




Building water security, livelihoods, and climate resilience with six million people

Gram Vikas strengthens people's agency through Gram Panchayats, enabling them to drive hyperlocal action in water, livelihoods, and natural resources. Through co-created, community-led solutions, it expands opportunities for rural communities to steward their resources and decisions, affirming their dignity and aspirations.



1.2 million
households

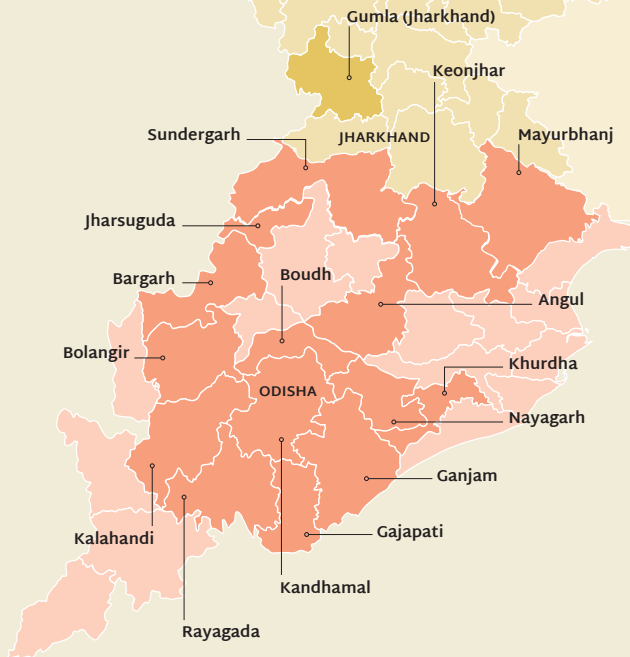
8800
villages

Odisha &
Jharkhand

By
2030




Our Footprint: 46 Years Across Odisha and Jharkhand



Our work contributes to seven Sustainable Development Goals.





Our Impact

Gram Vikas' work has catalysed resilient pathways to opportunity, prosperity, and equity.

Nurturing Self-Managed Systems

- 1,400+ village communities independently manage water and sanitation systems
- Village institutions oversee over ₹120 million for local infrastructure

Enabling Intergenerational Change

- 3,500 children, mostly first-generation learners, completed school education
- 49% of women and 32% of men from Gram Vikas' schools pursued postgraduate studies
- 85% of female and 57% of male alumni work in non-traditional occupations

Strengthening Production Systems

- Increased yields from 10,370 hectares of cropping land
- Revitalised 10,000+ hectares of community forests
- Trained 6,700 men and women in masonry for higher earnings



Partnership with the Government

Gram Vikas' partnerships with the state and national government has scaled sustainable solutions in energy, water security, and disaster resilience.

- Co-developed the Dinabandhu biogas model and installed 54,000+ biogas plants with the Government of Odisha
- Demonstrated community-owned water and sanitation systems in 1,400+ villages, shaping rural water security policy and the Swachh Bharat and Jal Jeevan Missions
- Supported the Government of Odisha to build disaster-proof habitats for 16,000+ households



Scan to watch 'Witnessing Odisha,' a film that brings our 46-year legacy to life.



Our Programmes

Rural Odisha's 37 million people face shrinking resources, unsafe water, and limited opportunities, especially for women, youth, and marginalised groups. Weak governance and climate risks deepen these challenges.

Gram Vikas' **Water Secure Gram Panchayat (WSGP)** and **Safe and Dignified Migration (SDM)** programmes strengthen local governance and community action to build resilience, improve livelihoods, and secure a dignified future for those most affected.



Building Water Secure Gram Panchayats

The Water Secure Gram Panchayat (WSGP) programme equips villages to manage water resources and climate challenges, based on their own definition of water security.

Scaling What Works

6.0 million households	1000 Gram Panchayats	By 2030
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How does the WSGP programme ensure water security?

WSGP strengthens water security through integrated action on natural resources, health, livelihoods, and local governance.

Sustainability

Communities manage water sources wisely, using science and technology to ensure sufficient water for drinking, farming, and daily needs.

Safety

Improved access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene leads to better health and nutrition for households, especially women and children.

Prosperity

Women and small producers strengthen incomes and climate resilience through collective action, water and weather data, and market access.

Equity & Resilience

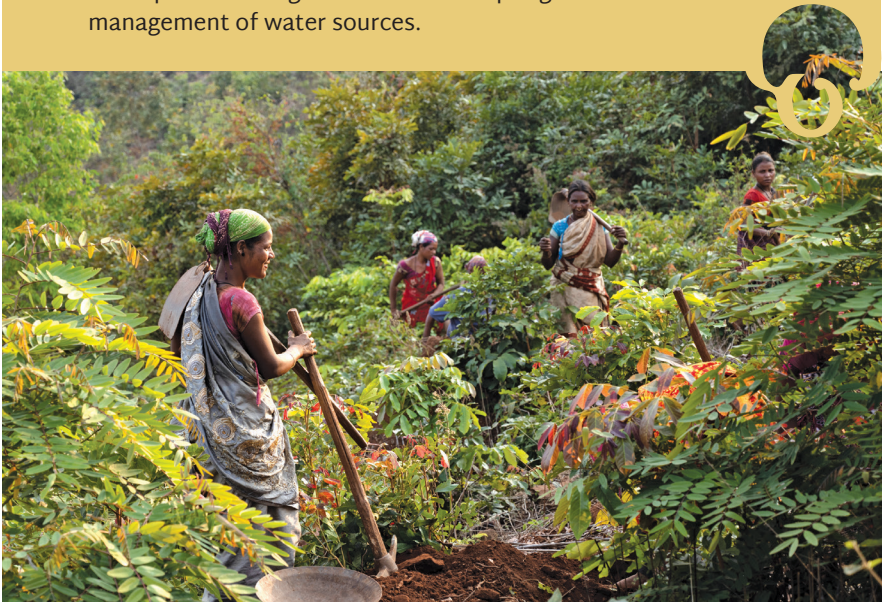
Communities and local governments include vulnerable groups, women, and youth in decisions and ensure access to social protection.



WSGP Innovations

The programme's scalable innovations equip communities with better information, planning, and conservation strategies.

- **Water Passbook:** A decision-support system helping communities track and manage water availability for drinking, household use, and farming.
- **Weather and Crop Advisories:** Producers use hyperlocal weather and crop advice to make informed decisions, reduce risk, and use water wisely.
- **Comprehensive Source-Shed Development:** Sustaining springs and aquifers through watershed and springshed-based management of water sources.



Making Migration Safe and Dignified

The Safe and Dignified Migration (SDM) programme ensures migration is a choice, not a necessity. In southern Odisha, where 34–78% migrate for work, remittances sustain rural households, yet their potential remains untapped. The initiative connects migrants to financial services and enterprise opportunities, turning income into long-term assets that build economic and ecological resilience.

Scaling What Works

**1.6 million
households**

**345
Gram Panchayats**

**By
2027**

A Corridor Approach

The SDM programme ensures safe, structured mobility through coordinated support networks at both source and destination. The approach strengthens worker protection, economic security, and household stability.



SDM's Three Pillars of Security

Occupational Safety

Supporting informed work choices, legal protections, and skill-building for improved earnings



Social and Emotional Security

Strengthening family support structures, children's continued education, and access to welfare



Financial Security

Expanding access to banking, productive investments, and women's role in managing household income



Gram Vikas Saathi: Nurturing Local Changemakers

Gram Vikas Saathi (GVS) trains rural social entrepreneurs to improve livelihoods, governance, and quality of life. With 120 members and a 2027 goal of 400, GVS builds local leadership to strengthen community systems in finance, enterprise, water, and agriculture, and support youth, nutrition, and migration.



Our Approach

Gram Vikas' MANTRA approach provides a framework to mobilise communities. It follows five core principles: 100% inclusion, shared ownership through cost-sharing, community-led management, equal participation for women and marginalised groups, and built-in financial systems for long-term resilience.

Global and National Recognition

- 10th Earth Care Award for Community-Based Climate Action
- FICCI-India Sanitation Coalition Award for Contributions to Sanitation
- Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship
- Kyoto World Water Grand Prize at the 4th World Water Forum, Mexico
- Outstanding Social Entrepreneur by the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship, Geneva
- Alan Shawn Feinstein World Hunger Award, Brown University, USA



Scan to view our awards
and honors since 1979.



Partner With Us

Over 50 national and international donors have trusted Gram Vikas to deliver impactful, scalable solutions.

Ways to Engage: Programme funding • Co-creation • Innovation • Research • Capacity building




Join us in building resilient rural communities.

Write to ed@gramvikas.org.





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Contact Us

Gram Vikas, Mohuda village,
Ganjam, Odisha 760002, India

+91-674-2596366

www.gramvikas.org

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