

SAMVAD ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

SAMVAD was established in March 2001, by a group of social and cultural activists and intellectuals who were concerned about the declining Indigenous identity due to various internal and external factors. The Jharkhand state was carved out from Bihar and came into existence on 15 November 2000 as the people of Jharkhand region were very much hopeful that their centuries old traditions and practices would get recognition and they would also have opportunity to participate in the governance process. But very soon their aspirations were shattered. It was the time to mobilize the Indigenous communities, Dalits, Women and Minorities and spread awareness among them about their legal and constitutional rights to combat the situation. SAMVAD came at fore to reflect this process in its vision and approach.

SAMVAD believes that development is a sustainable process. It addresses not just the direct manifestation of the problems but also their structural causes, which are quite distinct and unique from other Voluntary Organizations.

Vision :

SAMVAD envisions a society where relations between human beings and nature is balanced for preservation of the indigenous social values and creation of sustainable livelihood for people towards establishment of a society on a communitarian lifestyle, labour-oriented and egalitarianism which accepts the diversity and differences among human beings. This is the society of “**Indigenocracy**”.

Mission:

SAMVAD strives for self-reliant and self-respectful society based on equality, gender-equity, labour-oriented universe, and self-governance by strengthening the communitarian lifestyle of the indigenous and downtrodden people. Efforts are on to empower Gram Sabhas and traditional governance systems in the villages of Adivasis, Dalits, Minorities, and the poor as a whole. It ensures equal representation and participation of women and men in community level decision making and development processes.

Legal Status:

- Registered under Trust Registration Act- 1882, No. IV 278/2001/Ranchi, on 21.03.2001
- Registered under FCRA, 1976, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, No. 337800125, Dated 24 May 2004. Renewal No. 337800125 date 9-8-2016
- Registered under Income Tax Act 1961, 12A-VIII-48/12A/03-04 on 18 June 2004.
- PAN (Permanent Account Number): AADTS7279Q

- TAN (Tax Deduction at Source Account Number): RCHS03187C
- Registered under EPF Provisions Act, 1952 No. JH/RNC/32288 Date: 03/02/2011
- Registered online under NGO Darpan of NITI Ayog, JH/2017/0167751

Objective:

- To promote and strengthen Self-Rule through Empowerment of Gram Sabha and People's Organisations
- To adopt and facilitate the methods and praxis of inclusive and sustainable development
- To empower indigenous skills and technology for promoting sustainable agriculture and climate resilient livelihood options
- To capacitate youth for Gender Sensitivity, Social Justice and Communal harmony
- To preserve & rejuvenate Indigenous Art & Culture from de-culturization process
- To develop a training and resource center for documenting and promoting regional Art Crafts and Culture
- To develop Audio-Visual materials for awareness and issue sensitization
- To promote Networks with like-minded groups and individual for policy centered Advocacy
- To adopt right based approach for excluded sections of society including women and children

Strategy:

- Alliance building with like-minded groups and promote network for social transformation
- Public advocacy, policy analysis, discourse and information dissemination through community engagement
- Training and Capacity building through participatory approach
- Archiving, Resource material collection, compilation and publications
- Promotion and strengthening of CBOs, women and youth groups
- Adoption of development models to encourage sustainable livelihood

Our Reach:

SAMVAD is working in 15 districts of Jharkhand. Apart from this we are part of Eastern India Dialogue Forum "Swashasan Abhiyan India (SAI)" which is a network to promote and strengthen governance and indigenocracy.

Samvad is associated with several organizations and networks such as Child Rights Alliance (CRA), Swashasan Abhiyan India (SAI), Mahila Garima Abhiyan, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR), National Advocacy Council for Development of Indigenous People (NACDIP), Climate Action Network in South Asia (CANSA), National Adivasi Alliance (NAA) and Gram Swashasan Abhiyan (GSA)

Areas in Jharkhand

| Sl.No. | District | Block |
|--------|----------------|---|
| 1 | Deoghar | Madhupur, Margomunda, Devipur and Deoghar |
| 2 | Dumka | Dumka Sadar, Jama, Jarmundi, Shikaripada |
| 3 | Pakur | Maheshpur |
| 4 | Sahebganj | Borio |
| 5 | Giridih | Giridih Sadar, Gandey |
| 6 | Dhanbad | Topchachi |
| 7 | Bokaro | Gomia |
| 8 | Kodarma | Domchanch |
| 9 | Hazaribagh | Katkamdag |
| 10 | East Singhbhum | Musabani, Potka |
| 11 | West Singhbhum | Chaibasa Sadar, Tantnagar |
| 12 | Gumla | Sisai |
| 13 | Ramgarh | Chiterpur |
| 14 | Ranchi | Bero |
| 15. | Jamtara | Fatehpur |

Our Projects:

- Deepening Indigenocracy and Promoting Sustainable Livelihood in Jharkhand
- Strengthening indigenocracy through socio-economic development of marginalized communities of Jharkhand
- Strengthening local self- governance in 90 villages of 8 panchayats in Fatehpur block in Jamtara district of Jharkhand.

- Sustainable Options for Uplifting Livelihood (SOUL-II)
- Documentation of bio-cultural life heritages and creation of Community protocols of Adivasi Communities.

Deepening Indigenocracy and Promoting Sustainable Livelihood in Jharkhand

This project has started in the year 2016 with a goal for strengthening the Indigenocracy and thereby promoting sustainable livelihood in Jharkhand through the process of gram sabha strengthening; rejuvenate traditional agricultural practices, increasing women participation in decision making processes, and so on. It also aims at strengthening at least 350 gram sabhas and upgrading the status of at least 100 gram sabhas to model gram sabhas. There are 8 selected criteria for considering a gram sabha as model gram sabha. These are the following:

1. Regular meetings of Gram Sabha
2. Attendance of G.S. members
3. Active participation of women
4. Village Development Planning and Submission to proper authority.
5. Village Fund (Gram Kosh) - The village fund mean Households would contribute as decided in the Gram Sabha. It may be cash or kind (grains).
6. Cultural Centre (Akhra)- A place in the village where villagers come together to meet, dance and discuss relevant issues.
7. Safe drinking water- Every HHs should have access to safe drinking water sources.
8. 100% enrolment of children in school and ICDS.

Motivational Camp for Model Gramsabhas

26 motivational camps were organised in 26 model villages from April 2017 to September 2017 where the main discussions centred around the importance and legislative power of gram sabhas in deciding, executing and monitoring the developmental programmes or any other matter of concern, the importance of women participation in decision making, its responsibilities towards the community as a whole or towards any individual who is in need of support. The power and authority of gram sabhas in lobbying with government regarding different matters for their development also was discussed. A total of 1472 participants (845 female and 627 males) participated in camp.

Conceptual Orientation Training

Two conceptual trainings of three days each in order to provide conceptual clarity to people regarding gram Sabha were organized at Madhupur among 143 participants in which female participation was 81 and male was 62.



Resource Mapping Camp

86 resource mapping camps held in 86 gram sabhas through focused group discussion. The programme was accompanied with 2245 female and 2739 male participants.

State Level Akhra Celebration

Two days State level Annual Akhra (cultural team) celebration held on 8-9 August, 2017 at H.P.D.C Ranchi among 193 participants in which female was 131 excluding 62 male participants. The main objectives behind this are to safeguard the local and traditional culture of people and to promote their culture.



State Level Consultation for Quality Education

One State level consultation meeting for 2 days for activation of School Management Committee / Village Education Committee for quality education and 100% enrolment held on 20 to 21st September 2017 at Jan Vikas Kendra, Hazaribagh. The total participants who got awareness on quality education were 56 (male-44, female-12).





Annual State Level Women Convention

Two days Annual State level women convention held on 28th & 29th June 2017 Vikash Bharti, Jamshedpur among 96 participants (male-5, female-91). The second program was organized at Dumka on 22nd and 23rd March 2018 among 112 participants (female-106, & male-6).

Halfyearly Regional Gramsabha federation meeting

Six numbers of half yearly Regional Gram Sabha Federation committee meeting of one day's each organized in all three different Zones i.e. Kolhan, Santhal Pragana and Hazaribagh. The total people who participated in the program were 143 in which female was 68 and male was 75. This meeting focussed on the importance of gram sabha, their problems and finding strategies to solve or to mitigate the effects of those problems.



Annual regional Gramsabha federation meeting

- Three Annual Regional Gram Sabha Federation committee meeting organized in all three different Zones i.e. Kolhan, Santhal Pragana and Uttari Chottanagpur. The total people participated in the program were 388 in which female was 169 and male was 219.
- Two half yearly State level Gram Sabha meeting of State committee (one day of each meeting) was organized at Ranchi among 46 people (female-20, male-26).



- Two days Annual Convention of State Level Gram Sabha Federation meeting held in Ranchi from 18th to 19th September 2017 in which total participant were 133 (male 77, female 56).

Swashasan Abhiyan India

- 5 meetings for strengthening the process of Eastern India Dialogue “Swashasan Abhiyan” was organised on Sewak in Sundargarh (Odisha), Purulia (WB), New Delhi, Patna (Bihar) and Sarguja (Chattisgarh). The term “Swashasan” means self-



rule, self-governance. According to PESA Act and the provisions of 5th schedule the tribal people have the rights of self -rule.

- 36 meetings on water harvesting planning was organized in 36 gram sabhas. Total participants were 1835 including 1084 female and 751 males. The gram sabhas developed their own strategy for water harvesting.

Kishan Mela

- 2 Kisan Mela were organized in two different places i.e. in Media under Musabani Block (East Singhbhum) on 31st Jan 2018 and the other was in Lalpur under Madhupur block of Deoghar districts on 14th to 15th Feb'2018. In this Kisan Mela



Farmers exhibited their non-pest products (grains, vegetables and fruits) and also exhibited miniatures of agriculture tools. A total of 230 farmers (female-130, male-100) participated in that programme.

- A booklet entitled “Khetti, Kisan aur Pani” on traditional water harvesting system and climate resilient agriculture was disseminated among farmers and kisan clubs with the intention that it will remind them of their traditional water harvesting system and inspire them to rejuvenate them.

Motivational camp for Kisan Club members

- Four motivation meetings of Kisan Club members held in Musabani (East Singhbhum), Chitimiti, Tata Nagar (West Singhbhum), Pathrol, Deoghar and Lalpur, Deoghar for the purpose of formation and promotion of cooperative society. Total participation of people was 236 (female-137, male-99).
- Three Quarterly Planning and Review meetings were organised with the Core staff of the organization in Bodh Gaya, Ranchi and Madhupur.
- Five Quarterly Planning and Review meetings of volunteers and supervisors held during the year at Madhupur.
- Skill enhancement training of staff on MIS held from 3rd to 5th September, 2017 in Madhupur facilitated by ASK, Delhi among 33 participants (female-11, and male-22).
- 12 monthly review meetings for Supervisors, Coordinators and office staff were held in every month during the year. In each meeting there were 25 staff participated on an average (male-19, female-6).
- Published and disseminated the women education material “Adhi Duniya” based on Adivasi literature, the status of women in unorganised sector and “women in poetry and poetry by women”.
- Renewal of Website domain name, hosting and maintenance in August 2017.
- Outcome impact orientation (OIO) workshop held from 24th to 26th April, 2017 in Ranchi facilitated by ASK, Gurugram, (Haryana). Total participants were 27(F-12, & M-15)

Achievements

- **Akhara:** During the reporting period out of 100 model villages 52 villages have rejuvenated their own Akhara (Cultural Centre) for having their cultural activities and social events and Gram Sabha meetings (A total of 95 villages rejuvenated Akhara having their cultural and social activities).
- **Gram Kosh:** During this reporting period out of hundred model villages 38 villages exercised their village fund for betterment of the community.
- **Women's Participation:** women's participation in model gram sabhas has increased up to 6%. It was 42% previously and now it is 48%. Proposed and opposed by women in Gram Sabha meetings has increased up to around 3%. It was around 31% previously and now it is around 34%. This is a significant change in decision making process within Model Gram Sabhas during this reporting period.

- **Gram Sabha Federation:** Three regional Gram Sabha Federation (Santhal Paragana, North Chotanagpur and Kolhan Region) established. A total of 231 Gram Sabhas become active members of the State level Gram Sabhas Federation.
- **Climate Resilient Agriculture:** Out of 2500 House Holds, 1970 HHs adopted non pest climate resilient agriculture practices. Out of 300 villages 275 villages are involved in non pest climate resilient agriculture. 379 HHs are using traditional seeds and method for practicing non-pest agriculture and vegetable farming in our project area.
- **Farmers Cooperative Society:** Out of 5 farmers' cooperative societies 3 cooperatives initiated. One for Puffed Rice making and another two are for Agricultural products more than 50% women are involved in this process.
- **Water Harvesting:** 149 villages developed their water harvesting structure. In these structures Dobhas were 217, Well 109, and Ponds 47 developed through MNREGS.

Strengthening Indigenocracy through Socio Economic Development of Marginalized Communities of Jharkhand

This project was started in the month of November, 2017. This is mainly a child sponsorship project but it is believed that no development of the children is possible unless we focus on their family. Therefore, this project focuses on strengthening indigenocracy through socio economic development of marginalized section of society. This project is supported by Action aid and we believe that children are the mirror of society and the actual situation of any society can be best reflected through the condition of the children. Before selecting the operational area, several meetings were organised with the villagers and with the children too in many villages. The villages were prioritised based on their utmost needs. 30 villages in Deoghar district and later 10 other villages from East Singhbhum were selected as LRP area. There are few criteria for selecting sponsored children. In order to bring maximum families under sponsorship programme not more than one child was selected from one family. Details information of those children was collected in order to maintain their child profile. This project also focuses on strengthening and rejuvenating the traditional livelihood practices. Women entrepreneurship is another important component of this project. SAMVAD is working on three synergic areas (land, water and women property) and the programme areas are the following-

- Land, water and forest rights
- Labour and livelihood rights
- Child rights
- Women rights

Bal panchayats

Formation of Bal Panchayat work was carried in 8 villages of Madhupur and Margomonda block of Deoghar district from January, 2018 to March 2018. The main objective behind formation of Bal Panchayat is to provide the children a platform where they can express their inherent talent through participating in different activities and they get the chance



to exercise their rights and thereby they enhance their leadership quality. Each and every Bal Panchayats were also provided with various sports materials which encourage the children to come together under the same umbrella every day. It also evokes a sense of “we feeling” among the children. It is believed that the children are the vanguard of change; they are the future citizen of our country therefore the attitude of working in a group and choosing right leaders must be inculcated among the children from their early childhood.

These Bal Panchayat have their meeting every month where the children discuss about their problems and the issues. This Bal Panchayats also work as a platform of cultural and sports group. The children regularly enjoy their each other’s company and a sense of responsibility is emerging among them towards their peers.

Celebration of Women's Day

International women's day was celebrated at Madhupur on 8th March, 2018 where more than 120 women participated in that programme. The topic of that programme was women's participation and contribution in labour and cleanliness. Both the resource persons and the rural women nicely spoke about their contribution towards labour and cleanliness and they emphasized on the fact that inspite of their hard labour their work and their contribution are not being recognised by the society. The importance of recognising their labour was also discussed in that programme. It was followed by sports activities of the women where the women participated in different sports activities according to their interest and the winners were rewarded.

Kaam Mango Abhiyan

“Kaam Mango Abhiyan” is basically an awareness generation programme among the villagers regarding MGNREGA. This campaign was carried out in 20 villages of Pthaljor, Siktiya and Bagmara panchayat of Madhupur and Margomonda block, Droghar district, Jharkhand where information regarding this act was disseminated among people. The



people were encouraged to utilise the power of their gram sabha in order to formulate their own developmental activities under this act and in order to apply for their work.

Achievements

- 8 Bal Panchayats have been formed in 8 villages of Madhupur and Margomonda block and provided the sports materials.
- The children of Bal Panchayats hold their monthly meeting every month.
- The children are also engaged in tracking other children who are drop out, irregular or in need of some special care and regularly inform the gram sathi about this wherever and whenever needed.
- The active participation of women in different meetings has increased.
- The active participation of people in gram sabha meeting and in other meetings has increased.
- People are now aware about various provisions of MGNREGA.
- Almost 150 people have applied for work under this scheme just after the programme.

Launching and release of the book entitled “Bauxite Khanan Aur Adivasi” on December 17, 2017 at HRDC Hall, Ranchi.

The research was conducted in Netarhat mining where it is spread in 429.20 hectare and mines 11.30 million tones bauxite. Indian Aluminum Company limited started this bauxite mining by assuring the village people that it will be very helpful for the villages as it will give job opportunities, roads will be made and all the necessities that are required will be fulfilled but in result as a single promise are not fulfilled. The land has been taken by the company and mining is still going on. The total population of that area is 1835 which mainly consists of tribal people i.e. asur, munda & oraon. The



production from farmlands are also been reduced as the affects of mining and farming is the main source for people. One more important thing that has come out is no gram sabha was conducted for this agreement, no suggestion has been taken from village people. Some people say their life has been good after

mining project but in other hand some people it has been worse after mining project. Mining has affected a lot in health of the people specifically in women and children and there is no good source for medical. Now no medicinal plants are found as it was so important for the village people because from the beginning, they are using the medicinal plants for their treatment. These villages have been very much affected and has seen losses of their village.

The people benefited from this research work and publication of book based on key finding of the study include the affected villagers, Intellectuals, Media persons and the “Jan Sangharsh Samiti” which has been struggling only against establishment of Army Field Firing Range in the area but were unaware about the environment degradation being caused by the Bauxite Mining. The heavy loss being caused to the socio-cultural life of the Indigenous people was perhaps first time discussed openly with the affected communities. They realized that Bauxite Mining is not only degrading the environment of the area but is also affecting on children’s education, general health of the people and above all their sustainable means of livelihood.

The most significant change found was, people thought earlier that the situation they are living in is their destiny and nothing can be done to change their plight. But after having discussed the pros and cons of Bauxite Mining with the communities they realized that the area in which their villages are situated fall under 5th scheduled area, where PESA act provides constitutional rights to the Gram Sabha or to the people to decide their development according to their own culture and social norms. Now they are getting organized and raise voice against the Mining being done without following the rules and regulations as laid down in the PESA act.

The community involvement has increased, which was evidence during the sharing of key findings of the study and release of book ceremony. The affected villagers shared their grave situation in midst of intellectuals and media persons. The prominent among them were Peter Baing, Jokim Toppo, Albinus Choranth, Gyan Prakash Saras etc.

In fact, the most affected have been women and children and that is why the women were eager to express their situation. During our discussion with the affected families

at Dumarpath, the women present in the group provided most of the information about loss of bio-diversity, children's education and general health hazards. The prominent among them were MS. Pushpa Choranth, Sushila Baing, MS. Anita Ekka, MS. Anandsiya Lakra, Sushila Aind and Bernadett Ekka etc.

Sustainable Options for Uplifting Livelihood (SOUL-II)

Community led planning meeting for drought resilience building in 15 villages

A series of ten planning meetings organized at the village level during January and February, 2018 in the villages Tirbasa, Pampada, Dokasai, Domardia, Purniya, Katigutu, Baduri, Atya Kumhartoli, Dobrasai, and Gunabasa under the panchayat of Baduri, Tuibir, Kursi, and Baduli of Chaibasa Sadar Block. Total participants in these meetings were 230, among them 146 were female and 84 males. The problems and the issues discussed are:



- Facing drought situation in the area.
- Low production from the agriculture.
- There are many water structures within the villages i.e. ponds, dovas, wells and hand pumps, but all the structures get dry during summer. And due to this they face the problem of drinking water and irrigation for agriculture. The agriculture is totally depending on rain water.
- The water of Kharkai river can be lifted and used for irrigation purposes.
- Decided to raise this issue in Gram sabha.
- Plantation of trees on the banks of pond would hold water for more months.
- To find out alternatives means including water conservation.

Farmers Demonstration Plot for Traditional Crop with high nutritional value

January 31, 2018 – An exhibition on Traditional Food Crop was organized jointly by IGSSS and Samvad at Barkundiya Middle School campus under Chaibasa Sadar Block of W. Singhbhum district. In the exhibition 26 villagers (F – 16, M – 10) participated. Various vegetables, pulses and coarse grains like Bajra, Millet etc.

produced by villagers were exhibited. On the occasion, Chief Guest the Mukhiya of the Panchayat said that today the production in agriculture has increased but quality of food has decreased due to use of hi-breed seeds and chemical fertilizers and Pesticides. Therefore, farmers should preserve their traditional seeds and do cultivation with natural manures and traditional pesticides.

March 25, 2018 - An exhibition on Traditional Food Crop was organized jointly by IGSSS and Samvad at Baduri Panchayat campus under Chaibasa Sadar Block of W. Singhbhum district. The exhibition was attended and viewed by 42 villagers (F – 23, M – 19). The programme was held under the Chairmanship of Raju Kudada. Various vegetables, pulses and coarse grains like Bajra, Millet etc., produced by villagers were exhibited. The Chairperson said on the occasion that our food habits have changed rapidly. That is why, farmers don't preserve the traditional seeds, which are full of nutrition. The coarse grains like Bajra, Millet etc. are filled with minerals and vitamins and should be produced more.

Demonstration of 15 Nutrition Garden with all practices in 15 project villages Farmers

Three numbers of demonstration programme on Nutrition garden was organized jointly with IGSS and SAMVAD at village Baituibir of Tuibir panchayat, Dobrosai of Baduri panchayat and Donkai of Kursi panchayat under the Block Chaibasa sadar during this period in which total 99 villagers were participated the programme, among the 80 were female and 19 were male.

The programme was facilitated by P. C. Surendra Biruli. During these programme the villagers got aware about the ill effect of using chemical fertilizers and pesticides. They were also encouraged for using vermi- compost and manures instead of chemical fertilizers because it retains the fertility of the soil. After the interaction and discussion, the participants visited and demonstrated the Nutrition Gardens developed by Bishu Champiya of village Baituibir. The farmers were inspired and encouraged to develop their own Nutrition gardens near their houses and to grow green vegetables and pulses for their won consumption. The Garden must be free of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

During these demonstrations the farmers were distributed the seeds of various vegetables such as lintels, Guard, Red lintel, Sour Gourd and other vegetables to develop Nutrition gardens.

Block level meeting for effective implementation of micro-plan

A Block level micro planning meeting was organized jointly by IGSSS and Samvad in village Pampada under Tuibir Panchayat of Chaibasa Sadar Block on March 28, 2018. The meeting was attended by 45 participants (F – 30, M – 15) from different villages. The participants were asked to draw map of various resources available in their

villages. The participants drew map on the ground using ‘Gulal’ to mark lines and spots. The participants from different villages and panchayats of Chaibasa Sadar Block have done resource mapping and prepared the micro plans for their villages in a participatory way which has been shown below through the table as follows:

| Sl. No | Village Name | Panchayat | Resources | Number of plans submitted | Approved | Number of plans prepared |
|--------|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Tergo | Tuibir | Culvert | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| | | | Dobha | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| | | | Pond | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 2. | Barkundiya | Tuibir | Culvert | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| | | | Drain | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| | | | Dobha | 20 | 15 | 15 |
| | | | Pond | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | | | PCC Road | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 3. | Kuidbusu | Tuibir | Drain | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | | | Dobha | 20 | 10 | 10 |
| | | | PCC Road | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 4. | Tuibir | Tuibir | Drain | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | | | Dobha | 10 | 5 | 5 |
| 5. | Baituibir | Tuibir | Dobha | 10 | 2 | 2 |
| | | | PCC Road | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 6 | Pampada | Tuibir | Culvert | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | | | Dobha | 15 | 7 | 7 |
| 7. | Tirilbasa | Baduri | Well | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | | | PCC Road | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 8. | Gunabasa | Baduri | Dobha | 10 | 7 | 7 |
| 9. | Ayta | Baduri | Dobha | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| 10. | Baduri | Baduri | Dobha | 7 | 6 | 6 |
| 11. | Dobrosai | Baduri | Dobha | 5 | 1 | 1 |

Life heritages and creation of Community protocols of Adivasi Communities

This project has effectively documented the bio-cultural protocols (BCP) of selected eight Indigenous communities of Jharkhand (Munda & Oraon), Odisha (Kutia Kandh), Chhattisgarh (Muria, Pardhi & Baiga), Rajasthan and Gujarat (Kathodi & Kotwalia). This study has been done through focus group discussion and interview based primary and



qualitative data with direct engagement with indigenous communities. The descriptive and analytic documentation process includes their customary livelihood, traditional occupation, ways of life, and customary sustainable use of livelihood resources to conserve biodiversity, significance of bio-cultural and spiritual belief. Along with documentation of above matters, the project presents the process and knowledge system of community heritage passed on to the next generation while protecting nature and earth.

The project has carried out by NAA (National Alliance of Adivasi) partners through national and regional meeting process in the states mentioned above for identified Indigenous communities. Oriented through the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) process, a total of 9 Facilitators from indigenous communities were properly trained and motivated as the main link/person for the engagement with the communities. As per the study project all 8 communities have been initiated and oriented toward creating bio-cultural community protocols through participatory process at their own for community benefit.

At the beginning it was 9 months pilot project which has so far completed around one year. As per the one of major aim of project to facilitate the representation of local community voice at UN or likeminded international forum about recognition of BCP and concerns of communities, a couple of initiatives have materialized. Initially it was envisioned that 4 representatives from Munda, Oraon,



Kathodi/Kotwalia and Gond Indigenous communities would be trained to represent at the international forum although all communities took part in the CBD training processes to get such international experience. However only one representative (from Munda community) actively took part in UN based Geneva conference in October, 2017, while two other selected representatives (from Oraon and Muria-Gond communities) could not participate due to non-registration in the program on time, whereas the selection of fourth representative was not finalized.

In course of documentation of bio-cultural protocol, the community's self governance system and their traditional sustainable livelihood options has been rejuvenated. Adivasi people have been oriented towards asserting rights over community managed lands and effective use of traditional Knowledge for ensuring climate resilience livelihood options through sustainable use with preserving collective bio-cultural heritage within the village and Gram Sabha areas. Also, awareness generation has been done among the selected villages for capacitate the communities about their bio-cultural community rights e.g. forest right, control and protection of natural resources, community ownership and ensuring cultural rights and mobilise them to claim it further through involvement of traditional self governance system and Gram Sabha.

Impact

During the study, communities have shared/become aware of importance of bio-diversity for safeguarding the nature and environment; sustain the cultural mores and their rights over forest and land, which has been one of element of project to ensure sustainable livelihood options. Community members exercises their rights to protect natural forest and accelerate re-generation of natural resources through innovative means e.g. self initiated care of jungle, water bodies and hills without the help of government or any agency. Restoration of traditional cultural practices based on the community's bio-cultural rights and generation of sense of solidarity among the Adivasi communities has been recognised since the project had provision of Community Facilitators necessarily be drawn from same indigenous communities, while partners organization was confluence of different indigenous communities of Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and Rajasthan, which provided a niche forum to learn many different things and mutually discussed a lot on inter-relation of various communities with broader and shared goals.

The overall goal has been strengthening of bio-cultural diversity and enhancement of sustainable livelihood. So, the project as long impacts forest protection and regeneration of natural forest with the help of BCP and documentation of ground initiative which in course of time lead to enhancement of climate resilience livelihood options and betterment of village economy and restore the cultural heritage of communities. The project also attempted to further increase the involvement of women and youth in transfer of know how of social-cultural mores and traditional practices, knowledge system and conservation of natural resource management to newer generation.

Workshop on Indigenous Views on Livelihoods and Future Perspectives

In a series of workshops, Bread for the World (BftW), Germany and its partner SAMVAD, Jharkhand jointly organized the third consecutive workshop at Jamshedpur city in Jharkhand state during 15-18 November, 2017 for partner organizations, working with tribal communities on the theme of "Indigenous Views on Livelihoods and Future Perspectives".



The PFIM consists of two steps of communication: the 1st Visit: Goal Free discussion and the 2nd Visit: Two-way discussion. This time the workshop provided the two steps of communication which has conducted. In the Two-way discussion, the participants go back to the villages and presented the findings back to the community, and discuss with them what they can do by themselves and what they expect from other agencies (government, NGOs, etc.)

Aim & Objectives of Workshop:

- To give voices to community/people for identifying significant changes in their lives and their coping strategies in handling the changes
- To explore the possible role of NGOs in facilitating the change processes the lives of indigenous communities in accordance with their perspectives and lived experiences
- To deepen the P-FIM method and practice among the partner organizations for better engagement with the communities with mutual learning and sharing

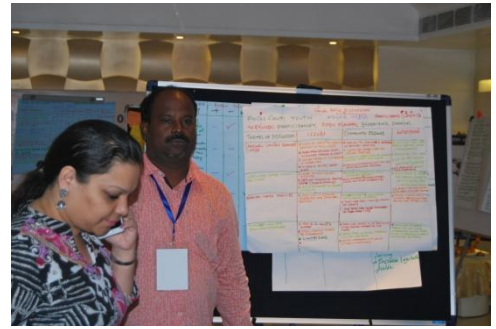


Main Issues of communities raised in Goal Free Discussion

- Seasonal migration is very common
- Educational system is dysfunctional
- Lack of irrigation facility
- Social hierarchy is increasing
- Lack of market of agro product on villagers' terms
- Concrete housing for cattle not suitable



- Traditional practice in agriculture are sidelined
- Gender hierarch in governance system at villages
- Rampant malpractices in institutional delivery
- Decreasing of organic farming
- Linkage of global and local practices
- Deforestation and lack of grazing ground
- Public health system is not up to the mark
- Barter system is eroding in communities
- Fading of *Maddait* system
- Education insufficient for job prospects



Case Study

Gram Sabha made an inactive ICDS centre into a functional centre

There is a hamlet called Guniyasol Pujhar Tola under Pasiya Panchayat in Madhupur Block. It has an 'Anganbari Kendra' (ICDS Centre), where 30 children of the village are registered. However, the children were deprived of their free nutritious food supplied by the government. They were not even taught properly due to negligence of the 'Anganbari Sewika' (ICDS worker). Everyday attendance of the children was being falsely made by the 'Sewika' herself. The villagers used to inquire about this, but never got any satisfactory answer from the 'Sewika.'

Ultimately, a meeting of the Gram Sabha was called with the help of other villagers at the Anganbari Kendra itself on May 7, 2017. In the meeting, issue of nutritional food not given to the children and negligence in educating them was raised particularly. The Sewika could not explain any valid reason for this negligence. Upon this, the Gram Sabha passed orders that in future if any complain comes against her about not providing nutritious food and preliminary education to the children, stringent action would be taken against her.

The order of Gram Sabha brought positive change in the attitude of the 'Sewika' and she began to visit homes for collecting children to take them to the Anganbari Kendra regularly. Children began to get proper nutritional food and education in the centre. At present the presence of children in the centre is quite satisfactory.

Power of Gram Sabha

If people think that Government Officials are inaccessible and their orders are ultimate, the incidence of Lakaiya Panchayat under Sisai Block in Gumla district will make them change their opinion.

The incidence took place at village Lakaiya of Lakaiya Panchayat. The Samvad worker came to know about shortage of seed of oil seed crop in the village. The seed was to be distributed among the villagers by the Block officials. However, despite several reminders to the 'Krishak Mitra' and the Block Development Officer (BDO), it could not be done. Both the officials kept mum on the matter. As the villagers were desperate, a meeting of the Gram Sabha was organized on June 20, 2017 to solve this problem. The 'Krishak Mitra' was asked to be present in the Gram Sabha and to give clarification about non distribution of the seed. Under the pressure of Gram Sabha not only the 'Krishak Mitra' but BDO also had to be present in the Gram Sabha meeting called by the villagers. In the meeting the BDO had to commit that the seed would be distributed according to the Farmer's List within two or three days.

As promised by the BDO, a list of 60 Farmers was prepared in the first week of July and the seeds were distributed @ 10 KG to each Farmer and 2 KG to each Women Self Help Group. It proved that Government officials cannot act according to their own wish and whims but as per rules set by the Government for welfare measures. It was the victory of people's power.

The valid claim of Gram Sabha

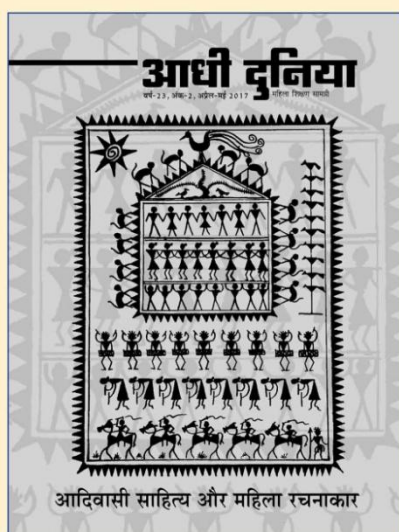
There was a common complain among the villagers of Tumbo (Kol Tola) village under Daranga Panchayat in Devipur Block of Deoghar district against the PDS dealer, Panchanand Pande who distributed ration according to his own sweet will. Complaints were lodged many times against him but nothing changed. He was influential enough to intimidate the villagers. Thus, the villagers were frightened to even ask him anything. The villagers of Tumbo at last decided to call Gram Sabha and put the issue before it for remedy.

Gram Sabha sat on the matter of PDS dealer and his lawlessness and after deliberations and discussion it was unanimously decided to take action against him. Accordingly, complaint was put before the Block Development Officer (BDO) on September 13, 2017. After hearing the villagers, BDO ordered an inquiry against the dealer and distribution of 3 month's pending ration simultaneously done to the villagers. It is true that outcome of a valid claim is always positive.

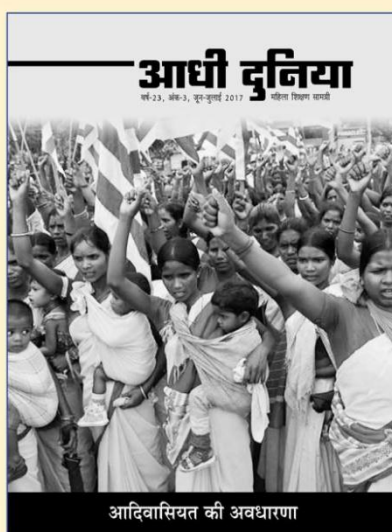
Publication



A booklet entitled "Kheti, Kisani Aur Pani" on traditional water harvesting system and climate resilient agriculture was disseminated among farmers and kisan clubs with the intention that it will remind them of their traditional water harvesting system and inspire them to rejuvenate them.



Published and disseminated the women education material "Adhi Duniya" (April-May 17), based on Adivasi Literature and women writers



"Adhi Duniya" (June- July 17) on the concept of Adivasiyat.