to an information network. Ten ICDS beneficiaries successfully used content on Safe Water on the Smart Community app. Five migrant dependents in no-network regions were able to communicate with their family members working in locations outside Odisha.





DISASTER RESPONSE

Relief support in Cyclone Yaas affected areas



Community kitchens were set up to cook and serve hot meals to those affected by Cyclone Yaas in Balasore and Mayurbhanj districts.

Association for India's Development (AID) supported Gram Vikas in extending food and nutrition security through agriculture and drinking water interventions for the people affected by Cyclone Yaas in Balasore and Mayurbhanj districts in Odisha. The cyclone affected more than 118 villages, with approximately 2 lakh people. Availability of food, shelter, access to safe water, and support for livelihood restoration were some significant issues needing immediate attention.

Eight Community Kitchens were set up in four Blocks of Balasore and one in the Mayurbhanj District. We installed community-level water filters to provide safe water in four villages where their regular drinking water sources were submerged. In 17 villages, 1140 families received household-level water filters, 846 families in 19 villages got tarpaulins, 1037 families from seven villages got dry ration, and 300 most vulnerable persons from nine villages received clothing items.

We also undertook several farm-related interventions to help replace the lost crops and mobilise them to adopt sustainable agricultural practices. Vegetable seeds for Rabi and Kharif seasons were distributed to more than 700 farmers in 22 villages. Around 200 paddy farmers got seeds suitable for salinity-affected land.

More than 500 farmers in 18 villages received potato seeds. Farmers went on exposure visits and received training sessions on biomass generation, production and use of organic manure, soil moisture and fertility management, establishing community seed banks, pest management and inter-cropping.



Har Ghar Jal
Jal Jeevan Mission

Jal Jeevan Mission

Har Ghar Jal

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NETWORKING AND SECTORAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributing to the Jal Jeevan Mission - Building on our past work



The Government of India launched the Jal Jeevan Mission in 2019 to bring tap water to every rural household in the country by 2024. Gram Vikas' experience in the community-owned and managed rural water and sanitation sector has been recognised as a best practice. We are part of several advisory and technical platforms at the national and State levels.

The Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department of the Government of Odisha appointed Gram Vikas as an Implementation Support Agency (ISA) in July 2021. As an ISA, we support the preparation of Village Action Plans and the formation of Village Water and Sanitation Committees in 7,776 villages in 892 Gram Panchayats in Gajapati, Ganjam, Kandhamal and Boudh districts of Odisha. A team of eight Gram Vikas staff members, 80 Gram Panchayats-level and 200 village-level volunteers, have been working intensively over the past several months on this. In 5300 villages, work was nearly complete by March 2022.

The National Jal Jeevan Mission, the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India selected Gram Vikas as a Key Resource Centre (KRC) to provide capacity-building support to community-level stakeholders in Jal Jeevan Mission. The mandate is to train village community leaders, PRI representatives and functionaries and field-level technical personnel of implementing departments to ensure the success of the Jal Jeevan Mission. During the year, we conducted two training programmes for 112 village community leaders from Ganjam and Gajapati districts.





The “Rapid Community Response to COVID” (RCRC) began as a collective effort to strengthen the COVID-19 relief efforts of grassroots organisations. It mobilised resources to support member organisations to take up effective work on the ground.

Gram Vikas joined the coalition in May 2020, and has since continued as an active member. The RCRC General Body, with a membership of 80 organisations, elected the Executive Director of Gram Vikas, Liby Johnson, as a member of the Working Committee. During the year, we participated in the extensive research programme taken up by the coalition to gather evidence about the effects of COVID-19 among rural communities. The coalition used findings from the research to advocate for changes in national-level policies. We also received financial support through RCRC for taking up several COVID-19 relief efforts.

Gram Vikas is also part of the Integrated Farming Clusters (IFC) initiative taken up by RCRC in partnership with the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) and the Indian Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR). The initiative targets income enhancement of small and marginal farmers by promoting diversified value chain-based livelihoods and entrepreneurship in farming clusters. Capacity building, skilling, and transfer of technologies are part of the activities. Gram Vikas and the Odisha Livelihood Mission will implement the programme in Three clusters in the Gajapati district.

Support to the Vriddhi Training cum Production Centre of People with Disabilities



Vriddhi Training cum Production Centre is a Self-Help Group (SHG) of 25 Persons with Disability (PWD), including those with intellectual disability in and around Bhubaneswar. The SHG started in 2018 with the idea that clinical care alone is insufficient for the PWD but needs a more comprehensive rehabilitation programme that makes them economically independent. The group is engaged in making natural handmade soaps, scented and floating candles, varieties of Incense sticks, and calendar notebooks with Odisha handloom.

The COVID-19 lockdown led to the closure of the production unit for more than ten months. Gram Vikas supported the resumption of production through a grant from the SBI Foundation. The group was able to achieve substantial progress during the year. New products brought out include decorative lamps, incense sticks, Diwali gifts such as handmade diaries, files, calendar notebooks, candles of different shapes and fragrances for Christmas and New Year, bio-enzymes for making organic cleaning products, etc.

The group also received training on improved packaging. The training helped create high-quality handmade organic soaps in twelve varieties with aesthetic packaging, eight varieties of incense sticks in different fragrances, and 20 varieties of candles and gift items for festive occasions.

Linkages disrupted due to COVID-19 were re-established, and new avenues were explored. The group exhibited its products at major IT firms, the sales counters in Bhubaneswar Airport, and prominent outlets run by government agencies. They sold the products in big market complexes, small-scale grocery shops in and around Bhubaneswar city and technology firms and participated in various State and National-level exhibitions.

A mapping exercise identified the popular online platforms which can attract the maximum clientele, and the team did the necessary background work to meet the eligibility criteria to feature in these platforms. Products now feature on online sales platforms Meesho, Flipkart and Amazon, and niche platforms such as Atypical Advantage, which promotes products manufactured by differently-abled people, and Etsy, which supports aesthetic products.

Publications

Gram Vikas published the following reports during the year:

- Labour Migration from Rural Odisha: Block-level migration profiles of three Blocks done jointly by the Centre for Migration and Inclusive Development Kerala and Gram Vikas
 - Baliguda in Kandhamal district - <https://bit.ly/3UtVdXS>
 - Jagannathprasad in Ganjam district - <https://bit.ly/3zWdV1S>
 - Rayagada in Gajapati district - <https://bit.ly/3hrjAqu>

Studies published by others, based on collaborative work done with Gram Vikas:

- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Practices and Challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic: A cross-sectional study in Rural Odisha, based on a study conducted jointly by the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University and Gram Vikas - <https://bit.ly/3UnagCu>
- Experience of Covid-19 Pandemic in Rural Odisha, India: Knowledge, Preventative Actions, and Impacts on Daily Life, based on a study conducted jointly by Emory University, Zurich University and Gram Vikas - <https://bit.ly/3tgbZ0E>
- Waterborne Democracy for Rural India, Case study by Puja Changoiwala published in the Stanford Social Innovation Review Spring 2022 - <http://bit.ly/3fRqJQc>

Speaking events

Representatives of Gram Vikas participated in webinars, meetings or events organised by different agencies, sharing their experiences from Odisha. Significant events during 2021-22 were the following:

- “What should India learn from disasters?”, an episode in the podcast series “ON THE CONTRARY” by India Development Review
- Inputs for the preparation of the report, “Between Binaries: the coming together of non-profit and for-profit organizations”, by the Centre for Social and Economic Progress
- Worldwide Symposium on Philanthropy, Charities Aid Foundation, India
- Mainstreaming Migration in India, webinar by India Migration Now

Learning visits

We facilitated learning-exposure visits to our operational areas for other organisations to understand our on-the-ground work.

- **Farmers Forum for Integrated Development (FFID) Chetna Organic:** A team of 40 people, including community members, visited our partner communities in Ganjam district in February 2022 to understand the role of communities in sustainable village development. The objective was to understand the importance of community participation for building ownership, the implementation mechanism of community-managed and owned piped water supply systems, behavioural aspects relating to WASH, solid waste management and environmental hygiene.
- A 16-member team from the **Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe Research and Training Institute (SCSTRTI)**, Bhubaneswar, visited Thuamul Rampur block of Kalahandi district in July 2021 and visited several villages. They learnt about different interventions, including community-owned and managed piped water supply systems, artificial groundwater recharging methods, and land development work. They also studied the intake well for spring water collection, which feeds the gravity-based piped water supply systems.

Governance and Management

Gram Vikas is registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860. The General Body of Gram Vikas consists of 12 members. The Annual General Body Meeting of the Gram Vikas Society was held on 3 September 2021. Due to the pandemic, the meeting was organised in a hybrid mode, where few members attended physically and others joined the meeting through an online platform.

Governing Board

The Governing Board of Gram Vikas consisted of 11 members and the Executive Director as an ex-officio Secretary. During 2021-22, the Governing Board consisted of the following members:

Sri. Ananta Mohapatra, Member

Anant Mohapatra is a noted theatre personality from Odisha. He is the founder of the Utkal Rangmancha Trust and is associated with several notable cultural initiatives in the State. He has been a member of the Gram Vikas Society since 1999.

Sri. Anup Kumar Mohapatra, Member

Anup Kumar Mohapatra is a leading businessperson and philanthropist from Odisha. He has been a member of the Gram Vikas Society since July 2019.

Sri. Biren Bhuta, Member

Biren Bhuta had led multi-sectoral stints with prominent names like Standard Chartered Bank, NDTV, and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. He was also the chief of CSR, Tata Steel in Jharkhand and Odisha. Biren Bhuta is a graduate of the Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata. He joined the Gram Vikas Society in 2019.

Sri. Debiprasad Mishra, Member

Debiprasad Mishra, a former professor at the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), Gujarat, has been a member of Gram Vikas Society since 1998. He served as the Executive Director of Gram Vikas from July 2015 to September 2017.

Sri. Joe Madiath, Chairman

As a development worker, Joe Madiath came to Odisha in 1971. He founded Gram Vikas in 1979 and served as its Executive Director till 2013. A globally recognised social entrepreneur, Joe Madiath has been part of several important committees of the Government of India and Odisha.

Smt. Meena Gupta, Member

Meena Gupta was part of the Indian Administrative Services' 1971 batch of Odisha cadre. As part of her illustrious administrative career, she had occupied various senior positions in the Government of India and Odisha in the areas of health, labour, tribal affairs, environment and forests. She has been a member of the Gram Vikas Society since July 2016.

Ms. Namrata Chaddha, Member

Namrata Chadha is a lawyer by profession and advisor to various non-profits, public and private institutions. She was formerly a member of the Odisha State Commission for Women. She is on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment Committee of eight institutions including the State Bank of India and Mindtree Technologies. She joined the Gram Vikas Society in 2019.

Sri. Pradosh Chandra Mohanty, Member

Pradosh Chandra Mohanty retired from the services of the Income Tax Department in 2018, as the Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Andhra Pradesh. He joined the Gram Vikas Society in 2019.

Sri. Ram Shankar, Treasurer

Ram Shankar is a Chartered Accountant, exporter, and businessperson working in the leather industry. He is credited with the first book published in India on Accounting and Financial Management of NGOs. He has been a member of the Gram Vikas Society since 2008.

Sri. Sanjeev Nayak, Member

Sanjeev Nayak is an entrepreneur from the Information Technology sector, and Trustee of the Silicon Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar. He joined the Gram Vikas Society in July 2016.

Ms. Veena Joshi, Member

Veena Joshi is a renowned expert in the field of rural and renewable energy. She has worked with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and Tata Energy Research Institute, Delhi. She has also served on the advisory groups of the UNDP and Shell Foundation. Veena has a PhD in Physics from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur. She joined the Gram Vikas Society in 2019.

Sri. Liby T Johnson, Executive Director & ex-officio Secretary

Liby Johnson is a development management professional with immense experience of working with the government, non-government and international development organisations. He joined Gram Vikas as an Executive Director and ex-officio Secretary in October 2017.

Meetings of the Governing Board

The Governing Board met four times during the year. Due to the pandemic, the meeting was organised in a hybrid mode, with members residing in Odisha attending physically and outstation members through an online platform. The meetings were held on the following dates.

- 25 June 2021
- 03 September 2021
- 19 January 2022
- 26 March 2022

Management Team

The Management Team (MT) consists of senior managers who lead day-to-day programmatic and administrative functions. The primary role of the MT is to support the Executive Director in achieving the mission of Gram Vikas and fulfilling the mandate set by the Governing Board from time to time. The Management Team develops the Annual Plan and Budget and supports the Executive Director in presenting it to the Governing Board. It presents quarterly updates of progress to the Governing Board.

The Management Groups (MG) for leading programme/thematic or support functions are formed from amongst the members of the Management Team. The Management Groups provide programmatic and implementation leadership for activities under the different programmatic and thematic support areas. The MG is responsible for implementing activities, for achieving the intended results, ensuring quality of processes and results, and overseeing all related financial and accounting matters.

The position of District Managers was created in April 2021, to be responsible for all activities of Gram Vikas in the specific geographic area, termed the District Office. They are the nodal person for all nodal liaison with the various government departments and agencies in the district including ensuring convergence with all different forms of programmes and financial resources required for the work in the district. They also oversee the maintenance and upkeep of all Gram Vikas properties and assets in the district office area.

Management Team during 2021-22

Name	Thematic Areas/ Districts
Apurva Ghugey	Sanitation & Health
Ambika Prasad	Administration
Ashutosh Bhat	Water, Habitat & Technologies
Chandramohan Patnaik	Administration, Finance and Accounts
D P Debashis Hota	Administration, Human Resources
Gangadhar Panigrahi	Water
Jannatun Begum	Village Institutions & Convergence
Joseph Kalassery	Livelihoods, Habitat & Technologies
Jyotsna Tirkey	Village Institutions & Convergence
Kailash Chandra Sahu	Water
Nirmal Chandra Mohanty	Livelihoods, Village Institutions & Convergence
Nirmal Kumar Panda	Village Institutions & Convergence, Water
Omkar S Deshpande	Habitat & Technologies
Pratap Chandra Panda	Livelihoods, Sanitation & Health
Ranjan Patnaik	Finance and Accounts
Sangita Patra	Documentation & Communications, Human Resources
Sukant Bhattacharya	Village Institutions & Convergence, Human Resources
Laxminarayan Panda	District Manager, Gajapati
Sarat Chandra Mohanty	District Manager, Ganjam
Basanti Devi	District Manager, Ghumusur
Bhawani Shankar Dash	District Manager, Kalahandi
Jobin Chacko	District Manager, Kandhamal
Ratnakar Shaw	District Manager, Keonjhar
Biswajit Sahu	District Manager, Sundergarh



Human Resources

Staff Profile

Gram Vikas had 266 employees:

 **214** men

 **52** women

as of 31 March 2022. The total strength reduced by six persons compared to the start of the year.

70% of staff were in Programme Implementation and Management functions

15% were in Programme Support and Accounts and Finance functions.

16% of the staff were in administrative support roles.

Performance Management System

The Performance Management System has been an integral part of Human Resource Management strategy of Gram Vikas since 2018. Performance appraisal process for the year 2020-21 was completed for all employees those who had joined Gram Vikas on or before 30 September 2019. Out of 219 persons who were eligible to get performance incentives, 192 persons received the incentives based on the performance score. The proportion of employees achieving a C grade in their performance reduced to 13% in 2020-21 compared to the 28% in 2019-20. Annual Performance Plans for 238 employees were completed for 2021-22.

Staff Development Cell

The Staff Development Cell (SDC) took steps to build internal capacities for the two new programme platforms - Water Secure Gram Panchayat (WSGP) and Safe and Dignified Migration (SDM) programmes. Efforts during the year were also focussed on the new programme implementation and management structure.

The third batch of the Community Professionals Programme (CPP) have been identified and inducted into Gram Vikas in March 2022. A one-year long comprehensive village level training and orientation has been planned for the batch to build their capacity. A Comprehensive and Professional development program for the first batch of the CPP was initiated, in partnership with Listeners Collective, Bengaluru.

The following programmes were conducted by the Cell during the year, using services of external resource persons.

Subject Matter	Name of the Organisation/Resource Person	Participants
CPP Development Programme: Orientation on Mental Health Issues	Listeners Collective	17
Orientation on Mental Health Issues for Management Team	Listeners Collective	24

Subject Matter	Name of the Organisation/Resource Person	Participants
Training on Adolescent Health Issues	Dr. Mamata Pradhan	22
Resource Mobilisation	Raj Kishore Mishra	48
Water Quality Surveillance & Management	India Natural Resource and Economics Management (INREM) Foundation	16
Approaches on Community level Technological intervention	International Centre for Free and Open Source Software (ICFOSS)	6

Fellows, Volunteers, and Interns

The flow of Volunteers and Interns picked up towards August 2021 when the intensity of the second wave of COVID-19 receded and Institutes started encouraging students to take up offline internships. We did not allow students for an online internship this year, given the poor experience we had last year. The nature of assignments available at our end of the course did not match with the online mode of working. Few educational institutions had postponed the fieldwork segments of students of the previous batch because of uncertainties around COVID-19, which could take place during the academic year 2021-22.

Internal need assessment for internship and volunteering support was done with Management Groups and District Managers. A detailed mapping was done and a database was created and maintained with regard to different assignments available, required skills and competencies of interns, internship tenure, location etc. Major thematic areas identified were agronomy, WaSH research, grey water management, nutrition garden, disaster risk mitigation, water source sustainability, documentation, accounting, data support for proposal writing etc. Profile wise Job Descriptions were then prepared and floated around potential institutions for scouting of suitable student interns.

The partnership with the SBI Foundation for the Youth for India Fellowship continued during the year. The two cohorts of Fellows for 2021-22 came on board during September and October.

Interns

We hosted 35 students from 11 academic institutions for internship projects as part of their coursework. Three long-term internships were also offered during the year, one to a professional and two to students who wanted to work on ground after their under-graduate course.

Long term interns

Name	Project	Period
Tazeen Qureshy	Content Writing for Social Media and Website	May 2021-July 2021
Joseph Kurian	Revival of Micro-Hydro project in Karnibel, Thuamul Rampur	Nov 2021-continuing
Darshan Borgohain	Water Resource Technology	Mar 2022-continuing

Student Interns

#	Student	Institution	Project	Period
1	Manish Yadav	Ashoka University, Sonepat, Haryana	Content Writing & Video editing for social media and website	May 2021 - July 2022
2	Sudarshan Ramanujam		Data Anatomization, Evaluation, Report Generation	
3	Abhijeet Narayanan		Data Anatomization, Evaluation, Report Generation	
4	Ingle Nitin Tulshidas	Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, Karnataka	Annual Activity Plan of Prakruti Bandhu Farmers Producers Company	Dec 2021- Jan 2022
5	Soumya Ranjan Parhi	Development Management Institute, Patna, Bihar	Education as a tool for Sustainable Development	Aug 2021- Sept 2021
6	Shubham Raj		Understanding delivery of Rural Housing in Lakhimpur and Koinpur Panchayat	Dec 2021- Mar 2022
7	Swati		Understanding delivery of Rural Housing in Lakhimpur and Koinpur Panchayat	Dec 2021- Mar 2022
8	Shibu Kumari		Socio-Economic study of Tumbo village	Mar 2022- Apr 2022
9	Goldi Kumari		Socio-Economic study of Tumbo village	Mar 2022- Apr 2022
10	Amanjit Sahoo	Indira Gandhi National Open University of Grey Water Management Program	Solid Waste Management Plan for Kantabania Village, Nayagarh	Oct 2021- Dec 2021 2021
11	Anamika Singh	Institute of Rural Management, Anand, Gujarat	Digital Divide & Inequity: Covid-19 impact on Education in Tarava village	Apr 2021- May 2021
12	Samadrita Dan		Digital Divide & Inequity: Covid-19 impact on Education in Tarava village	

#	Student	Institution	Project	Period
13	Vyakhya Khatri		Digital Divide & Inequity: Covid-19 impact on Education in Tarava village	
14	Rohit Mukherjee		Biodegradable Waste management Plan	Oct 2021- Dec 2021
15	Nirmalya Patra		Biodegradable Waste management Plan	
16	K R Devbrat		Involvement of Youth & Women in Village Development processes	
17	Suvojit Roy		Involvement of Youth & Women in Village Development processes	
18	Hameeda Sheikh	Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi	Content Writing for Social Media and Website	
19	Ajit Bhue	KIIT School of Rural Management, Bhubaneswar, Odisha	Action Research as part of MBA, Rural Management	Dec 2021- Jan 2022
20	Manas Ranjan Choudhury		Action Research as part of MBA, Rural Management	
21	Sagarika Priyadarshini		Action Research as part of MBA, Rural Management	
22	Manasi Patel		Action Research as part of MBA, Rural Management	
23	Manish Kumar Behera		Action Research as part of MBA, Rural Management	
24	Rajdeep Kanungo		Action Research as part of MBA, Rural Management	
25	Sampat Kumar Patel		Action Research as part of MBA, Rural Management	
26	Sipun Kumar Majhi		Action Research as part of MBA, Rural Management	

#	Student	Institution	Project	Period
27	Soni Priya	National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad, Telangana	Status of WASH practices in the context of Water Secure Gram Panchayat programme	Mar 2022- Apr 2022
28	Kirti Kadam		Enhancement of Sustainable Livelihood through Prakruti Bandhu Farmers Producers Company	
29	Taher Zuzer Saleh	NMIMS, Pune	Drafting IT Resource Allocation Policy for the Organisation and Data Visualisation of Village & Gram Panchayat level Crop Cultivation	Jan 2022- Feb 2022
30	Anjali Mishra	School of Rural Management, Xavier University, Bhubaneswar	Formulation and Analysis of Household level Biodegradable Waste Management Plan	Dec 2021- Jan 2022
31	Aishwarya Acharya		Formulation and Analysis of Household level Biodegradable Waste Management Plan	
32	Alisa Anil		Formulation and Analysis of Household level Biodegradable Waste Management Plan	
33	Apoorva Vardhan		Formulation and Analysis of Household level Biodegradable Waste Management Plan	
34	Jagyasini Burma	TATA Institute of Social Sciences, Tuljapur, Maharashtra	Support in Village Poverty Reduction Plan development process	Nov 2021- Dec 2021
35	Muhammad Dhanish		Support in strategy development for engagement of DLC teacher volunteer	

SBI Youth for India fellows during August 2020 to October 2021

Name	Domain & Project	Location
Anas KP	Domain - Water Project - Digital Literacy: Capacity Building on usage of GIS tools	Kalahandi
Danish Seth	Domain - Education Project - Successful implementation of STORM (Science and Technology Oriented Research Methodologies in Teaching) in the school	Gram Vikas Schools
Deepika Singh Chauhan	Domain - Health Project - Creating Awareness about Adolescent health in order to improve their health conditions	Ganjam
Moksh Naidu	Domain - Technology Project - Facilitating Skill Training for better job opportunities using Community Media and Peer based mentoring	Gajapati
Paoni Patidar	Domain - Eco Tourism, Social Entrepreneurship Project - Strengthening Micro-Enterprises in the villages of Rayagada Block	Gajapati
Pratishtha Pandey	Domain - Art & Craft Project - Kalpanadham, To develop aesthetic, creative and literary skills of children	Gram Vikas Schools
Stuti Mankodi	Domain - Education Project - Encouraging learning by inculcating reading habit in children of Jangyashala village	Ganjam
S Manjary	Domain - Livelihood Project - Migration Forum: A Collective of Migrant Dependents	Kalahandi
S Lalit	Domain - Livelihood Project - Establishing a water secured village and making use of weather station for improved farming	Gajapati
Ayushi Khandelwal	Domain - Energy Project - Solar Microgrid Livelihood Extension Project	Kalahandi
Muskan Thakral	Domain - Technology Project - Smart Community & Community Media Cell	Ganjam
Nitika Saini	Domain - Education Project - Reducing Corona effect- Engaging children in learning activities through community groups	Nayagarh

Name	Domain & Project	Location
Radha S	Domain - Education Project - Facilitation of an Information Dissemination System in the community regarding education & career opportunities	Ganjam
Tanvi Sharma	Domain - Education Project - Activity based learning in Child Clubs to create an environment for the children to grow, develop decision-making ability and get exposure	Kalahandi
Vishwath Giri	Domain - Village Institutions Project - Formulation of localised Village Development Plans and forging resolution routes through formal Gram Panchayat Development Planning process	Jharsuguda

SBI Youth for India fellows during the period from September 2021

Name	Domain & Project	Location
Binjal Shah	Formulation of Village Development Plan	Kalahandi
Kiran Sasidharan	Community Media for Safe and Dignified Migration	Kalahandi
Kishore Dandhare	Improved Goat Husbandry	Gajapati
Mansi	Encouraging participation of Adolescents and Youth in Village Democracy through Child Clubs	Kalahandi
Nilesh Tripathi	To resolve the water demand of the community by Natural Resource Management under Water Secure Gram Panchayat Programme	Ganjam
Sachin Korla	Resources cum Knowledge dissemination through Local Task Force formation	Gajapati

Internal Complaints Committee

The Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of Gram Vikas functions by the provisions of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013. The committee has four internal members and one external member. Due to the unfortunate demise of the External Member, the Internal Complaints Committee had to be reconstituted in November 2021. Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, a Member of the State Women's Commission, joined as the Member (External) of the committee. The other four members in the committee continue to be members in the reconstituted committee. There were no complaints received by the Internal Complaints Committee in the year 2021-22.



Accounts and Finance

Statutory Compliances

During the year, we complied with all statutory requirements within the specified time limits. Income Tax, GST and FCRA related filings and returns were made in time. Compliance with Provident Fund and other labour laws has also been regular.

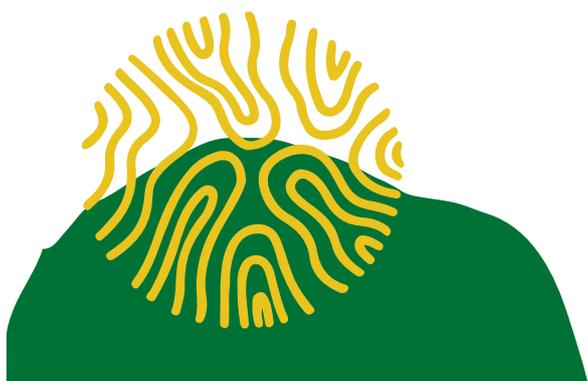
Statutory Audit

M/s AASA & Associates, Bhubaneswar is the Statutory Auditor for Gram Vikas during 2021-22.

Internal Audit

M/s BBM & Co. Bhubaneswar continued as Internal Auditors during the year. The internal audit team conducted concurrent checks of all financial transactions. The scrutiny of books and records were followed up with periodic field-level verifications and checks.

Scan here to access the audited financial statements.



Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

Particulars	As at 31.03.2022 [₹]	As at 31.03.2021 [₹]
1. Liabilities		
General Fund	36,32,61,547	37,05,21,169
Deferred Project Receipts	4,83,38,947	4,65,78,713
Project Funds - Restricted Grants	5,07,32,532	7,17,05,398
Capital Asset Fund	8,81,72,908	8,85,60,593
Other Funds	1,67,22,053	1,66,49,270
Current Liabilities and Provisions	1,18,16,513	1,25,17,280
Total	57,90,44,500	60,65,32,423
2. Assets		
Fixed Assets	8,81,72,908	8,85,60,593
Investments	14,38,45,705	17,29,69,942
Piped Water Supply Project Advances	4,38,57,003	5,67,55,276
Current Assets	21,93,62,173	20,67,93,523
Application out of Past Accumulation	8,38,06,711	8,14,53,089
Total	57,90,44,500	60,65,32,423

As per report of even date

For: AASA & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

For: Gram Vikas

Amit Agrawal, FCA
Partner
Membership No.

Joe Madiath
Chairman

Ram Sankar
Treasurer

Liby T Johnson
Executive Director

BHUBANESWAR
Date: 07.09.2022

Income and Application Account for the Year ended 31 March 2022

Particulars	Year ending 31.03.2022 [₹]	Year ending 31.03.2021 [₹]
1. Income		
Grants and Donations	1,84,95,341	58,000
Interest Income	48,62,060	47,95,847
Add: Interest income earned on donor funds - Grant-in-aid	10,51,475	2,44,389
Income from Investments	2,15,01,680	1,50,65,838
Income from Sale of assets	-	5,33,818
Reimbursements	4,79,972	4,31,504
House Rent Income	11,08,174	7,43,548
Miscellaneous Income	9,14,861	6,54,375
Overhead recoveries from the projects	8,35,345	35,97,077
Utilisation against restricted grant	19,25,62,554	14,39,91,375
Total Income	24,18,11,462	17,01,15,771
2. Application		
Application - Programme - Revenue		
Water	1,33,33,194	94,71,652
Livelihoods	12,75,281	25,82,488
Sanitation & Health	17,85,579	31,66,621
Habitat & Technology	6,71,531	10,26,800
Education	-	5,52,981
Village Institutions & Convergence	1,07,76,343	36,31,067
Disaster Response	78,331	2,059
Monitoring & Documentation	43,96,829	42,16,682
Human Resource Development	11,62,485	17,35,396
Strategies & Systems	20,21,126	69,11,933
Grants & Donations		1,00,000
Audit Costs	16,07,533	12,78,327
Staff Costs	42,42,526	69,86,519
Administration Costs	57,33,107	63,77,396
Utilisation against restricted grant	19,25,62,554	14,39,91,375
Application - Programme - Capital		
Capital Expenses	-	-
Depreciation on assets acquired from sources other than Income- Donor funds	13,58,838	12,30,540
Depreciation on assets acquired from sources other than Income- Past accumulation	31,59,827	19,03,213
Total Application	24,41,65,084	19,51,65,049
Less: Application Amount in excess of the application to the extent of available Income met out of Past Accumulation transferred to Balance Sheet	23,53,622	2,50,49,278
Total	24,18,11,462	17,01,15,771

Income and Application Appropriation Account for the Year ended 31 March 2022

Particulars	Period ending at 31.03.2022 [₹]	Year ending at 31.03.2021 [₹]
Add: Depreciation on assets acquired from sources other than income trf.	45,18,665	31,33,753
Less: Interest on Donor Project Funds trf.to Project Fund A/c-Grant-in-aid	10,51,475	2,44,389
Net Surplus	34,67,190	28,89,364

As per report of even date

For: AASA & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

For: Gram Vikas

Amit Agrawal, FCA
Partner
Membership No.

Joe Madiath
Chairman

Ram Sankar
Treasurer

Liby T Johnson
Executive Director

BHUBANESWAR
Date: 07.09.2022

Schedule for Project Funds (Restricted Grants) for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Particulars	Year ending 31.03.2022 [₹]	Year ending 31.03.2021 [₹]
Opening Balance of Project Funds	7,17,05,398	4,12,04,187
Accretion during the year		
Grants in Aid	17,05,38,213	17,27,97,585
Interest Income on donor funds transferred from Income & Application app. A/c	10,51,475	2,44,389
Swachh Bharat Mission support for Toilets & Bathing room projects		14,50,612
Total	17,15,89,688	17,44,92,586
Depletion during the year		
Depletion - Programme - Revenue		
Water	8,56,98,867	7,47,22,554
Livelihoods	1,70,71,554	1,28,73,610
Sanitation & Hygiene	1,16,83,294	1,69,96,899
Habitat & Technology	1,14,90,238	33,27,147
Education	1,05,600	21,34,538
Village Institutions	1,43,33,482	37,70,896
Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation	1,71,77,335	99,56,602
Monitoring, Documentation & Communication	1,20,05,961	30,64,392
Human Resource Development	38,05,838	42,62,262
Strategies & Systems	69,19,779	37,90,022
Grants & Donations	50,000	
Audit Costs	6,81,783	10,80,096
Staff Costs	65,59,055	33,73,191
Administration Costs	20,79,324	12,73,095
Project assets	17,46,242	18,69,053
Swachh Bharat Mission support for Toilets & Bathing room projects	11,54,202	14,97,018
Total	19,25,62,554	14,39,91,375
Closing Balance of Project Funds	5,07,32,532	7,17,05,398

Resource Mobilisation and Utilization Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Particulars	Total	Project Grants [₹]	Sources		
			CSR and UN Grants [₹]	Water & Sanitation (Govt.)	Own [₹]
1. Income					
Grants & Donations	18,90,33,554	16,59,54,966	45,83,247	-	1,84,95,341
Interest Income	59,13,535	10,51,475	-	-	48,62,060
Receipts from Govt. (Water Supply & Sanitation)	1,24,00,827	-	-	1,24,00,827	-
Security deposit receivable from Govt	31,16,055	-	-	31,16,055	-
Income from Investments	2,15,01,680	-	-	-	2,15,01,680
Reimbursements	4,79,972	-	-	-	4,79,972
House Rent Income	11,08,174	-	-	-	11,08,174
Miscellaneous Income	9,14,861	-	-	-	9,14,861
Overhead recoveries from the projects	8,35,345	-	-	-	8,35,345
Total income	23,53,04,003	16,70,06,441	45,83,247	1,55,16,882	4,81,97,433
2. Expenditure					
Water	10,22,34,700	8,49,08,307	7,90,560	32,02,639	1,33,33,194
Livelihoods	1,83,46,835	1,55,19,114	15,52,440	-	12,75,281
Sanitation & Hygiene	1,46,23,075	1,16,83,294	-	11,54,202	17,85,579
Habitat & Technology	1,21,61,769	1,14,78,050	12,188	-	6,71,531
Education	1,05,600	1,05,600	-	-	-
Village Institutions	2,51,09,825	1,29,58,075	13,75,407	-	1,07,76,343
Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation	1,72,55,666	1,71,22,706	54,629	-	78,331
Monitoring, Documentation and Communication	1,64,02,790	93,70,564	26,35,397	-	43,96,829
Human Resource Development	49,68,323	27,26,394	10,79,444	-	11,62,485
Strategies & Systems	89,40,905	69,19,779	-	-	20,21,126
Grants & Donations	50,000	50,000	-	-	-
Audit Costs	22,89,316	6,81,783	-	-	16,07,533
Staff Costs	1,08,01,581	65,59,055	-	-	42,42,526
Administration Costs	78,12,431	20,43,386	35,938	-	57,33,107
Capital Expenditure	17,46,242	15,89,842	1,56,400	-	-
Total expenditure	24,28,49,058	18,37,15,949	76,92,403	43,56,841	4,70,83,865

For: AASA & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

Amit Agrawal, FCA
Partner
Membership No.

BHUBANESWAR
Date: 07.09.2022

For: Gram Vikas

Joe Madiath
Chairman

Ram Sankar
Treasurer

Liby T Johnson
Executive Director



Gram Vikas

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