



**ANNUAL REPORT
2014-2015**

CONTENTS

Biodiversity Conservation Unit	Page 03-13
Centre for Pastoralism	Page 14- 23
Water Resources Management	Page 24- 28
Urban Initiative	Page 29-34

Biodiversity and Conservation Unit

1. Background

The Biodiversity and Conservation division of Sahjeevan was started in the year 2012-2013. Initially for more than one year, unit provided services to CP, URBAN and Water Unit. It was only after the approval of PBR programme with GBB came and a technical team was appointed that it was set up as an individual unit of sahjeevan.

Goals and Objectives

- ♣ Goal of the division is to support people towards enhancement, protection and strengthening sustainable use of biodiversity.
- ♣ Following are main objectives of Biodiversity division:
- ♣ Preparing Biodiversity Registers and Action Plans,
- ♣ Funding Action Plans,
- ♣ Preparing a cadre of environment workers,
- ♣ Demonstrating sharing of benefits with extraction companies
- ♣ Strengthening the research, policy and action by providing Scholarships
- ♣ Creating environment education material and incorporating it into school curriculum.
- ♣ Education, awareness and communication

Thematic Areas

The division does not work on programmes but works on different thematic areas. It works with different age groups within a community like, students, elderly, youth, adults, for their awareness about biodiversity conservation and enhancing their participation in conservation of biodiversity. However, the thematic area is a guideline that the division follows for devising and deciding their interventions. Different thematic areas of the unit are as under:

- ♣ Strengthening people's legislation
- ♣ Research and information gathering
- ♣ Conservation action demonstration
- ♣ Organize youth or cadre towards conservation of biodiversity

Thematic areas indeed are a step wise approach, a chain of steps leading to addressing a particular issue or host of issues in a particular landscape or area. It begins with research and information gathering, which forms the basis of understanding the area, its biodiversity and community. This is followed by strengthening people's education, wherein understanding of local community on the biodiversity is gauged and their understanding is also strengthened. Both these aspects are crucial for

going into the process of and preparing a participatory conservation plan. To fulfill the objective of preparing participatory biodiversity conservation plans, Biodiversity Management Committees are formed. This is precursor to conservation action and demonstration, wherein, the BMCs carry out the process of micro planning with the panchayats and the community, and also implement the plans thus prepared. Work of activism, education and awareness and communication, Organizing youth or cadre towards conservation of biodiversity goes on parallel to these steps. This includes engagement with school children and adults and youth by making them aware and sensitizing them to biodiversity conservation. The thematic areas that cross cut all the activities are ones that build long term sustainability of the efforts through rigorous community engagement and participation.

The thematic area focuses on using legal provisions that help communities develop and conserve biodiversity and ecosystem. Hence the thrust is on Enhancing awareness of the communities on BDA 2002 and FRA 2006. 37 Panchayats across Lakhpat and Abdasa, Nakhtrana and Bhachau blocks and Bhuj Nagarpalika are outreached through this work. In these blocks the main focus of the division is strengthening the understanding, education, awareness and implementation of the Biodiversity Act, 2002. Similarly in Banni, Kachch and Mundra blocks , where it covers 32 village Panchayats, the division is focusing on Forest Rights Act 2006.

Different Programmes of the unit

Programme/ Thematic Areas	Goals and objectives	Reach	Partners
1.Strengthening people's legislation	Mobilizing and capacity building of villagers and people's institution on BDA, 2002 and FRA, 2006	BDA, 2002 1. Lakhpat and Abdasa (20 panchayats) 2. Nakhtrana (15 Panchayats) 3. Bhachau (2 Panchayats) 4. Bhuj Nagarpalika FRA, 2006 5. Banni (19 panchayats) 6. Kachchh (13 clusters) 7. Navinal panchayat (Mundra taluka)	Sahjeevan SJS SETU (technical support) Nagarpalika, GBB, HIC BPUMS and RAMBLE KUUMS BMC-Navinal
2.Research and information gathering	To develop participatory action plan with mapping of local biodiversity and present challenges faced by local ecosystems.	More than 60 panchayats of four talukas 13 clusters on Kachchh landscape Forest areas on Kachchh landscape (stock mapping-working plan survey)	BMCs, FRCs, BPUMS, RAMBLE, SJS, SETU KUUMS FD-Kachchh Circle
3.Conservation action demonstration	To develop and implement plan of action for sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity.	More than 25 biodiversity conservation action plans (with 15-20 BMCs)	BMCs, TATA CSR, GBB, FD

Programme/ Thematic Areas	Goals and objectives	Reach	Partners
		Grassland improvement and habitat conservation for BD	RRA network, BMCs, Gauchar Ayog, Taluka panchayats
4.Activism	To conserve wilderness habitats and threatened biodiversity	With more than 35 panchayats and 13 clusters on Kachchh landscape	BMCs, BPUMS, KUUMS, Dist.Collectorate, FD, GBB
5.Education, awareness and communication	- Mobilize and sensitize local stakeholders, teachers and FD towards conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems of Kachchh. -To provide the necessary base information for creation of school curriculum.	With more than 10 schools and several Nature Education Camps organized by FD	BMCs, FD, SETU, Edu.Dept.
6.Organize youth or cadre towards conservation of biodiversity	-Training and awareness on local biodiversity and its importance -To initiate a fellowship on biodiversity governance and conservation agendas in Kachchh.	With more than 35 panchayats	BMCs, TATA-CSR, GBB, FD

2. Activities

2.1. Orientation Meeting, training and FGDs with BMCs -Panchayat and Communities:

The Biodiversity Division worked with 15 BMCs and around 30 meetings were conducted with BMCs for preparing the action plan of BMCs that are based on the PBRs prepared by BMCs. The meetings were really helpful in taking the further the discussions regarding planning the implementation of the action plans made by BMCs based on PBR.

Forest department gave 100 plants per BMC as envisaged in the action plan of BMC. The plants were planted by respective BMCs in their villages. Proposal for implementation of action plans were sent to GMDC. GMDC in response to this has asked for the details of Guneri village for grassland development in the village. The details have been sent to GMDC and approval is awaited.

2.2. Meeting, competition and field exposure with schools, youth and FD.

World house Sparrow day celebrated in Abdasa block with school children in the BMC villages. The event aimed at introducing the children to their surrounding biodiversity, as well as sensitise them for sparrow conservation. Artificial nests of sparrows were distributed amongst school children in the event. Students put up sparrow nest in their houses. Post the event not only the students but their parents also contacted the BD team for more nests which were used properly at their homes. However, the BD division fell short of the nests.

2.3. Development of Educational Materials

Work on developing posters of Butterfly, spiders of Kutch and indirect evidence identification posters of mammals was undertaken by the BD division.

2.4. Experience sharing workshop (panchayat, taluka, cluster, district and state level)

To facilitate the sharing of PBR and action plan of each of the 25 new and 10 old BMCs with each other a workshop was organized at Nakhatrana in Sayra village. 125 participants including Local politicians, religious priests, NGOs and Panchayats participated in the workshop. BMC made the presentation in the workshop. Since local community presented and discussed the concerns of biodiversity conservation, it influenced and motivated the government officials also to work for the cause with more vigor.

2.5. Participatory Mapping & Planning Exercise

With experts of the villages having indigenous knowledge in wildlife, agriculture and Paatorialist, a participatory resource mapping exercise was carried out. It aimed The exercise was done in order to make participatory action plan by BMC. All 25 new BMCs who had not yet done this exercise completed the resource mapping in 25 villages in Lakhpat, Abdasa and Nakhatrana.

2.6. Training of Para Ecologist/youth mobilization for long-term biodiversity governance agendas with respective BMCs/panchayats

In every village where there is a BMC, some people have been identified who have interest in biodiversity conservation. A list of such people has been prepared and a one day training on sharing the outcomes of the PBR of their respective villages. The idea ws to make them aware and sensitise them for the conservation of their village's biodiversity. The youth, around 125 from Nakhatrana, Abdasa and Lakhpat, participated in the workshop.

2.7. Training of Other NGOs

A one day training of Setu team was organized on biodiversity governance. 70 to 80 participants from the organization participated in the training. They will help Setu, VRTI Bhavnagar

2.8. Display materials / Demarcation of participatory Conservation Areas

The participatory mapping for biodiversity conservation was done in all 25 new Panchayats and further in this activity the significant biodiversity identified in this process was marked in the map. Action plans for the conservation of these mapped areas were made by BMCs with technical support from the BD division's team.

2.9. Demarcation of corridors and habitat improvement

For habitat improvement and grassland development seeds were sown in grazing land in 10 villages, per BMC 70 Kg. Lakhpat and Abdasa. Villages were chosen as per the action plan.

2.10. Education, awareness and communication

Forest dept invited the BD division to work as technical resource person in nature education camps organized by FD. In Ten such camps Sahjeevan was the resource person. The entire camp was managed by the BD unit whereas bringing children to the camps was the responsibility of BD unit. Education material of the unit was used to educate children about environment. The issues included for discussion were medicinal plant identification, snake awareness, bird watching, nature trail, lectures on current environmental issues and diverse ecosystems of Kutch. Duration of the camps was two nights and three days for one camp. They had never done trekking before and this was a unique experience for them. The issues were completely new for children. They live in the midst of rich biodiversity but were unaware of the importance of conservation of biodiversity.

Log frame of Different programmes of the unit

Thematic Area/Programme: Strengthening people's legislation					
Goal/s	Objectives	Deliverables (Outputs)	Activities	Indicators	Source of verification
Mobilizing and capacity building of villagers and people's institution on BDA, 2002 and FRA, 2006	1. Prepared and published cluster reports on NR mapping exercise with BPUMS and KUUMS 2. Action plans on BD conservation	1. Completed 35 PBRs and constitution of 35 BMCs 2. Signed PBRs from GBB submitted to BMCs 3. Published clusters reports and prepared Participatory NR utilization Maps 4. 15 Action plans prepared and	Meetings FGDs Site visit Data collection Compilation Mapping Report	Published PBRs with action plans (35 Nos.) Published cluster reports/maps	GBB and BMCs correspondence, Resolutions by BMCs/BPUMS/ KUUMS etc.

Thematic Area/Programme: Strengthening people's legislation					
Goal/s	Objectives	Deliverables (Outputs)	Activities	Indicators	Source of verification
		sanctioned by GBB with respective PBRs			
Programme/Thematic Area: Research and Information Gathering					
Goal/s	Objectives	Deliverables (Outputs)	Activities	Indicators	Source of verification
To develop participatory action plan with mapping of local biodiversity and present challenges faced by local ecosystems.	1. Prepare site and species specific conservation plan 2. Data collection on species and habitat level	1. Progress Reports on various fellowship with RAMBLE 2. Species level information and data base with team	Meeting Correspondence Field Sharing protocol	Data base (hard sets and soft copies) Progress reports	Published PBRs, progress report, cluster reports etc.
Conservation Action Demonstration					
Goal/s	Objectives	Deliverables (Outputs)	Activities	Indicators	Source of verification
To develop and implement plan of action for sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity.	1. Development of various technical proposals with BMCs on species conservation, habitat improvement, restoration and enhancement of agro-biodiversity. 2. Advocacy and convergence with various stakeholders and Govt.	1. Implemented proposed action plans with FD and other stakeholders 2. Publication of technical BD action plans of each BMC/Cluster	Meeting FGDs Resolution Site visit Technical estimates	Implementation plans and site specific intervention	Site visit and resolution by BMCs/KUUMS etc.
Thematic Area/Programme: Activism					
Goal/s	Objectives	Deliverables	Activities	Indicators	Source of Verification
To conserve wilderness habitats and threatened biodiversity	1. Publication of advocacy materials 2. Advocacy with various Govt. departments on BD governance agendas	1. Publication of advocacy reports and media attention on issues related to BD governance	Meeting FGDs Correspondence Data collection Compilation Report	Publication of advocacy reports	Correspondence with Govt. and GBB and resolutions Media notes
Education, awareness and communication					

Thematic Area/Programme: Strengthening people's legislation					
Goal/s	Objectives	Deliverables (Outputs)	Activities	Indicators	Source of verification
Goal/s	Objectives	Deliverables	Activities	Indicators	Source of Verification
- Mobilize and sensitize local stakeholders, teachers and FD towards conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems of Kachchh. - To provide the necessary base information for creation of school curriculum.	1. Development of education local materials 2. Design and publication of various activities 3. Organizing education camp with FD, Edu.Dept. and BMCs	1. Developed and published education modules on ecosystems and BD of Kachchh 2. Designed and published various activities on Kachchh ecosystems and BD	Meeting Secondary data Compilation Story Design Activities Feed back Teachers meet DIET off.Meet Publication	Two modules published on BD and ecosystems of Kachchh Various activities materials	Modules and activities Photographs with schools
ThematicArea/Programme: Organize youth or cadre towards conservation of biodiversity					
- Training and awareness on local biodiversity and its importance - To initiate a fellowship on biodiversity governance and conservation agendas in Kachchh.	1. Design modules (in-house and field base) for youth on BD governance agendas 2. Training and organizing local youth towards BD conservation		Progress	Progress	Progress

3. Outcomes

- 3.1. Under BDA, 2002 and with support of Gujarat Biodiversity Board (GBB), Gandinagar; since last two years we prepared a total of 35 PBRs and signed copies are also submitted to respective BMCs. All proposed action plans on restoration, habitat improvement, species and site specific intervention have also shared with Government's line departments i.e. Forest, Animal Husbandry, Gauchar Gauseva Ayog, GBB etc., team and TATA CSR are planning to start implementation with selected BMCs.
- 3.2. A discussion with various stakeholders has also been initiated to conserve rare and endangered biodiversity recorded by each BMC, wherein the BMCs have adopted effective, result oriented and participatory approach. In addition to this, the work and approach of the biodiversity division were also shared with GBB during state level consultation with various NGOs. GBB recognized the process carried out by the unit and also asked it to submit a proposal to develop a guideline on PBR process.
- 3.3. Under Section 37 of BDA, 2002 the State Government in consultation with local bodies can notify in the official gazette, areas having significance from the standpoint of biodiversity as Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS). The division mobilized two BMCs i.e. Guneri in Lakhpat taluka and Navinal in Mundra taluka, to propose such areas as Biodiversity Heritage Sites. Both

the BMCs approached the GBB and a committee also visited both the proposed sites. The committee shared their ideas to conserve and protect these sites.

- 3.4. In addition, as part of the advocacy with other line departments of Government, BMCs also invited MSU University and Delhi University to conduct a detailed survey on biodiversity and initiate an action oriented conservation programme with BMCs.
- 3.5. Under the programmes RAMBLE (in Banni) and PBR (in Abdasa, Lakhpat, Nakhtrana and Bhachau with SETU), the division had collected information on biodiversity, biomass, status of woody vegetation, soil characteristic, carbon dating, socio and political ecology etc with help of several researchers.
- 3.6. After compilation of several PBRs with respective participatory biodiversity conservation plan, several piloting programmes with BMCs like Guggul conservation with Meghapar-and BMCs of Lakhpat Taluka were conducted. These include conservation of corridors of wildlife movement with BMCs of Abdasa taluka, protection of wildlife and bird's habitat with BMCs of Nakhtrana taluka.
- 3.7. Several Nature Education Camps with Forest Department had been organized at BMCs and shared our PBRs and action plan on conservation of biodiversity. We also went to wilderness areas with children and members of BMCs to aware them important of existing biodiversity of their village/s.
- 3.8. As part of various biodiversity governance agendas, with help of K-Link team, we prepared several maps on distribution of significance biodiversity in Kachchh and taluka level, LuLc maps of Kachchh and Banni region etc. These are IUCN RET species distribution maps. These maps will help us in making microplan for conserving the biodiversity rich areas.
- 3.9. Discussion been initiated with Sh.Tarachandbahi Chheda and Sh.Vallabhabhai Kathariya on grazing land improvement with our 35 BMCs and proposal also submitted.
- 3.10. Participatory conservation plan for conservation of meetha guggul was prepared with community in Lakhpat block. This specie was declared extinct by the researchers and scientists community. The technical team of the division rediscovered three to four individuals.
- 3.11. GBB appointed Sahjeevan as technical support group for management of biodiversity heritage site (inland mangrove) of Guneri village in Lakhpat Taluka.

4. Outputs

Strengthening people's legislation

- ♣ 35 PBRs published and sanctioned by GBB
- ♣ 8 cluster reports published in Gujarati with KKUMS
- ♣ 13 Participatory Natural Resource maps prepared for FRCs of Banni with BPUMS

Research and information gathering

- ♣ Data base on biodiversity for 35 panchayats/BMCs
- ♣ RAMBLE data base on more than 160 permanent plots in Banni
- ♣ Fellowship-Progress reports

Conservation action demonstration

- ♣ First draft on action plans with proposed intervention (25 Nos.)
- ♣ Sanctioned PBRs with proposed action plans

Activism

- ♣ Two advocacy reports published i.e. Navinal and Jangi
- ♣ Several publication in local news papers
- ♣ Several correspondence with district authorities
- ♣ Five meetings on Common agendas in Abdasa taluka
- ♣ MSU university, Baroda sent a letter to sahjeevan

Education, awareness and communication

- ♣ Two modules published i.e. Introduction of ecosystems of Kachchh with associate livelihood and significance biodiversity of Kachchh (two story booklets)
- ♣ Five ecosystems posters, two posters on birds and mammals of Kachchh
- ♣ Eight activities materials for students
- ♣ Photographs and media notes on nature education camps with BMCs and FD

Organize youth or cadre towards conservation of biodiversity

Youths have been identified and a list of more than 50 young people from three talukas and 35 BMCs has been prepared.

5. Challenges

The followings are broad challenges that the division faced:

- ♣ Organizing people and creating awareness amongst them on Biodiversity governance.
- ♣ Preparing participatory conservation plans
- ♣ Identification of key species for each BMC
- ♣ Mobilizing FD and other Government departments towards down-top approaches for Biodiversity conservation
- ♣ Organizing youth and naturalists towards participatory conservation of Biodiversity in Kachchh

6. Learning

Broad learning from the team's experiences with PRIs, NGOs and Government departments are as follows:

- ♣ Development of Ecologically sound participatory conservation plans with PRIs and NGOs
- ♣ Positive advocacy and approaches to protect an Ecological Sensitive Areas (ESAs)
- ♣ Design and publication of activity based environment education materials/modules (Kachchh specific)
- ♣ Dealing and liaising/coordinating on biodiversity agendas between FD, Researchers and other stakeholders

7. Achievements

- The PBRs developed by BMCs with the technical support of the division's team have been selected as a MODEL PBR for Gujarat state and have been sent to NBA.
- Forest department recognized the technical strength of the division and sanctioned a Working Plan Project. It has also sanctioned financial allocation for the project.
- 35 PBRs with proposed action plans have been sanctioned by GBB.
- Participatory research model and approaches (RAMBLE) for research and policy makers in India has been initiated.
- Two environment education modules have been published and discussed with Education department for mainstreaming them in the school curriculum.

8. Impact

- The information and data on biodiversity collected will be digitized onto maps and be available for macro planning, research and encouraging specific action.
- Case studies and success stories will be communicated through publications as well by engaging print and electronic media. Being demonstration models of each proposed action plan with BMCs, focus will be on creating good examples and best practices which will be then advocated with policy makers to scale up the concept.

Center for Pastoralism Unit

1. Background

The Unit emerged in Sahjeevan in 2006-2007, when as a part of Kutch Navnirman Abhiyan network, Sahjeevan, took lead to demonstrate a pilot project on revival of livestock based livelihood in kutch. Sahjeevan established a unit called AHKC (Animal Husbandry Knowledge Center), with an aim to create a knowledge and expertise on animal husbandry sector. Eventually Sahjeevan shifted its focus towards pastoral issues, especially on the Banni and the Camel Pastoralists. Sahjeevan generated good knowledge on breeds, breeders and pastoral systems and simultaneously changed name of unit, which is now known as Center for Pastoralism.

In phase – II of Drought proofing programme of kutch, partners of Kachch Navnirman Abhiyan collectively decided to work on animal husbandry based livelihood by reviving dairy. However, this sector was new for Sahjeevan and hence there was a need for focused efforts and building knowledge base and skill set through studies and sharing of learnings. Sahjeevan therefore decided to make it a separate unit dedicated to .

Goal and objectives of the unit

Goal of the division is Strengthening Pastrol system, eco system conservation, main striming pastoral livelihood through institutionlization, policy advocacy.

Objectives

- Strengthening pastoral communities through Institution building process.
- Highlight the role of pastoral communities for developing and maintaining the indigenous breeds, conservation and management of commons.
- Research and studies for Policy advocacy.

Thematic Areas/Different programmes of the unit

- ♣ Strengthening Breeders association, supporting for recognizing community rights and governance and management of Banni Grassland.
- ♣ Ensuring Food Security of Camel Pastoralists by Strengthening Camel Breeders Association for Market Linkages and Conservation of Grazing Resources
- ♣ Registration of lesser known livestock Details population of Gujarat
- ♣ Ensuring Food Security of Camel Pastoralists by Strengthening Camel Breeders Association for Market Linkages and Conservation of Grazing Resources
- ♣ Characterization and registration of lesser known livestock population of Gujarat

♣ Breeding Piloting

Details of the Programmes

Programme/ Thematic Areas	Goals and objectives	Reach	Partners
1. Strengthening Breeders association, supporting for recognizing community rights and governance and management of Banni Grassland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening breeders Association - Support and facilitation for recognized common resources rights. - Conservation and improvement of indigenous livestock breeds. - Facilitate multi disciplinary research on ecology, BD and Socio-economy 	Banni Grassland, 2500 Sq.km. 54 villages 19 panchyats	
2. Ensuring Food Security of Camel Pastoralists by Strengthening Camel Breeders Association for Market Linkages and Conservation of Grazing Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening Pastoral Organization - Empowering women Groups - Establishing Linkage for Camel Milk Marketing & Wool Products - Participatory Conservation of Natural Resources - Lobbying and Advocacy - Animal Healthcare & in-situ conservation 	Kutch district, 08 talukas,	
3. Characterization and registration of lesser known livestock population of Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Characterization and developing breed descriptor for registration lesser known breed as distinct breeds. - Mobilizing pastoral communities and ensure participatory role in registration process. - Advocacy and lobing for influence Govt to government to develop appropriate policies 	Gujarat state	AAU Prakriti Foundation
4. Breeding Piloting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstration on participatory process by different stock holders for regi. Breed of new breeds - Develop national level programme on development and improvement of indigenous breeds. 	Karnataka and Rajashthan	Fute Green (NGO) LPPS (NGO)

2. Activities

Project: Strengthening Banni Breeders Association

2(a) Meetings of the Executive Body of the Banni Breeders Association

Banni Breeders Association is becoming an autonomous body. The association has become independent in many aspects related to decision making and operational aspects. It is independently doing community organization work, planning and has also started organizing the meetings of executive body on a regular basis on their own. In this period total four executive meetings were held and they were instrumental in taking a number of important decisions.

2(b) Issuing Certificates to Maldharis

Maldharis sell their animals in entire state of Gujarat. They faced difficulties in proving their identity during transporting the animals from one state to another and were sometimes even harassed by some people. BPUMS is providing Certificates to registered members.

2(c) Meetings with Deputy Collector

Breeders Association acts as a bridge between communities (Panchyats) and district administration to provide better drought relief services. Association had several meetings with deputy collector regarding approval of cattle camps for fodder supply from government. As a result of effective coordination between government departments and the community by the breeders association, Government, with the Centre for Pastoralism organized 42 cattle camps and provided fodder for 35000 livestock of Banni.

2(d) Training of the Office Bearers of BPUMS

A training of the office bearers of BPUMS was held by Sahjeevan. The training aimed at improving the internal management and systems of the Breeders Association as well as making the role of the executive committee more effective.

2(e) FRA and Governance Processes in Banni

BPUMS is working on the CFR issue and facilitating the process of filing claims for entitlements of the community. SLDC asked BPUMS for facilitating collection of household information and infrastructure details for preparing a list of contenders of all 48 villages. Collection of infrastructure details was also a part of the information collection. SDLC Meeting was held on 23-05-2015 and SDLC decided to forward this to DLC for further process at DLC level. 48 CFR File ultimately moved forward to DLC level.

One of the important information that the process revealed was that total number of houses in Banni is now 5889.

2(f) Meetings with Forest Department for Work on Grassland Regeneration

Forest Department has shown interest to work with the breeders association for creating some model/demonstrations of grassland regeneration in Banni. In this regard couple of meetings was held with the executive committee of BPUS. However there were different views on how to implement this work and implementation of the work could not be started yet.

Project: Ensuring Food Security of Camel Pastoralists by Strengthening Camel Breeders Association for Market Linkages and Conservation of Grazing Resources

2(g) Strengthening Camel Breeders Association

2(g)1. Meetings of executive Body of Camel Breeders Association

Regular, Village, Taluka and district level executive meetings were held. Membership of 61 members in KUUMS has been renewed.

2(g)2. Annual General Body Meeting

5th Annual general body meeting held on 22nd June 2015. Member of Parliament, President of Jilla Panchyat, and DDO, were present the meeting. Cheques worth Rs. 114000/ were distributed to 15 Kharai Camel breeders (1000/camel) were as incentives.

2.1. Establishing Linkage for Camel Milk Marketing & Wool Products

2.1(a) Meeting with FSSAI

Meeting with FSSAI was organised to give impetus to the process of getting recognition to camel milk as food item. Meeting was held with Cabinet minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry Mr. Babubhai Bokhriya at Sachivalay. Director of Animal Husbandry department, Dr. Kachhia Patel facilitated the meeting. He assured the team of Centre for Pastoralism of his support in taking this agenda to the Chief Minister and the in this regard.

2.1(b) Demonstration on Qualities of Camel Milk

Sahjeevan conducted small documentation study on medicinal properties and its impact on human health, around 20 different patent were covered in interview, a documentary book has published.

2.2 Participatory Conservation of Natural Resources

2.2(a) Based on Resource mapping exercise, need was identified for some habitat improvement work. Renovation of water tank (talav) has been done in 2 different grazing zones. One Avada (water storage for cattle) work has been completed. Moreover, habitat improvement work has been done in 10 hector in Lakhpat block.

2.3.Lobbying and Advocacy

2.3(a) After almost two-three years of research, advocacy efforts Kharai Camel breed of Kachchh has been registered as distinct camel breed of India.

2.4Animal Healthcare & in-situ conservation

2.4(a) After almost two-three years of research and advocacy efforts, Kharai Camel breed of Kachchh has been registered as distinct camel breed of India.

Project: Characterization and Registration project of lesser known livestock breeds of Gujarat

2.5 Preparation of Breed Descriptor

2.5(a) Data Collection and Measurements of Breeds

Work of data collection and measurements of animals was continued during this period. The focus during this period has been on Kachchhi Horse and Duma Sheep Breeds.

2.6. Characterization of lesser known Breeds of Gujarat

2.6 (a) Research for Finding New Breeds with Potential of Characterization and Registration

Sahjeevan carried out field survey to examine the listed lesser known population of Gujarat. This field survey covered Kachchh district, Junagadh, Jamanagar, Rajkot, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Dahod and other tribal areas of Gujarat. It was concluded from the survey that out 20 listed population, only 06 breeds were clearly identified as having potential for further characterization. These breeds were Kachchhi horse, Dumma sheep, Kahami Goat, Kachchhi Donkey, Halari donkey and Nari Cattle. Remaining 12 breeds were found to be having different colloquial names of the same breed or stain of registered breed. Out of 20 breeds, Kharai Camel was registered recently as a distinct breed.

2.6(b) Documentation for Breed Application

Sahjeevan developed and published a browser on characterization and registration of lesser known livestock populations of Gujarat. The browser contains project detail, objectives, partners with photographs of breeds covered. The browser was launched in state level workshop. Data analysis is under process for developing breed descriptor and application. Socio economic survey of Dumma sheep Breeders and Kachchhi horse owners was also carried out.

2.7. Stakeholders & Steering Committee Meetings

2.7(a) Meeting and Collaboration with Prakriti Foundation

In South East areas of Gujarat, The Centre for Pastoralism has identified and reported indigenous cattle breed and Goat breed. The area is adjoining to Madhyapradesh and Rajasthan states. Huge cross exchange of livestock across these states takes place. In Dahod district good population of Malavi cattle has been found by the team. The team of Center for Pastoralism did several field surveys with tribal communities to identify rare breeds, but due to lot of mixing and cross breeding

amongst same species of livestock breed, it was difficult to identify potential population. The work was done in collaboration with a local organization, Prakriti foundation.

2.7 (b) Meeting with Anand Agricultural University

Under this project Genetic characterization is necessary to make distinction amongst similar breeds. The Centre for Pastoralism had a dialogue with the agricultural Universities of four states. Out of these, Anand Agricultural University agreed to work with Sahjeevan for genetic characterization. We had meeting with Dean, head of research in veterinary collage.

The Anand Agricultural University will work on genetic characterization of 5-6 lesser known populations of Gujarat. The Result and reports will be helpful in preparing the breed descriptor.

2.7(c) Technical Expert Visit

Sahjeevan has appointed Dr. D.K. Sadana as Technical consultant for this project. For building the technical knowledge and awareness of CP team of Sahjeevan, a field visit was arranged by the unit/division in different locations of this project. Dr. Sadana provided guidance to the team on the aspects of technical data collection and identifying the potential breeds, out of the listed ones.

2.8 Training and Capacity Building

2.8 (a) Training of the Team of Prakriti Foundation

Training Programme was conducted with the field team of Prakriti Foundation, Zalod. The two day training covered breed characters, survey methods, survey form, FGD etc.

2.8(b) State Level Seminar with Animal Husbandry Department

In Collaboration with Animal Husbandry Department, a state level seminar was organized at SPIPA, Ahmedabad on 2nd February 2015. 240 Pastoral representatives attended this seminar. Participants included people from Kerala and Tamilnadu and they shared their experiences on the breed registration process.

Project: Breeding Piloting Project

2.9. Partnership with Future Green

As Part of RLN Network, Sahjeevan is leading breeding piloting theme. Under this project Sahjeevan has built partnership with Green future organization in Karnataka for characterization

and registration of an indigenous Buffalo Breed. It also partnered with LPPS in Rajasthan for work on Nari Cattle breed.

Sajeevan provided training support to the field team of Future Green for data collection and orientation on Breed registration project. In Karnataka, Characterization work has been initiated and data collection work is in progress.

The team of Center for Pastoralism and Future Green and Dr. S. Das (board member-sahjeevan) visited higher level officials of Karnataka state to inform them about the breeding project and seek support from Government of Karnataka. The team met Secretary of Animal Husbandry, Director of Animal Husbandry Department, Director of KLDB. The officials were keen to provide support to this initiative.

In this project MP State was initially seen as the potential area to identify local cattle breed. Sahjeevan team made a visit to Khandava and Devas field locations of AKRSP and SPS Organizations.

2.10. Exploring new breed in RRA-Field location

2.10 (a) Visit to Trlangana in Coordination with WASAN

WASSAN- Hyderabad, invited Sahjeevan to explore new lesser known breeds in field locations of RRA-CP in Telangana and Orissa states.

Sahjeevan and RRA- Livestock node jointly visited Mahebus Nagar district of Telangana state, to study local bullock and cattle breeds, as well as Goat breed in Telangana district of Orrissa. This opens up new opportunity for sahjeevan to enhance its work beyond Kutch and Gujarat.

2.11. Institutional Process with Sheep-Goat Breeders of Lakhpat.

2.11 (a) Village and Block Level Meetings of Pastoral Leaders

Several meetings at village and block level were held with the Pastoral leaders who took the responsibility for doing member registrations in different villages. Total 518 members have been registered with Sheep-Goat Breeders.

Breeders have decided to register this association under Trust and Society Act. Executive committee of 21 members has been nominated and registration of file with all documents has been submitted to charity commissioner.

2.11 (b) Health camps for sheep-Goat breeders

Health camps for sheep and goat were held in different villages.

2.11(c) Registration of Kharai Camel- FAO Project

As member of Life network sahjeevan was implementing a collaborative project with this group. Sahjeevan initiated the process of registration of Kharai camel breed. The breed has been registered and the project completed in march 2015.

Objective	Activities	Indicator of Success	Means of Verification
1.Strengthening Pastoral Organization	Capacity Building of Camel breeders Association -Taluka level meeting -Executive committee meeting -Cultural event -Exposure -Training	-Will be organized regular taluka level meeting, AGM & executive committee meeting -Increase the Membership of Association	-Numbers of Meetings, Participation of member, Administrative Record -Number of Membership record
	-Empowering women Groups Taluka Level and District Level Group Meeting with Women -Training on leadership, social issues, gender etc. with women group -Exposure of women group	-Women of Camel pastoralist will organized as a unique group! -Linkages will be established with other women's collectives like SJS. -Developed leadership in KUUMS at taluka and district level	-Number of Meeting with women group Number of Training /Exposure output of Training and exposure -Number of attendance records of KUUMS at taluka and district level
	-Create Market linkages of Camel Products -Facilitate and organize the Milk collection system and wool at cluster level -Collaboration with Sharhad dairy, AH Dept., and other various agencies	-3000 Liter Milk will sell in organized market -250 Breeders will directly get benefit from Milk Market -Their Monthly Income will Be increase Rs. 2000-5000/Family/Month -People will get the packaged camel milk with medicinal value -Wool collection app.500 kgs from 50 families-piloting study -Camel Population will be get stability due to economical benefit -Collaboration with various agencies	-Record of Milk collection and payment -Number of Family -Record of Household level Income (payment sheet) -Records of Market and selling of Milk and wool -Census of Camel population -Linkages with various agencies
	Food Security -Collect baseline data on food composition with their nutritive value -Collect baseline data on socioeconomic condition at HH level -Increase Purchasing Capacity for Nutritive food by women group Workshop on nutritive values of various food	-Will be monitored HH of poorest to poor as per baseline data -Documentation and publication on selective case studies -Awareness materials on nutritive values of various food	-House level monitoring sheet for their purchasing - capacity and allocation for food requirement -Final report on Food Security
3.Participatory Conservation of	-Mapping exercise of traditional grazing routes and other natural resources -Preparation of Participatory	-Map of Grazing areas of Kachchh will be prepared -Community will be prepared and published their conservation Plan	-Map and Report of Grazing area and Conservation Plan -Number o-

Objective	Activities	Indicator of Success	Means of Verification
Natural Resources	Conservation Plan -Training and Capacity Building on FRA,2006 -To be demonstrated the Improvement of Grazing Habitat and Water Resources in one cluster	-FRC Will be constituted, Breeders will submit their claims to FRC -Appr. 1000 ha habitat will be improved and 10 water resources unites will be constructed	Training/Register/Resolution/Records -Site verification/ Area
4.Lobbying and Advocacy	-Seminar -Consultation -Registration of Kharai Camel Breed -Camel Fair -Documentation	-To be recognized grazing rights under FRA, -Financial Grants allocated for Milk Market, Resource Development, Health Care Medicine by various departments -Kharai Camel will get National Reorganization as a distinct breed	-Number of Seminar Consultations/ Recommendation/Outputs -Amount of spent by states/benefits/project reports -Title of Grazing rights -Number of Camel Fair, Report of fair/Photographs -Certificate of Kharai camel registration
5.Animal Healthcare & in-situ conservation	-Organizing Camel Health Camps -Study on Camel Health status and disease affecting camels -Documentation of Camel ITK of Camel breeders on camel health care Camel Health Competition	-15-20 Mega/small health camp will organized and 8000-10000 Camel will be treated -Status Report will be prepared and submit to Govt. -Paper will present in different occasion. -Document will be prepared on ITK Two Competition in a year will -organized 100 Breeders will participated the competition -Improve Health status and mortality rate will be decreased	-Number of Health camp Register/Press notes -Report /Document/Paper presentation -Number Competition /Photographs -Health status of camel after treatment -Opinion in written of pastoralist for health status of camel

3. Challenges

- ♣ Getting approval of camel for enlisting camel milk as food item by FSSAI has been the biggest challenge for the project. The formal process for this took more than one year's time, whilst the formal approval is still awaited. In absence of a formal and written approval the project has suffered a lot and some important initiatives could not be rolled out.
- ♣ For Banni project, 48 villages submitted their claim file almost a year ago, out of 54 villages of Banni, 08 villages have not submitted their claim files due to several reasons. 48 FRCs claim for community rights in Banni (which includes the area of these 08 villages). The issue is coming out as a dissuasive factor for SDLC and DLC to give CFR title to 48 FRCs.
- ♣ In Breed registration project of AH Department GoG, Sahjeevan tried to find out local partners in different field locations for work on breed registration in partnership approach, we approached with AKRSP (i) Sayala, FES-Dahod, Prakriti foundation Zalod etc. However, only Prakriti foundation-Zalod has so far shown interest to be a partner of this project.

4. Learning

- ♣ CP team carried out base line survey with camel breeders of Kachchh. This was an online survey, wherein the team almost covered 80% households of camel breeders. We found that there was serious decline in population of camel and also learnt that it was important to monitor camel population annually. This will provide us the trend of changes in population.

5. Achievements

- ♣ Registration of Kharai Camel breed by NBAGR is big achievement of Sahjeevan for this period.
- ♣ Organizing a state level seminar was also an important achievement of Sahjeevan. Role of Sahjeevan in livestock sector was appreciated and recognized by the Director of NBAGR in this seminar.

Water Resource Development Programme

1. Background

Kachchh is a water scarce region and developmental issues in this district revolve around this. The district has complex geo-hydrology. Sahjeevan's focus has always remained on bringing out the power of local self governance institutions to make them conscious of their authority to strengthen the sustainable sources of decentralised safe drinking water created under their leadership. Sahjeevan undertook a collaborative project Pani Thiye Panjo, to established decentralized drinking water system by developing and strengthening local water resources in more than 100 villages of Abdasa Taluka. Sahjeevan by developing a scientific methodology to worked on protection of aquifer and catchment of drinking water sources. Guideline has been developed for groundwater protection in villages having single aquifer and is currently being implemented in two villages of Abdasa Taluka on a pilot basis. The outreach of the programme is in seven villages of Mundra block. The partners and stakeholders in the programme are Gram Panchayats, Setu- Abhiyan, Upaj Producer Company limited, CSPC (Coastal salinity and prevention cell), HUF: Hindustan Unilever foundation and Sahjeevan.

Goal of Programme

To influence policy by demonstrating examples of sustainable, Water management for livelihoods that enhance biodiversity indicators based on bringing together community knowledge and modern science, with gender equity.

Objectives of the programme

1. To strengthen capacity and self dependence of the Panchayats to plan and implement projects scientifically and equitably; and the producer company of farmers of the project area to access inputs and markets for its members.
2. To increase the productivity of the land resources and animals of the project area through appropriate soil, water, biotic genetic material of seeds, trees, breeds and their management.
3. Introduction of participatory groundwater management protocol for sustainable groundwater use.
4. Reduced cost and increased accessibility of clean drinking water resulting improved Living condition of the families

Different programmes of the unit

- ♣ Strengthening Local Governance and People's Institutions for Sustainable Rain-fed Agriculture and Livestock Economy in Kutch District of Gujarat- "Jalprabandh".
- ♣ Strengthening Local Governance for creating drinking water security and improved sanitation in Mndra Taluka of Kutch District.
- ♣ Strengthening Local Governance and People's Institutions for Sustainable Rain-fed Agriculture and Livestock Economy in Kutch District of Gujarat- "Jalprabandh".

Conservation and efficient use of water resources both ground water and surface reservoir are critical and lifeline for the livelihoods of people in Kutch. Rainfed farming and Livestock economy are complimentary to each other in the Arid and semi arid regions like Kutch. Diversification of farming families into livestock production system traditionally reckoned response to vagaries of rainfall. Thus, sustainable livelihoods in areas like Kutch, known for its high rainfall variability across seasons and across years, are contingent on ensuring security of water and fodder. Hence, the proposed project aims at strengthening the livelihood base through land and water resource development together with improvement in agriculture, fodder availability and livestock management practices. Hence, creating model for participatory water conservation to increase productivity is the major aim of this project. The main areas the programme intervenes in are Strengthening Local Governance for Resource management, Water resource development, Soil moisture conservation Activities, Agriculture Development, Livestock development, Grassland development, Market linkages for Agriculture produce, Groundwater Management & Salinity Prevention. 6 villages, 4 gram panchayats, 3681 families and a population of 15889 will be covered under the programme.

2. Activities

2.1. Water governance and process carried out under Jalprabandh project

2.1(a) Demographic data collection

2.1(b) Meeting with Gram Panchayats

2.1 (c) Preparing plans in Gramshbha in project covered villages

2.1 (d) Formation of Jalprabandh committee in 3 villages

2.1 (e) Formation of cluster committee at project level

2.1 (f) Coordination with Taluka Panchayats

2.1 (g) Meeting with farmers

2.2. Meeting with Jalprabandh committee for NRM planning, Execution

2.2.(a) Facilitation and supervision of water harvesting and soil moisture conservation activities

2.12 (b) Carried out technical survey of Water harvesting site

2.2 (c) Conducted technical training of project staff

2.2 (d) Completed renovation work in Raban pond of Ajpar and Bhimsari pond Bhimasar

2.2 (e) Construction of two farm ponds in Ajapar and Pashuda villages completed.

2.2 (f) Bhimasar village's farmers carried out farm bund activities in their farm

2.2 (g) Activities of Grazing/Gauchar land development completed in Ajapar village.

2.2 (h) Agriculture and animal husbandry development

2.2 (i) Baseline study completed with 200 farmers families.

2.2 (j) Visits were made to individual farmers.

2.2 (k) Soil and water testing of 72 samples collected from 6 project villages.

2.2 (l) Mobilization of farmers for developing models on agriculture development.

3. Outcomes

- ♣ Jalprabandh committee form in 3 Village panchayats
- ♣ Cluster committee formed at cluster level
- ♣ 45 TCM water conserved though Water harvesting structure of Ajapar and Bhimasar village.
- ♣ 15 acre grassland development activities completed and spreading seed in grassland.
- ♣ 15 Ha areas covered under Soil moisture and critical irrigation.
- ♣ 72 water samples collected from 6 project covered villages.

4. Challenges

- ♣ Farmers are not showing interest in Soil moisture conservation.

5. Learning

- ♣ The team learned about political scenario of Anjar taluka

- ♣ The team learned about the water quantification and scientific calculation of water harvesting structure.

6. Achievements

- ♣ Gram Panchayat took leadership in the Water for all concept.
- ♣ Ajapar and Bhimsar gram panchayats successfully completed entry point activities.

Name of programme: Strengthening Local Governance for creating drinking water security and improved sanitation in Mndra Taluka of Kutch District

Drinking water has been the central theme for development in Kutch district where annual rainfall is less than 200mm. Traditionally, villages used to govern water resources and manage efficiently for drinking water. However, after independence, when water became the State subject, villages turned out to be dependent to the state for the supply of drinking water and slowly but steadily the traditional system of management collapsed. Community once owned drinking water resources; today they are struggling for safe, adequate and equitable drinking water.

During a rapid study on water scarcity of water in Mundra following concerns were realized –

- ♣ Mundra region is facing acute scarcity of potable water. Not only is there a high incidence of water borne diseases in the region, but also an abundance of TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) and fluoride present in the water of the area leading to health problems like arthritis and fluorosis.
- ♣ There is absence of a proper system of Water Governance for sustainability.
- ♣ There are gross inequities in drinking water distribution at household level.
- ♣ A family spends nearly Rs. 1500 to 2000/ month for buying drinking water. For families depending on labor work or daily wages this is a huge cost, making water very expensive for them.
- ♣ Community is not following and not giving importance to traditional drinking water resource management system
- ♣ People using direct tap water lack awareness on household purification methods.
- ♣ People do have some level of understanding on using clean and safe drinking water; however they ignore them due to the financial constrains.
- ♣ Cleaning of common water tanks and cattle trough is not happening properly.

3 Activities

- 1.1. Baseline data collection.

- 1.2. Demographic data collection.
- 1.3. Drinking water source sample collection.
- 1.4. Social mobilization.
- 1.5. Meeting with Women groups.
- 1.6. Meeting with Gram Panchayats.
- 1.7. Gramshbha in project covered area.
- 1.8. Established collaboration with Ujjash Mahila sangathan, Gram Panchayats, Taluka Panchayats.

2. Outcomes

- ♣ Meeting done with 7 Gram panchayats
- ♣ Gramshabha held in 7 village Panchayat In project covered area
- ♣ 14 Water sample collected from project covered area, out of 14 water sample 6 water sample for not portable for drinking purpose.

3. Challenges

- ♣ Surface resource not in use and ground water quality is very poor so that we face difficulties for sustainable solutions for Natural resource management.
- ♣ Political awareness is very high regarding infrastructure development not for sustainable solution for natural resource management

4. Learning

- ♣ Learn about political scenario of Mundra taluka
- ♣ Our team learn regional environmental scenario for plan sustainable solution.

5. Achievements

- ♣ Established good relationship Panchayats, Taluka Panchayats, and MICT.
- ♣ Understood drinking water quality situation of all project covered area.

The Urban Initiative

1. Background

The urban unit of Sahjeevan was established in 2008 with the purpose of improving coordination and collaboration with the local bodies for creating cleaner and pollution free city. The unit wanted to address the grossly unaddressed issues of urban health, cleanliness, lack of proper housing, sewer, sanitation and drinking water services in absence of aware and empowered local bodies, who have the mandate to look into these issues. The unit started with the work of solid waste management and gradually established CBOs and collaborations with government departments, media NGOs, making it a demand driven and community led initiative overtime.

One of the causes the organization has been championing since then is urban waste management and environmentally better and safer cities. The different programmes that have been designed and implemented by the unit are as follows:

- ♣ Door to door waste collection
- ♣ Plastic banning Movement & Citizen Groups for Advocacy
- ♣ Urban Pastrolism

2. Activities

2.1. Programme and Events

2.1. (a) Swachchata day celebration

Swachchata day was celebrated in Lalan collage of Bhuj with first, second and third year students of Arts and Science. Faculty of the college including the principal, advocacy group members, representatives from the Urban Initiative division and other people from Sahjeevan participated in the event. All the participants cleaned the campus, hostel, and canteen area of college.

2.1. (b) Swami Vivekanand janma Jayanti Celebration

A quiz competition was organized on Swami Vivekananda's Birth Anniversary. The event was organized at Lalan college. Apart from the quiz competition, a debate was also organized on the topic of role of youth in Swachch Bharat Mission.

2.1.(c) Inauguration of waste segregation centre

As the Urban Initiative had been planning with the Lalan College, a waste segregation centre has been set at the college. The centre was inaugurated by principal and professors at the college.

2.1(d) Campaign to clean Boys Hostel

With the supervision and support of Advocacy group members and the team members of the Urban Initiative division of Sahjeevan, a campaign was carried out for cleaning the boys' hostel of the Lalan College. The rooms, lobbies and entire area was cleaned. Waste bins were also kept near each of the rooms.

This was done to create awareness in the youth about reuse of waste, need for stopping the use of plastic and encourage them to demand door to door waste collection of waste.

2.1(e) 5th June world environment day celebration

World Environment Day was celebrated over three days beginning from 5th June 2015. On 3rd June rangoli competition with the theme "Clean and Green Drive" was organized at Hamirsar talav.

04th June drawing and news writing competition with the theme clean bhuj green bhuj was organized for children. Alongside writing competition titled "Vision 2025 - Bhuj of my Dreams" was also organized.

On 5th June, "Green Rally" was organized. The rally that began at 7 in the morning with citizens and advocacy group was carried out by cycle and on foot.

Science fair was organized in the evening, which was followed by prize distribution and talk.

At the end, open discussion with citizens was organized on how Bhuj can be taken towards green bhuj vision 2025 and what will be the role of citizens in that. More than 50 citizens participated in this event.

Women in kayastha street area showed concern and commitment to stop the use of 40 micron plastic. They collected plastic bags from houses and gave them to khamir for recycling.

2.2. Meetings

2.2(a) Meeting to Upscale Demand Driven Waste Collection

Meeting was organized with citizens for educating as well as encouraging them to opt for demand driven door to door waste collection in valdasnagar area of Bhuj. Total 25 women members participated in the meeting. They were keen to go for door to door collection system and were also happy to pay Rs 30/- per household for it.

2.2(b) Meeting to Discuss Swachh Mission

Advocacy group held a meeting at Khengar Park to discuss about the event organized by the group and Urban Initiative Division of Sahjeevan on Swachh Mission with children of Government and private primary school children in the month of June 2015. Meeting was also held with the education officer at district office, wherein the team of the Urban Initiative shared its ideas.

2.2(c) Meeting with active councilors

Meeting with active councilors of ward no.13, 14 was held by advocacy group convener. Members of the group, BJP party, women's leaders participated in the meeting. The meeting was aimed at increasing the membership of the group and also discussing about setting up a system of door to door demand driven waste collection in the city. It was decided in the meeting that the implementation should initiate by first engaging with all the street vendors and shops for encouraging them to stop using plastic bags and also linking them with chakda to collect waste for building a waste collection system.

Meeting with citizens for demand driven door to door waste collection in valdasnagar area of bhuj. Total 25 women members participated in the meeting. They agreed to pay 30/- per household.

2.2 (d) Meetings for Starting and Reviewing Door to Door Collection in Two New Areas

The urban unit aims to increase the coverage of door to door waste collection. In this context a meeting was held with the local community in the kayastha street area. The meeting was organized at Dev Avenue in Kayastha street area. One of the positive outcomes of the meeting was that the citizens of this area showed readiness for a paid door to door waste collection system. They said that they were ready to pay Rs 30/- month for waste collection. They suggested that a system of employing one waste picker for door to door waste collection in drums everyday was feasible. Moreover, it was suggested by the residents that the waste collector would collect the wet and dry waste separately.

By starting the door to door collection in this area, total 60 households will be covered in this system.

Meeting at sarjan casa area was conducted to make door to door waste collection operational by arranging a vehicle for the area for this purpose. Similarly, meetings were held in Umednagar area, where ex-councilor and other member of the area also participated. Total 20 households have been linked with door to door waste collection system in this area, whereas in Orient colony total 15 household have been linked to the system.

A meeting was held in the Odhav Shrishti area to review the door to door collection system. The councilor of the area was also present in the meeting. The review was helpful in bringing out some of the loopholes at operational level, for e.g. the residents said that sometimes the vehicle for waste

collection comes in the afternoon, which is not a convenient time for them. They suggested that a time should be fixed for the vehicle for waste collection.

They also shared that drinking water supply is very irregular in the area and they had not been getting water for past 20 day. The women participants in the meeting also shared the problems they were facing due to the problems in water supply.

2.2 (e) . Meeting with Advocacy Group

Meeting with advocacy group was held and one of the important agendas was planning for the celebration of Environment Day with citizens. The other agenda of the meeting was discussion and planning with respect to the forthcoming municipal elections. It was decided that able and active citizens from the different wards will be prepared to file nomination as councilor from their respective wards.

2.3. Training and Capacity Building

2.3(a) Exposure visit to SWACHH Co operative¹ in Pune

An exposure visit was organized to SWACHH Co operative in Pune. 2 members from the Advocacy group supported by Sahjeevan, one member from waste pickers and representatives from Sahjeevan visited Pune, Chinchwad and Pimpri. The purpose of the visit was to understand the system and work, especially to learn how is the system and work managed by the women waste pickers group and how do they run the co operatives.

2.3(b) Exposure Visit to Junagarh

A team from the urban unit of Sahjeevan visited a plastic recycle industry in Junagadh, Ambica packaging to learn plastic recycling machinery for setting up small scale business model with waste pickers groups.

2.3 (c) Improving Socio-Economic Status of Waste Pickers

One of the objectives of initiatives like waste recycle center is providing a source of income to the waste pickers, considering that their incomes are low and insufficient to meet the basic economic needs. In interactions with the waste pickers, issues related to lack of basic services like drinking water, sanitation, ration cards often come up. They are also not aware of any government schemes that they can benefit from. Hence, linking them up with agencies that can support them access the basic services and guide them to access their citizenry rights was thought to be one of the ways to

resolve the aforementioned issues. Two areas and 35 waste pickers who did not have ration card and aadhar card were linked to Setu.

2.4. Urban Animal Husbandry

Study, research and survey process for building knowledge and making a report with analysis on the status of animal husbandry in Bhuj city were the key activities undertaken by the Urban Animal Husbandry initiative. These included data collection and field visits and also interaction with maldharies of the city. A report has been prepared on the socio economic aspects of the urban animal husbandry.

3. Outcomes

♣ Enhancing Citizen Engagement and Action

One of the positive outcomes of the activities in this quarter is not only increased citizen engagement at the level of awareness and concern but there has also been increased commitment to work for the cause and some tangible action to translate the same at implementation level. For e.g. Women in kayastha street area showed concern and commitment to stop the use of 40 micron plastic. They collected plastic bags from houses and gave them to khamir for recycling.

♣ Demonstrating the Potential of Improving Socio Economic Status of Waste Pickers tough Solid Waste Management System

The experiment of creating a model of solid waste management has become successful with the setting up of Lalan College solid waste management center. The model has also been able to demonstrate how recycling of waste can contribute to improving income and living standards of the waste pickers. The sale of waste in this quarter became an added source of income for the waste pickers. Moreover, it has become a source of motivation for the waste pickers as some of them agreed to open a scrap shop. This has definitely motivated them to look for environment friendly options to increase their earnings and better their living standards.

♣ Enhancing Participation and partnership with Citizens

Enhanced citizen engagement in the entire process and getting action initiated from all these stake holders for giving the efforts memento of a movement was another very important outcome of this quarter.

♣ Strengthening Education and Sensitisation of Government authorities

An important outcome of the quarter was tangible change in the engagement and sensitivity of Government officials brought about by the efforts of sensitization and education of the officials.

For e.g. Municipality workers went door to door and shop to shop collecting the plastic bags of less than 40 micron. Also, Chief Officer of municipality declared ban on 40 micron plastic bags, agreeing to publish the statement in Divyabhaskar. Hence, the outcomes in this quarter on influencing the government authorities are one of the important outcomes in this quarter.

Contact Us:



175-Jalaram Society,
B/h. Vishwamangal Apartment,
Vijaynagar, Bhuj 370001 Kutch
Ph. +91 2832 251814
Fax: +91 2832 251914
Email:sahjeevan@gmail.com
Website:www.sahjeevan.org