



EMPOWERING LOCAL ECOSYSTEMS

FOR **SUSTAINABLE** AND **HOLISTIC** RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2023-24**

 **AVATAPI**
आतापी

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FROM HEAD TO HEART

TUSHAR DAYAL



At the heart of every community lies resilience—the quiet strength that carries families through illness, women through challenges, farmers through uncertainty, and people with disabilities through daily obstacles. Over the years, Aatapi's mission has been to nurture that resilience and transform it into opportunity, dignity, and lasting change.

When we began this journey, the landscape was daunting. Access to healthcare was a luxury in rural areas, women's voices were unheard, and conversations around disability and inclusion were almost absent. Add to this the looming threats of climate change and the struggles of smallholder farmers, and the challenge felt enormous.

But so was the resolve of our communities and our team!

With each health initiative, each women's self-help group, each person with a disability who found not just support but recognition—we moved a step forward. With every seed of climate-smart agriculture sown, we grew a future that is not only sustainable but also just and equitable.

Aatapi's work spans across five deeply interconnected areas: health and nutrition, women's empowerment, climate resilience and agriculture, education and holistic development, and disability rights. We don't see these as isolated issues; they are threads in the same fabric.

True progress, we believe, happens when women lead, when people with disabilities participate fully, when health is not a privilege but a right, when our farmers are equipped to

face tomorrow and when education leads to innovation and a sustainable future.

None of this would have been possible without the relentless efforts of our grassroots teams, the courage of our community members, and the trust and support of our partners. To each of you—thank you for walking this path with us.

As we look to the future, our vision remains clear: to build communities that are healthy, inclusive, sustainable, and self-reliant. The road ahead is long, but together, we can shape a world where no one is left behind.

In solidarity and hope ...





FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

NANDINI SRIVASTAVA

As we reflect on more than a decade of unwavering commitment to grassroots transformation, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the journey we have taken together. From the remote villages of India to the voices of change in policy dialogues, Aatapi Foundation has stood as a beacon of hope, resilience, and action.

Over the years, we have worked shoulder to shoulder with farmers striving for climate-resilient agriculture, with women breaking barriers to claim their rightful place in society, with people with disabilities demanding dignity and inclusion, and with children reaching for a future built on the foundations of education, health, and nutrition. Together, we have transformed the lives of many individuals across rural and marginalized communities.

Our work in climate resilience has enabled thousands of smallholder farmers to adopt sustainable practices and adapt to the realities of a changing environment. Our nutrition and health interventions have improved maternal and child health indicators in some of the most underserved regions. Our advocacy for disability rights has led to increased access to inclusive education and livelihood opportunities. And our women's empowerment programs have helped countless women become leaders within their communities.

These achievements are not ours alone. They belong to every community leader, every field worker, every supporter, and every partner who has believed in our mission.

As we look ahead, we are guided by a renewed sense of urgency and purpose.

The challenges before us—climate change, deepening inequalities, and social exclusion—require collaborative and innovative responses. Our future vision includes:

- Scaling up our work in climate-smart agriculture to reach more farming communities vulnerable to climate stress.
- Deepening our impact in disability inclusion through technology, policy advocacy, and grassroots mobilization.
- Strengthening community-based health-care systems to ensure resilience against future public health challenges.
- Investing in girls' education and digital literacy, recognizing these as catalysts for long-term societal change.
- Building next-generation leaders from within communities, especially among women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

We remain committed to working hand in hand with our communities, partners, government bodies, and civil society to create an inclusive, just, and sustainable future.

Thank you for walking with us. The path ahead is long, but together, I am confident we will continue to build a world where every individual has the opportunity to live with dignity, purpose, and hope.

With gratitude and determination ...

ABOUT AATAPI SEVA FOUNDATION

Since its inception in 2009, Aatapi Seva Foundation has been steadfast in its mission to foster holistic and sustainable community development. Registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013, Aatapi is committed to empowering community-based organisations, equipping them with the capabilities to lead impactful, independent initiatives that transform lives at the grassroots.

Aatapi strives to capitalize on its vast experience, knowledge, expertise, insights, human resources, local networks and real-time feedback from the field to stay committed to rural development. This has enabled the Foundation to make a positive difference to the lives of the most vulnerable and marginalized sections of society.

Collaboration lies at the heart of our work. Over the years, we have built enduring partnerships with community-based organisations, governmental bodies, non-governmental organisations, and corporate entities. These relationships have been instrumental in driving impactful initiatives and fostering local leadership.

The Annual Report of 2023-24 captures the essence of Aatapi's work spirit and value system that is driven by partnerships, collective action, and the relentless efforts of communities that we work alongside. It provides a glimpse into the steady and meaningful strides that we make and shall continue to build upon for a better future.

VISION STATEMENT

We envision an inclusive, empowered and just society, enabling equitable opportunities and a life of dignity for the most marginalised.

MISSION STATEMENT

To facilitate and empower local communities, especially the most marginalised, to realise their latent potential, and to be active participants and owners of their inclusive & sustainable development.

WORK PHILOSOPHY

True to its name ('Aatapi' is derived from the Pali language and signifies 'diligence', 'hard work'), the Foundation believes in community centered functioning. Our approach places local communities and a commitment to their capacity building at the centre of all developmental efforts. With a strong conviction in sustainability, the Foundation equips individuals and communities with knowledge and tools required to lead their own progress. Principles of collaboration, co-operation and co-creation of solutions in ways that respect, promote and uphold indigenous ecosystems innovation and change drive all our programs.

Our work aligns with the international milieu of human development and social justice through support to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) proclaimed by the United Nations. A clarion call for action and impact on the ground is seen in Aatapi's work spanning across five core pillars of development.

PILLARS OF DEVELOPMENT



**Women
Empowerment**



**Sustainable
agriculture
and Climate
resilience**



**Health and
Nutrition**



**Holistic
Education
and Skill
Building for
Youth**



**Empowering
Persons with
Disabilities**

GEOGRAPHICAL OUTREACH, POPULATION SERVED, AREAS COVERED 2023-24



134 villages
5 blocks
3 districts



6,221 women



2,318 farmers



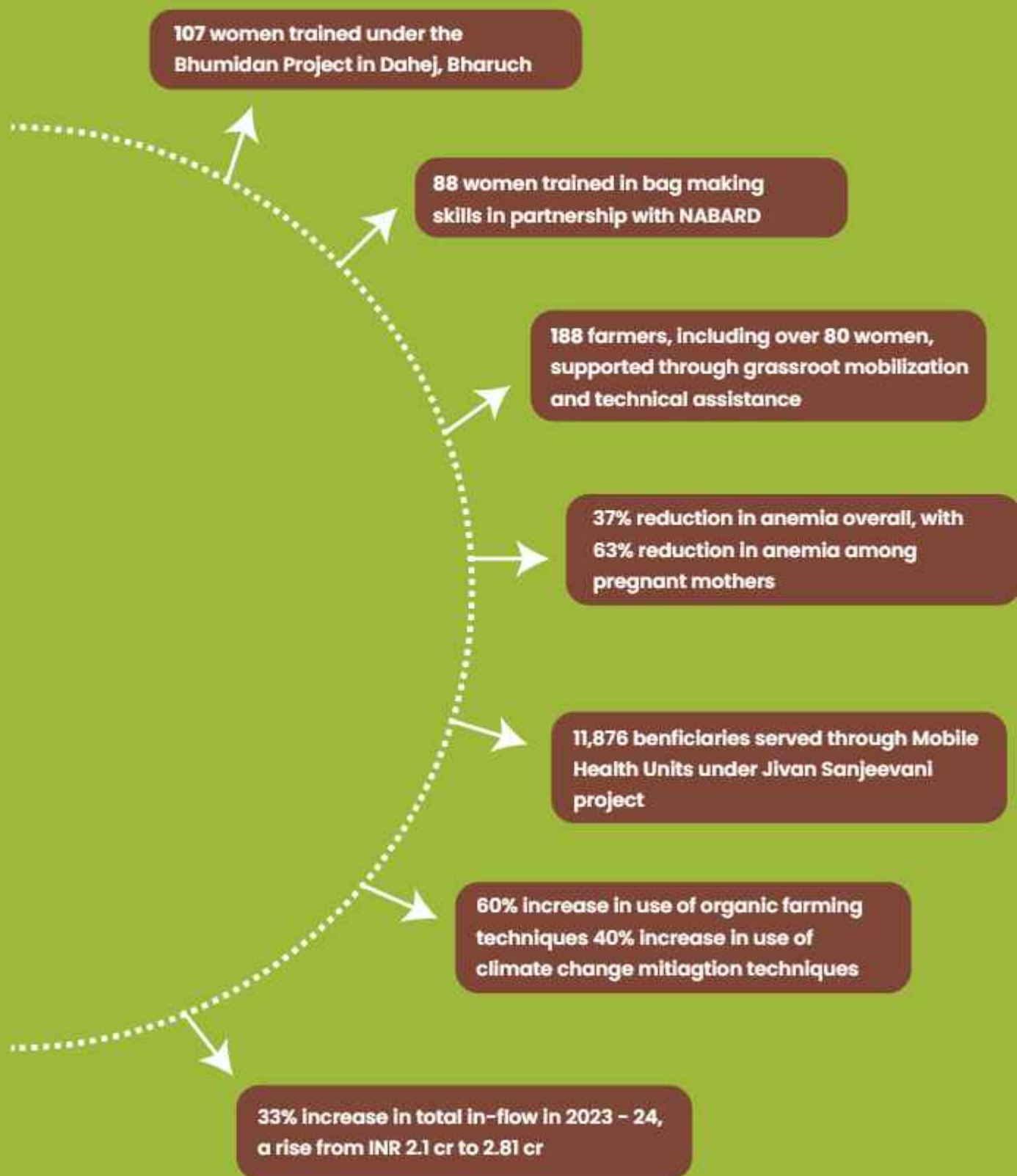
739 children



1,213 PwDs

61,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries
33,000 direct beneficiaries

MILESTONES ACHIEVED IN FY 2023 - 24





WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

A commitment to gender equality and women empowerment cuts across several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as – SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). Reports and studies on female labour force participation, employment and gender, women's unpaid labour and female workforce participation in India draw our attention to challenges faced in achieving gender equality and women empowerment in the truest sense. Aatapi Foundation's initiatives to strengthen women's capabilities at the grassroots level has borne fruits over the past several years. In 2023-24, the Foundation's commitment to building a dynamic, thriving space by and for women enabled them to contribute to society as leaders, entrepreneurs, and innovators.



ASMITA - Women Empowerment through Financial Inclusion and Enterprise Development

The Asmita project has strengthened SHGs and diversified income sources in 20 villages across Jambusar and Ankleshwar blocks of Bharuch district. It has also facilitated economic independence among rural women by fostering self-employment, entrepreneurship and job placements. These efforts have successfully created literacy regarding rights, entitlements, health, hygiene, finances amongst women for better access to rights and services.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Total savings done by 206 SHGs - INR 44,01,969/

149/206 (72%) SHGs linked with the NRLM scheme

117 members generated income of INR 20,23,130 through IGA activities

480 members received loan of INR 90,29,400 through various financial linkages

335 members linked with various financial organizations

20 women branded their small scale businesses

Leadership, entrepreneurship, skill building, refresher, safety awareness trainings attended by 476 women



HIGHLIGHTS OF ASMITA

- Leadership and entrepreneurship trainings attended by 145 women
- Skill building trainings for various income generation activities attended by 99 women
- Safety awareness meetings attended by 134 women
- Celebration of International Women's Day with organizations to learn about various schemes and platforms for financial literacy and transactions with participation of 157 women



IMPACT STORIES

Transforming Lives
From Self-Doubt to Success: The Asmita Journey

Before joining Aatapi Foundation, Noorjahan ben Deewan was a homemaker. In 2020, she along with 11 other women joined the Asmita project. They created a Self Help Group named 'Ayesha'. Today, Noorjahan ben makes and sells incense sticks, earning around Rs. 3000-4500. She proudly contributes to the family income, is an inspiration for other women in her community and leads the SHG as its president.

GARIMA PROJECT

Under the Garima project, around 200 women of the Vagra block, spanning three villages -- Akod, Suva and Atali were trained for various skill building activities to help them achieve financial independence. More than fifty women were trained for self-sustainability and were equipped in skills such as tailoring, beauty parlour services. Women earned INR 4,43,182 by producing jute and cotton bags, other products like library, book and mattress covers. An additional income of INR 28,000 was earned by making local snack items (papad, papdi), tailoring, fall stitch work and salon services.



ACHIEVEMENTS

PRODUCTION

983 jute & cotton bags
447 other products

SALES

358 jute & cotton bags
397 other products

INCOME

INR 73,563 from sale of jute & cotton bags
INR 59,117 from other products

TOTAL SHG SAVINGS

INR 32,700

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH MILK FEDERATIONS

In 2014, Aatapi Foundation embarked on a transformative journey by initiating women-led dairy societies, encouraging animal husbandry as a sustainable livelihood option. These milk federation societies work with the sole objective of promoting livestock rearing as a sustainable business avenue and enhance livelihood options for women. Aatapi provides support, training, and guidance to these milk federations in form of technical guidance and capacity building trainings. The annual turnover of these milk federations is a whopping INR 41,923,158.

	KAMBOYA VAGA	MORVAGA	LALJIPURA	UCHCHAD	KOTARVAGO
FOUNDING YEAR	2014	2015	2015	2015	2022
NO. OF WOMEN MEMBERS	127	81	117	157	170
ANNUAL MILK PRODUCTION (IN LITRES)	124940	152503	114715	172660	235440
SALE OF MILK ON DAILY BASIS (IN LITRES)	400			450	645
PROFITS (INR)	699958	386102	569096	925851	114279

UJAAS CREDIT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

Set up in 2014, Ujaas Credit Co-operative Society works with the vision to make women's economic empowerment a reality. It is a cooperative bank which focuses on financial literacy and independence of women. Through this project, Aatapi provides women with alternate income generation opportunities, helping them realize their potential and dreams. Over the years, this has not only empowered women who benefitted from the project but has also touched their families in positive ways. Today, more than 3000 women from over 45 villages are part of the initiative. About 113 women have started their own small businesses and now earn three to four thousand rupees monthly. Around 969 self-help group women are linked with various rights and entitlements under different welfare schemes of the Government of India.

UJAAS ACHIEVEMENTS

237 women took credit		29 Lakhs cc loan disbursed amongst 410 SHG women across 29 SHGs	Cumulative savings INR 1 Crore 30 lakhs Total loan amount disbursed INR 71 lakhs
147 SHG groups affiliated to NRLM			
20 villages	206 SHG groups	2918 members	

PROMOTING DIGITAL FINANCIAL LITERACY

Proliferation of the digital age and development of the 'gig' economy has placed increasing importance on higher level financial sophistication to make effective use of financial technology (fintech) products and services. This indicates the need for Digital Financial Literacy (DFL) to equip individuals with responsibility for their own financial planning. Therefore, digital financial education for vulnerable groups, especially for women, elderly, farmers, needs to be prioritized.



Aatapi's project on Digital Financial Literacy with support from Harmony Inc. (technical partner), Money View (CSR partner), National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) as the knowledge partner is aimed at:

- organizing workshops and training sessions to educate and empower women with financial awareness
- collaborating with NGOs, government bodies, and educational institutions to amplify outreach efforts

The project implementation process involves support from multiple local stakeholders such as sarpanch, bank manager, schoolteacher, ASHA worker, Anganwadi worker in villages in Ankleshwar, Jambusar and Vagra.



ACHIEVEMENTS

Essential skills imparted to navigate and leverage digital financial tools effectively

Improved access to financial services, increase in savings and investment

Knowledge sharing, community awareness, responsible financial practices

OUTCOMES

Diverse Participants:
3035 individuals trained in DFL

Interactive & feedback oriented:
101% target achieved in DFL

Convenient Time Schedules:
Digidhan camp at Ankleshwar with 152 women

Skilled Facilitators for discussion:
49 PwDs trained in DFL





SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE

The state of Gujarat is known for its dynamic farming practices as well as for driving agricultural success owing to its diverse cropping patterns, climate diversity, capabilities in research and innovation, robust agricultural infrastructure, and integration of technology in agricultural practices. According to the Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Gujarat, the state has more than 54 lakh registered farmers, gross cropped area of 147 lakh hectares, diverse climatic conditions and soil characteristics. According to a study by Gulati et al. (2021), Gujarat has been one of the star performing states in agriculture in the post-2000 period with a growth rate of 8.6% per annum from 2001–02 to 2014–15.

However, Gujarat's agricultural landscape stands at a critical crossroads of climate vulnerability and sustainable transformation. With over 60% of the state's population dependent on agriculture and experiencing increasingly erratic monsoon patterns; climate change poses an existential threat to rural livelihoods. The sector faces challenges of water scarcity, soil degradation, and unpredictable weather conditions thus demanding innovative, resilient farming approaches.

The Foundation's programs in agriculture and climate resilience promote sustainable agriculture by supporting natural farming practices such as – the Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) model championed by farmers in Anand and Valsad districts. Localized interventions focusing on traditional techniques like Jeevamrut and Beejamrut, combined with modern climate-smart technologies, offer a pathway to enhanced crop productivity and environmental sustainability.

Aatapi Foundation lays emphasis on traditional farming practices along with adaptation of new technologies that help farmers to access their rights, gain knowledge from experts, institutions and fellow farmers to enhance agricultural productivity. This has resulted in a positive impact on the lives of individual farmers and collective well-being of their families and the rural ecosystem.

Promoting Natural Farming Practices Among Small And Marginalised Farmers:

670 Farmers trained in making natural fertilizers



246

Farmers linked with government schemes

470

Farmers participated in farmer to farmer technology transfer

Leadership training provided to **18 farmers**

IMPACT OF NATURAL FARMING PRACTICES

60% increase in use of natural farming techniques

249 farmers collective group meeting held

Farmer incomes increased

by 6%

Upward trend in crop production

by 13%

40%

increase in use of climate change mitigation techniques

Income increase for

61% farmers

Expense reduction for

92% farmers

Production increase for

89% farmers



IMPACT STORIES

Transforming Lives Adding value to Farm Produce through Natural Farming

Sitaben, from Piludara village, has been associated with a Self-Help Group (SHG) for the last six years. Being enrolled in a farming development program, she got an opportunity to participate in training sessions and exposure trips focused on organic farming. In 2023-24, after adopting natural farming methods, she managed to save Rs. 8,500 in farming expenses. Additionally, she harvested 900 kg of cotton, valued at Rs. 59,400.

FARM SCHOOL INITIATIVE

Launched in August 2023, the Farm school initiative stands as a testament to the transformative power of education, collaboration, and innovation in agriculture. By serving as a knowledge center, offering comprehensive training programs, facilitating community meetings, and promoting the sale of FPO products, it is poised to become a catalyst for positive change in the agricultural sector.

The school serves as a hub for farmers, women, and children, offering comprehensive training programs, facilitating the distribution of agricultural inputs through FPOs. The school aims to provide guidance to small and marginalized farmer families of Piludra, Kareli, Kahanva, Vedach villages of Jam-busar block and sensitize them with information regarding agricultural planning. Farm schools have been established at the village level for easy availability of relevant training and IEC materials for farmers, supply of agricultural materials and training of 'gram sathis' and 'centre sathis' to oversee administrative and financial management.

Aatapi facilitated the provision of high-quality seeds and essential agricultural inputs, including pesticides, through the Farm School, with products worth nearly ₹10,000 sold during Diwali. Additionally, five trainings on natural farming, animal husbandry, and crop patterns were conducted through the Farm School, reaching over 100 farmers, including both men and women.



FARMER PRODUCER ORGANIZATION

In partnership with Vivekananda Khedut Mandali (an FPO), a distribution network for high-quality seeds has been established where farmers are provided easy access to high quality seeds and pesticides. Approximately Rs. 10,000 in revenue have been generated through selling products such as tea, masala, chillies, turmeric and agricultural tools such as vermicompost, worms, plants, kitchen garden seeds etc. In addition, dedicated display areas for information Education & Communication (IEC) materials on organic farming practices are established to enhance awareness among farmers and provide them with easy access to information. The initiative hosts a variety of farmer training sessions focusing on

biogas plant and slurry management, organic farming techniques, crop specific fertilization method, pest control and disease management, advanced cropping techniques, millet cultivation, soil enhancement and organic composting and awareness regarding government schemes through the Kisan I Portal.

IMPACT OF FPO

490 farmers organized in groups

Rs 17.65 Lakh generated in FPO business

47 women farmers integrated

305 farmers equipped with market trends

232 dissemination meetings held

Agricultural tools rented to 150 farmers

ACCELERATING CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Since August 2021, Aatapi has been operating a sustainable waste management system across Akhod and Suva villages in Vagra block, Bharuch. This program demonstrated the effectiveness of integrating environmental stewardship with economic opportunity, where local women's leadership has fostered a replicable, sustainable waste management model that continues to benefit the entire community. In its third year, the program achieved significant milestones in waste segregation, collection, and recycling, creating a self-sustained, circular economy model, benefiting 704 households.

As part of the infrastructure and implementation of the program, a dedicated recycling unit was established in Akhod village. A house-to-house waste collection system was implemented to improve waste management. Integrated waste processing systems including routing plastic waste to a recycling plant and processing biodegradable waste through composting at both village and recycling center levels were developed. The highlight of this program was "Green Friends", a women-led waste management initiative formed to promote community driven environmental action.



WASTE COLLECTION

Over 16,000 kg of biodegradable waste

5,280 kg of plastic waste

2,409 kg of miscellaneous non-biodegradable waste

REVENUE GENERATION

INR 11,957 generated through manure sales, complete with branding and packaging of products

INR 28,743

INR 23,108

HIGHLIGHTS OF WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- Sensitization meetings for Green friends and Immersive exposure visits to Green villages
- Awareness sessions with Block and District officials, community leaders and schools
- Recognition of Akhod village as ODF Plus Model village for achieving open defecation free status
- Bicycle distribution to school girls and Solar stove distribution to poor households



SAHIYARO PROJECT - JAMBUSAR

- Training farmers for sustainable agricultural practices
- Crop based demonstration for 25 farmers
- 42 farmers trained in organic farming
- 22 farmers made use of vermicompost and jivamrut
- 125 farmers participated in training and capacity building sessions
- 130 farmers connected for farmer-to-farmer technology transfer

BHUMIDAN PROJECT - VAGRA

- 107 SHG members trained in vermicomposting
- Awareness meetings on vermicomposting held with 75 women across 3 villages (Luvara, Lakhigam, Jageshwar)
- Exposure visit for 40 women to Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chaswad for technical awareness on vermicomposting
- Collaboration with Vivekanand Mandali for sale of vermicompost (100 bags, 400kgs)





HEALTH AND NUTRITION

SUMAN: A Project for reduction of Anemia

Anemia is a critical global health challenge impacting diverse populations, affecting individuals of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds. It comes with major consequences straining health, social, and economic systems worldwide. It stems from nutritional deficits, infections, and limited healthcare access, with challenges exacerbated in developing regions. Therefore, a multi-sectoral approach as adopted by Aatapi Foundation's Suman initiative is the best for effective redressal of this widespread condition.

The Suman project leverages CSR support and expertise to leave a significant impact on community health. The project has been implemented in Silvassa. Drawing from Aatapi's earlier successes in implementing nutrition programs in Gujarat, the initiative has achieved considerable success by identifying 635 target beneficiaries.



OBJECTIVES

Combat anemia among 500 women, adolescent girls, and women of reproductive age in two villages of Silvassa	Conduct nutritional assessments, including hemoglobin estimation	Set - up approximately 200 nutrition gardens
Train locally recruited Arogya Sathis	Behaviour change communication	Enhance compliance with iron - folic acid (IFA) supplementation
	Increase dietary diversity and iron-rich food consumption	

ACHIEVEMENTS

86% of identified beneficiaries reached	Severe anemia reduced by 69%
Baseline haemoglobin testing of 809 individuals	
42% beneficiaries transitioned to a non - anaemic status	167 Poshan Vatikas established

In the future, the Foundation aims to scale up identification of anemic beneficiaries, offer regular counselling sessions to the infected, organize awareness campaigns in close coordination with government stakeholders and prepare the community to take ownership of their health by facilitating capacity building and robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks.



SANKALP

Project Sankalp (August 2023 to March 2024) amplified awareness about Tuberculosis (TB) across five villages in Jambusar block (Bharuch) and Padra block (Vadodara). The project targeted five villages -- Kareli, Vedach, Piludra, Padra Karakhadi, and Dudhwala. The initiative strived to deepen community understanding of TB, identification, prevention and treatment, envisioning a significant increase in early case detection and successful treatment completion rates.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 60 street theatre performances
- 9692 people reached
- 30 TB awareness campaigns
- IEC material distributed
- 566 households covered
- 39,760 individuals reached through Arogya rath

NUTRITION AND MATERNAL, ADOLESCENT HEALTH PROJECT- JAMBUSAR

This project spearheaded by Aatapi aims at improving maternal and adolescent health indicators through a holistic and sustainable intervention. By involving adolescent girls and pregnant women in monthly group meetings, development of Poshan Vatikas, training of Arogya Saathis, and comprehensive capacity building of adolescent leaders, efforts are underway to reduce the proportion of anemia. In 2023-24, tracking and monitoring of 250 pregnant women, 190 anemic pregnant women, and linkage of 554 eligible women with available government schemes was accomplished.



OUTCOMES

ANEMIA REDUCTION	72% reduction in maternal anemia 78% reduction in adolescent anemia
ACCEPTANCE OF IFA SUPPLEMENTS	67% beneficiaries consumed the recommended dosage of iron and folic acid supplements
COMPLIANCE AMONG ADOLESCENT GIRLS	85% compliance rate ensured through tailor made strategies addressing specific needs
SCHEME BENEFITS	54% of eligible beneficiaries received entitlements and benefits
POSHAN VATIKAS	73% survival rate
POSHAN VATIKAS CONSUMPTION	73% of the beneficiaries consumed the produce from the vaticas



IMPACT STORIES

Transforming Lives
Towards an Anemia
Mukt Bharat

Dhartiben Padhiyar, a teenager from Uchhad village, faced health issues like dizziness, growth plateau, weight loss, and frequent episodes of falling sick due to severe iron deficiency. She received a week-long treatment plan of iron sucrose supplementation from a local primary health center. Team Aatapi motivated and counseled her for iron tablet consumption. Through timely intervention by the Foundation, Dhartiben's health has been restored, allowing her to lead a more productive life

JEEVAN SANJEEVANI - Mobile Health Unit

The Jeevan Sanjivani project aims to provide primary healthcare facilities in fourteen villages of Vagra block, Bharuch through Mobile Health Units (MHU). The project has also played a crucial role in raising nutritional awareness among adolescents in primary schools through an innovative approach that blends educational as well as culturally relevant elements for a bright and healthy future.



The range of services provided by MHUs includes:

- treatment of minor ailments, first aid
- referral of complicated cases
- ante-natal and post-natal check ups
- adolescent care and counselling
- awareness generation camps
- detection, preliminary assessment and treatment of non-communicable diseases

ACHIEVEMENTS

Serving a total of 14 villages, 20 days in a month for at least 8 hours

223 OPD sessions conducted

More than 13,000 beneficiaries

Home health check ups for 174 PwDs

14 community programs impacting over 2500 beneficiaries

71 adolescents participated in health and nutrition awareness camps

More than 5000 male patients and 7000 female patients treated

12,508 new cases attended to

14 general health check-up sessions for more than 1400 beneficiaries





HOLISTIC EDUCATION AND SKILL BUILDING FOR YOUTH

"Learning gives creativity, creativity leads to thinking, thinking provides knowledge, and knowledge makes you great"

– Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

A robust education system can raise standards of living, quality of life and catapult a society and nation to success. With rapid changes in the knowledge landscape and global employment ecosystem, education systems must rise to the occasion and train young people in critical thinking, creativity, innovation. Aatapi Foundation focuses on vocational trainings for young people to help them lead a meaningful and productive life.

IMPACT SEEN

500 marginalised children covered through holistic intervention

14 Bal Panchayats formed

Educational activities with **500** children across **5** villages



TEJASVI BAL VIKAS KARYAKRAM

With a vision to facilitate holistic learning and promote equal and inclusive opportunities for physical, emotional and educational development of children; the project strives to develop and strengthen Bal Kendras, Bal Sena and Bal Manch cadres to advocate for child rights.

ACTIVITIES

- Capacity building and training of Bal Saathis
- Exposure trips
- Cluster, review and planning meetings
- Parents meetings
- Vipassana, Yoga and Wellness training
- Bal Sena visit to other children's federations
- Training on leadership and group strengthening



JIGARI DOST COMMUNITY LIBRARY

This initiative functions as a community library, and was established in August 2023 in Piludra village, Jambusar (Bharuch) to address learning deficits and enhance reading and cognitive skills among marginalized children. It emerged as a community-based learning project in response to educational gaps identified during the pandemic. Currently, 135 children are enrolled as active members in the library which has a rich collection of 410 books, with 346 forming the core collection focusing on education and agriculture. Additionally, 64 new books on storytelling have been added to the library this year. The program promotes the idea of books as 'best friends' (jigari dost), utilizes specialized modules developed by experts. These modules focus on learning capability enhancement, personality development and infusion of civic responsibility and citizenship duties. The library hosts regular storytelling sessions, reading competitions and community engagement programs to encourage participation and inculcate a love for reading.



IMPACT STORIES

**Transforming Lives
Reading and Inspiring
for Life**

Sujal Bhai Raju Bhai Jadav, a Grade 5 student, lives with his mother, a domestic worker, and his father, a farmer. Earlier, he spent most of his time on his mobile, showed little interest in studies and often became irritated when asked to study.

To strengthen his learning, he was encouraged to visit the community library. Initially, he was hesitant. However, through storybooks, storytelling sessions, educational games, and interactive learning experiences, his interest grew. Regular library visits led to a reduction in his mobile usage, increased focus and interest in reading and a positive shift in his behaviour.

His parents appreciated the positive impact the program has on their son.



EMPOWERING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

ASTITVA - Resource and Welfare Centre for Persons with Disability

India's Disability Rights Movement gained momentum in the 1970s and 80s when voices began to emerge to demand the rights of those suffering from disabilities. PwDs gradually gained visibility in government services and educational institutions. Subsequently, in 2007, India became a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities adopted by the United Nations (2006). The Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2016) guarantees a certain set of rights to PwDs so that they can lead their lives with dignity and claim equal opportunities.

Aatapi's work with the community reinforces both the national and global vision committed to by India to ensure that PwDs are integrated in mainstream society, decision making processes and development discourses. Equitable and sustainable development is not possible without inclusion of the most disadvantaged, dispossessed and the vulnerable. The Astitva project aims to empower PwDs through collectivizing, capacity building and strengthening.

The project was implemented in partnership with Hindalco Birla Copper from February 2023 to January 2024 in five villages of Vagra block (Bharuch). A total of 174 PwDs are direct beneficiaries of the project which included different stakeholders such as families of PwDs, service providers (Govt. and Private), school teachers, students, and the community at large.



ASTITVA PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



ASTITVA HIGHLIGHTS 2023-24

- List updation, identification of 174 PwDs by Divyang Sathis (mobilisers)
- Team exposure visits to Maitri Sanstha Nadiad and Ushma Badhir Secondary School to gain firsthand insights of impactful work in the disability sector
- Focused project orientation community meetings with over 60 participants and various stakeholders
- 50 E-Shram cards
58 Ayushman Bharat cards distributed to PwDs;
23 PwDs enrolled for Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojna
- 5 Divyang Sathis recruited and placed in 5 villages
- Sensitization session on 21 types of disabilities with 400 children across four schools
- Community meetings, awareness generation efforts covering 800+ people



IMPACT STORIES

Transforming Lives
From disability to triumph: Exemplifying grit and perseverance

Henl Gohil, a 19-year-old adolescent from Ambheta village, faces the challenge of low vision disability. Actively participating in the Gopi group, a village-level organization for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), Henl has engaged in skill development training, including rakhli making, diya decoration, and warli painting. Her story exemplifies the potential for individuals with disabilities to overcome adversities through education, skills development, and community support.

SAARTHI HELP DESK: Bridging the gap between Government and Citizens

In alignment with the Government's Common Service Centers (CSCs) initiative to promote e-governance in rural areas, Aatapi launched the SAARTHI Help Desk (2023). This project, based at the Vivekanand Khedut Mandali office in Gajera village, Jambusar, strengthens the last-mile delivery of government schemes. Help desk serves as a centralised point for information dissemination about government schemes, application support and documentation, follow-up assistance and scheme linkage facilitation.

The foundation also launched an assessment of household level availability and utilization of government schemes to provide linkages to 1000 households in five villages (Kareli, Vedach, Piludra, Kahanva, Gajera) of Jambusar block in Bharuch. A total of 4,727 household members and their existing government scheme profile was studied. This mammoth exercise enabled providing logistic support to those found wanting in optimum utilization of social welfare guarantees.

HIGHLIGHTS 2023-24

Awareness sessions across Nondhana, Kareli, and Piludara villages in Jambusar block
17+ sessions, 576+ beneficiaries

Online and Offline form filling processes
Scheme renewal processes
Video presentations on scheme guidelines and benefits

Successful facilitation of scheme enrollment for 508 beneficiaries



IMPACT STORIES

Transforming Lives
From disability to triumph: Exemplifying grit and perseverance

After the demise of her husband, Leelaben found herself alone and uncertain about her future. A neighbour informed Leelaben about Help Desk services. This led her to discover that merely document verification was pending for her to get her rightful claim to the widow pension scheme. The team at Help Desk facilitated the verification process resulting in Leelaben finally receiving the total pension amount of Rs. 4000.



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FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FUND RECEIVED IN 2023-24 (IN LAKHS)

TYPE OF FUND	FUND RECEIVED
CSR GRANTS	253
INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS	5
INDIVIDUAL DONATION	23
OTHER RECEIPTS	6

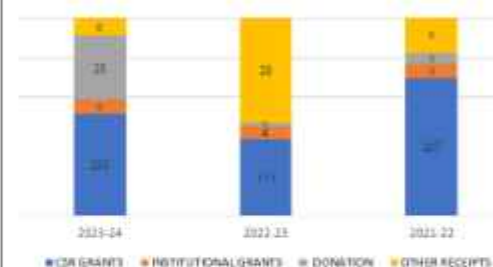
FUND RECEIVED IN Y 2023-24



FUND RECEIVED IN LAST 3 YEARS (IN LAKHS)

TYPE OF FUND	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
CSR GRANTS	253	179	187	97
INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS	5	4	3	4
DONATION	23	1	3	3
OTHER RECEIPTS	6	28	9	7
DISASTER RELIEF		0	0	2
TOTAL	288	211	202	114

FUND RECEIVED IN LAST 3 YEARS (IN LAKHS)



FUND UTILIZED IN LAST 3 YEARS (IN LAKHS)

PROGRAMS	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
HEALTH AND EDUCATION	71	24	37	22
WOMEN EMPOWERMENT	75	67	70	39
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	35	45	30	0
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE	17	17	20	17
PERSON WITH DISABILITY	23	15	11	7
DISASTER RELIEF			0	2
ADMIN EXPENSE	5	2	8	10
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	38	29	12	11
TOTAL	263.95	198.54	187.56	106.95

FUND UTILIZED IN LAST 3 YEARS (IN LAKHS)



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