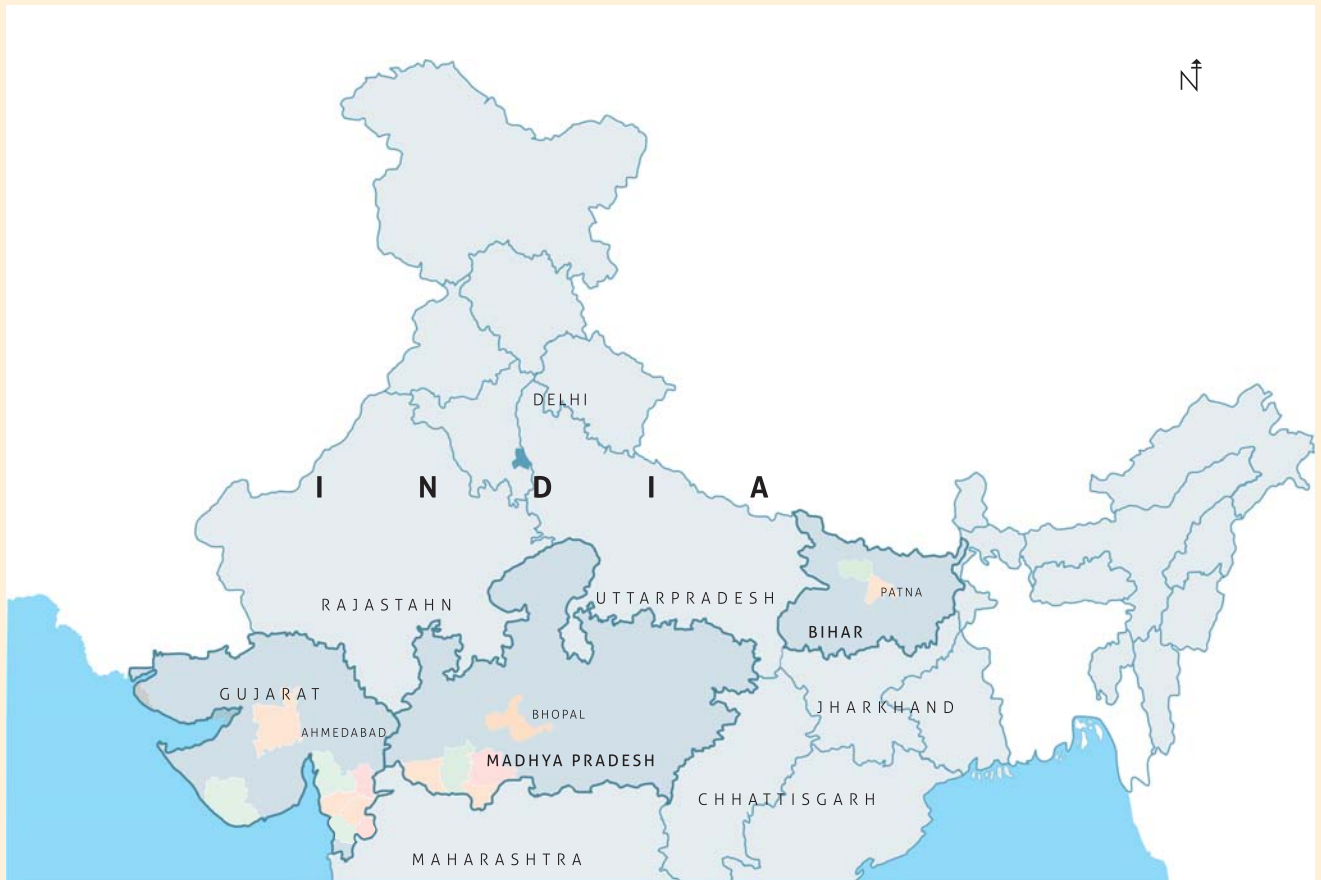




AGA KHAN RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME (INDIA)



A PROGRAMME OF THE AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK



THIS IS AN INDICATIVE MAP /ARTIST'S REPRESENTATION - NOT TO SCALE

PROGRAMME AREAS OF AKRSP (INDIA)

GUJARAT

BHARUCH, SURAT, NARMADA, TAPI, NAVSARI and DANG districts are some of the poorest areas in the state of Gujarat. A very poor tribal community lives on undulating and degraded land that was once heavily forested. Primitive Tribal Groups, largely landless, eke out a livelihood through labour and bamboo work.

JUNAGADH and PORBANDER district faces problems of groundwater depletion and salinity ingress on the coast and over-exploitation of the Gir Forest. Multi-caste and multi-religious communities are struggling to maintain their livelihoods.

SURENDRANAGAR district is one of the most drought-prone districts of Gujarat. Most of the villages in this district face an acute scarcity of water. Adjoining villages in **RAJKOT** district have similar characteristics.

MADHYA PRADESH

KHANDWA, BARWANI, BURHANPUR AND KHARGONE districts in Madhya Pradesh are home to marginalised tribal populations who live in poverty despite the rich natural resource base.

BIHAR

MUZAFFARPUR AND SAMASTIPUR districts in flood-prone Bihar are low in Human Development Indices (HDI), have very low literacy rates and migration to the urban areas is key source of livelihood.



Horticulture in the tribal tracts of western Madhya Pradesh have helped provide small and marginal farmers an alternative source of income

CONTENTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

- 07 STATISTICAL ABSTRACT
- 10 THE YEAR GONE BY
- 16 STATE REPORTS

FIELD IMPLEMENTATION

- 22 Empowering Communities
- 29 Enhancing Livelihoods
- 40 Providing Access To Education And Technology
- 43 Reducing Drudgery

NEW INITIATIVES

- 49 Landless Garden
- 51 System of Wheat Intensification
- 53 Expansion to new areas

- 54 Reaching Out
- 57 Financial summary
- 58 About AKRSP (India)

ANNEXURES

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- STAFF LIST
- OUR PARTNERS
- ADDRESSES

FOREWORD



As AKRSP (India) completes 25 years in the field, most of it in Gujarat, it is an opportune time to evaluate our contributions in promoting livelihoods and the quality of life of rural communities through support services designed in partnership with people. When we started out a quarter of a century ago, we chose three districts in Gujarat, each characterized by a different resource problem. It was a time when India was still growing at its pre-reform rates of growth and the nature of rural poverty was substantially different from what it is today.

AKRSP (India) set out to work closely with the most marginalized communities in these districts and tackle the problem posed by salinity, drought prone arid regions, resource rich but poor agricultural skill development that these three regions represented.

Last year we re-assessed our strategy with respect to our medium term goals. Our future programmes are likely to reflect three separate themes in three very different geographies. It is imperative for AKRSP (India) to remain rooted in its original geography and consolidate the progress made in its first quarter century of operations. In Gujarat, AKRSP (India) will address two themes. The first will concern the problems posed by coastal salinity from Porbander to Miyana; consolidating work already achieved in Junagadh and Surendranagar and opening up new area of operations especially on the northern side of this coastal belt. The second will consolidate and expand our work in the tribal areas of Gujarat with its core activity in Bharuch expanding into Madhya Pradesh and down to the Dangs. The Dang is amongst the poorest districts in the country and has witnessed scanty development. Operations in Madhya Pradesh will also focus on tribal area development in partnership with the government. Helping communities plan the use of the MNREGA funds will be major part of the work on enhancing agriculture livelihoods.

The third new geography is currently Bihar. This programme commenced two years ago and is currently progressing rapidly. Unlike Gujarat, Bihar poses very different problems in terms of climatic conditions as well as the sociological structure of the communities we serve. A decade of under development has left rural Bihar denuded of even rudimentary social and physical infrastructure. We need to begin from the beginning Education, Livelihoods, Basic Health Care, Lighting and Water. Given the multiple needs of communities, the methodological approach requires the simultaneous application of multiple inputs to meet basic needs. To achieve this objective, AKRSP (India) is developing a Multi Input Area Development Programme (MIAD) jointly with the Aga Khan Foundation which is leading the initiative. Substantial progress has been made so far and the cross fertilization of ideas and methods between different geographies and social conditions is likely to yield interesting and substantial results.

While reducing poverty helping socially and marginalized communities improve their livelihoods, AKRSP (India) has also introduced programmes to facilitate and develop linkages for rural communities, especially under-privileged women, to knowledge and technology as a means of improving their quality of life. The CTLC (Community Technology Learning Centers), assisted by Microsoft, expanded further enabling over 18000 people in these communities to obtain certification and be eligible for placement services. Of these nearly 1000 people were placed with well known corporate entities with MOUs being signed with neighboring industrial estate.

Over the years, AKRSP (India) has realized the need to influence the external environment, especially government policies and programmes to ensure that rural communities become self reliant. AKRSP (India) has been part of the policy changes like Joint Forest Management, Participatory Irrigation Management and Watershed Management for rainfed areas. To share its learnings, two training centers have been set up in Netrang and Sayla. These training centers have trained more than 20,000 people (NGO workers, village leaders, bankers, government staff etc). A community radio programme and documents and workshop ensure that the lessons learnt reach a larger audience.

This annual report describes these activities in greater detail. AKRSP (India) is now poised to face the next decade in playing its role promoting bottom up participatory development by working with livelihood enhancement in contrasting natural resource geographies. Fundamental to this process is an action learning methodology perfected over years which informs the organization for its future work but also creates a key input into policy advocacy and better design of government programmes for more effective impact. In the end, our task is to evolve workable and scalable models that public programmes can emulate to achieve the common objectives we all seek.

It gives me great pleasure to present you the Annual Progress Report for the year 2010 of the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India).

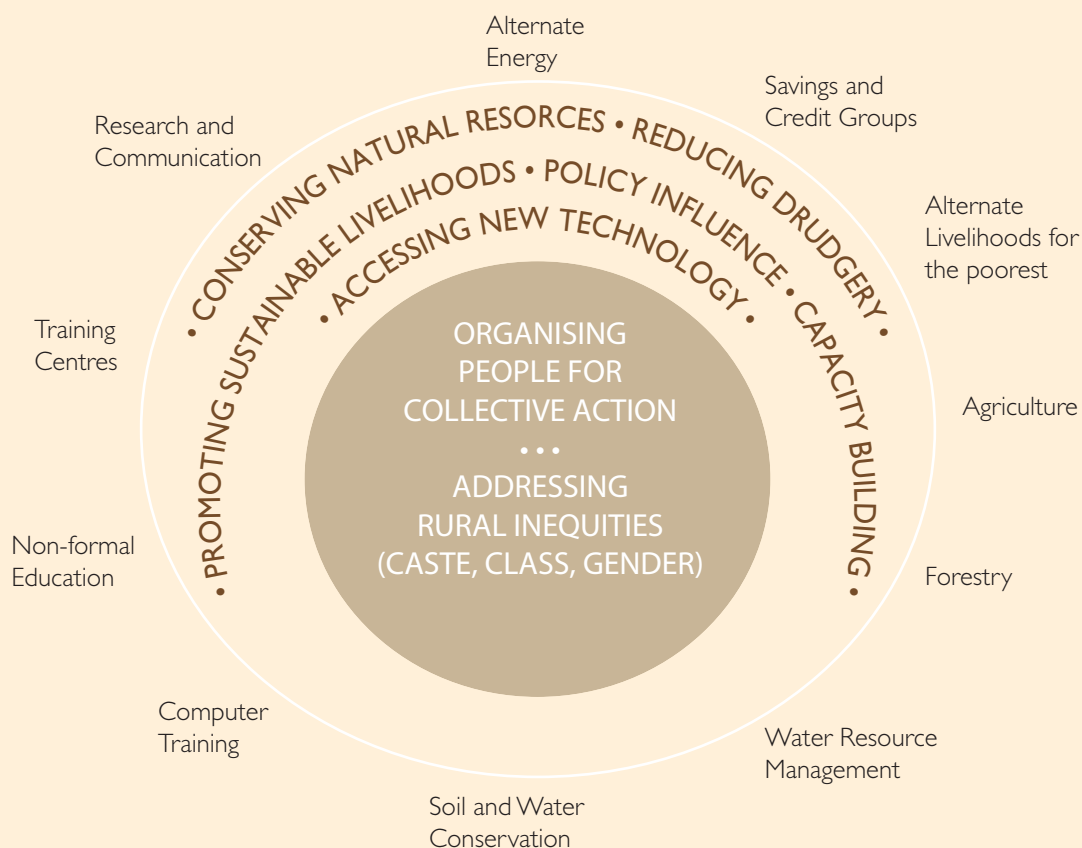


Nasser Munjee,
Chairman

STATISTICAL OVERVIEW: 2010

Details	Achievement in 2010	Cumulative till 2010
I. COVERAGE		
Villages	136	1159
Households	10612	108909
Village Institution / Women's Village Institutions	594/395	3859/2237
Members/ Women Members	4345/5627	76215/41080
2. ENHANCING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND INCOME		
a) Private Land Development		
Soil and Water Conservation	1767	42561
Farm Forestry	2123 hhs	13376 hhs
Agro Forestry (Horticulture)	1848hhs	13405 hhs
Group wells (Homestead Land Development)	112 Wells	347 wells
b) Water Management		
Canal Irrigation Societies	5	55
Lift Irrigation Devices	169	598
Check Dams and Irrigation Tanks	113	1188
Water use Efficiency Devices	367.4 hectares	9792.94 hectares
c) Microfinance and Agriculture Marketing		
Saving	4.6 million	35 million
Credit	10.50 million	37 million
Agriculture Input Supply	3349	13817
Agriculture Equipment	60 hhs	4108 hhs
3. COMMON LAND DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT		
Joint Forest Management	8 Villages	86 villages
4. ENHANCING INCOME NON AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES		
Dairy	562 hhs	2872 hhs
Goat Rearing	89 hhs	302 hhs
Skill-Based	62hhs	710 hhs
Product-Based	63	302 hhs
5. DRUDGERY REDUCTION		
Alternate Energy (Biogas plants/Solar devices/Windmills)	743	14461
Roof Rain Water Harvesting Structures	700	9460
Drinking Water Schemes		125
Hand Pump Installed/Repaired	635	2391
Percolation cum drinking well	21	229
6. EDUCATION		
Children in 3-6 age group	2780	2780
Children in 6-11 age group	5936	5936
7. ACCESS TO COMPUTERS		
Number of people trained	3779	18487
Number of people who accessed information	13144	88617

AKRSP (INDIA)'S DEVELOPMENT APPROACH



AKRSP (India)'s development approach has two main goals. They are, organising people for collective action, and addressing rural inequities. Keeping these goals in mind, it undertakes the following interventions and activities:

Alternate Energy

- Biogas
- Windmills
- Solar Lighting Systems

Savings and Credit Groups

- Self Help Groups
- Community Based Savings Groups

Alternate Livelihoods for the poorest

- Animal husbandry
- Bamboo crafts
- Vocational training
- Organic compost

Forestry

- Joint Forest Management
- Farm Forestry

Agriculture

- Organic Farming
- Horticulture
- Creeper vegetable cultivation
- Input supply
- System of Rice Intensification (SRI)
- Experiments with salinity resistant crops
- Vermicompost
- Crop Protection Tower
- Group wire fencing
- Weather-Based Insurance for crops

Water Resource Management

- Lift Irrigation
- Checkdams and irrigation tanks
- Group wells
- Drip systems
- Sprinkler systems
- Participatory Irrigation Management
- River Basin Management
- Farm Ponds
- Boribandhs
- Gabions

Soil and Water Conservation

- Land Levelling
- Contour Bunding
- Deep Ploughing

Computer Training

- Community-Based Technology Learning Centres

Non-formal Education

- Learning Centres
- Placement Services

Service Unit

- Capacity Building
- Exposure
- Evaluation

Research and Communication

- Studies on Field Implementation
- Outreach Activities

THE YEAR GONE BY

2010 is the 25th year of AKRSP(I) operations (while we were registered in September 1984, 1985 was the first year of operations).



India's Minister of State for Rural Development, Ms. Agatha Sangma Presenting the jury choice Award to AKRSP(I) Staff Ms. Shiji Abraham, IT Coordinator and Raman Patel, Area Manager, Netrang for the Best Skill development Initiative of the year 2010.

This journey of 25 years has been fascinating and exciting. We have enjoyed and learnt from our work from Gujarat, and using that as base, gone eastwards towards states like Madhya Pradesh and Bihar which offer new challenges. As our learning about communities evolved, our approaches have also evolved, from a focus on Natural Resource Management alone to a livelihoods approach and now, in Bihar, to a Multi Input Area Development (MIAD) approach where basic education and health services are provided, in addition to income enhancement to improve the quality of life of rural communities.

During these 25 years, we have learnt to enjoy the simplicity of rural India and understand the complex challenges of the rural poor. We have discovered the need to work with the village as a whole, and yet engage with the women and the poorest separately. A generation has changed in Gujarat, children of the villagers we worked with 25 years ago are now articulate, joining the computer classes we run, seek advice on better farming or education or getting jobs.

India is changing rapidly, and rural communities face new challenges though the problems of under-employment, water shortage and environment degradation continue. There are now new opportunities also, and AKRSP (India) will now start a new journey for the coming decade.

Overview

The year 2010 is significant in many other ways. The process of identifying and scaling up interventions which target the poorest reached a critical mass this year; and the majority of new institutions and programmes in 2010 were targeted towards the poorest.

The programme in Bihar and South Gujarat expanded geographically while in coastal Saurashtra and Madhya Pradesh, there has been consolidation.

By the end of 2010, AKRSP (India) was working in 1159 villages with 3804 village organizations, of which 60% were women's groups. One major trend observed in agriculture is the shift to vegetable cultivation across all 3 states. Increasingly, vegetables are becoming a small farmers best option, requiring less land and water, more labour (which s/he has) and a good local market. More than 4500 farmers took up vegetable cultivation, 90% of whom were marginal and tribal farmers.

Community institutions become increasingly self managed, and AKRSP(I) efforts to engage Panchayats in village planning showed results. Federations took over many roles played by AKRSP (India) so far.

In its efforts to provide support to the poor, many of whom have labour as their only asset, AKRSP (India) increased its skill training and placement activities, pro-actively seeking partnership with corporates and placement organizations to compensate for its low experience in this sector:

Potable drinking water continued to be a priority, whether it was in saline Gujarat (with high chloride content) and flood prone Bihar (where bacteriological contamination was very high). Interventions in safe drinking water have led to major changes in health and reduced health costs.

With increased maturity of savings groups, the savings amount has increased to Rs. 35 million and both bank linkages in Gujarat have led to credit access and good recovery rates.

Gujarat

In Gujarat, the work on making village organizations self reliant continued, with many forming linkages with government programmes and National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD). In fact, the women's federations in South Gujarat now access funds directly from NABARD to promote new self help groups, and access government schemes directly for their members.

In South Gujarat, the bulk of AKRSP (India)'s ongoing work is with poorest households targeted for appropriate interventions. Large Scale Dairy and bamboo crafts with Primitive Tribal Groups (PTG) and a small-holder agriculture development project with Vasava and BPL households receive support from the Tribal Department through 3-4 year projects. The Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) programme continued to expand, with two new schemes, Juj and Keliya where canal water is under utilized for the last two decades. In coastal Junagadh, work on drinking water continued with Water And Sanitation Management Organisation (WASMO).

In Agriculture, one major change is in the number of farmers taking up vegetable cultivation and dairy. Dairy farmers, many landless, now number more than 2500. Mobile engines use also scaled up with more than 300 new engines providing cheap and flexible irrigation in remote villages. Work with Saathni (landless farmers allotted poor quality common land by the government) continued and with support, many shifted from canal labourers to agriculturists.

Madhya Pradesh (M.P.)

In M.P. work expanded to 117 villages, and much of the work with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), in collaboration with the Government of MP, leads to wage employment as well as asset creation (check dams, earthen bunds, land improvement, forests etc.). AKRSP (India) continued its work in motivating panchayats in 68 villages to understand and use MGNREGS funds effectively, organizing exposure visits to model villages in Maharashtra and Gujarat. 30 check dams, 9 tanks, and 278 hectares of land was treated by the Panchayats. The work on Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) expanded in 2010 with 3 more canal irrigation facilities being formed.

While the team had promoted Self Help Groups (SHG) of women, the coverage within a village was too less for the women to have an impact on the village. In 2010, coverage improved from 28% to 45% of the households by promoting more SHGs within existing villages.

The Agriculture programme saw many new ideas: low cost vegetable cultivation, spiral graders and horticulture (with support from NABARD). To promote a balance between cash crops and food crops (which are declining rapidly) AKRSP(I) incentivised 209 farmers to grow traditional crops like sorghum, maize etc. This ensured that in case of failure of cash crop, small farmers are at least food secure. The work on input supply carried out by SHGs expanded to 1500 farmers ensuring that they are free from the

exploitative credit and poor input quality provided by local traders.

Though M.P has been a barren region, especially Badwani, afforestation activities had got less support from the community. In 2010, through sustained efforts, 100 hectares of public land was afforested and protected by the community.

The goatery programme, where landless households are supported to purchase and nurture a small herd of goats, has now proved successful. The provision of veterinary services by para vets and critical fodder support have helped increase mortality and made goatery viable for the poor. 290 households were supported in 2010.

Bihar

In Bihar, while expanding and consolidating its work amongst the marginalized communities in the existing blocks, explored options for a new field team Aurai, a flood affected block of Muzaffarpur district will be the work area for the third field team. Some programmes expanded (savings group and agriculture), in some there was a focus on consolidation (education) while many like energy and water sanitation were still being piloted.

Financial Services: The work in forming savings groups of poor women was scaled up and by the year end over 5600 women were members of 288 groups. Here, an easy to 'self manage' group form called the Community Based Savings Group (CBSG) is promoted where the initial focus is more on savings, mutual trust and financial literacy rather than pushing credit.

Agriculture: In the agricultural programme more than 3000 farmers (men and women) were covered under a range of options like System of Rice Intensification (SRI), System of Wheat Intensification (SWI) and small scale vegetable cultivation. The agriculture intervention have a segmented approach to address the huge variation in land ownership in Bihar. The three main segments addressed by AKRSP(I) are (a) the totally landless where landless garden was promoted (b) homes with small (50-100 sq. mt) patch of homestead land where small vegetable plots were promoted with vermi compost and (c) farmers having own or leased land upto 3 acres where SRI, SWI, input supply and vegetables are promoted.

Education: The Education programme focused on getting more younger children (3-6) under its Early Childhood Development programme (ECD) and improving the quality of the Learning Support Centers (LSC) set up for children of 6-11 years age. There were 42 such centers and more than 4000 children in 2010. Some of the ECD teachers linked

up with the Aanganwadi centers in the area so that children get benefit of nutrition from ICDS and learning from the trained ECD teachers.

The work on computer education was expanded to 5 clusters, which are now being used as base for other skill training (masonry, mobile repairs etc.).

Health: The women's water and health committees are active in 20 tolas, helping in water testing, (227 hand pumps tested) and platform construction (232 units). Feedback and recent water tests shows that bacterial contamination has reduced considerably and health has improved because of the raised platform and drainage. In addition to this, pilots on treated mosquito nets, hygiene trainings and groups energy solutions have been done.



Drainage platforms have helped reduce bacterial contamination and improved the quality of drinking water in Bihar villages

Alternate energy: The partnership with The Energy Research Institute (TERI) continued as now 220 more households get access to solar lanterns. In addition, a windmill for pumping has been piloted and other solar light suppliers are being contacted.

Outreach

Training and Capacity Building: overall 12000 people were trained during the year, with 4000 at the two training centers in Gujarat and 8000 at other locations. This year the Netrang center conducted 106 trainings for government agencies while Sayla had a large number of NGO trainees as well women's self help groups (promoted by the government in Gujarat).

Research: The study on the “Status of village organisation after NGO-promoters withdraw “was completed.

Policy advocacy

AKRSP(I) participated in meetings to share awareness on the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and was part of the advisory group for the Gujarat Livelihood Promotion Company Ltd. (GLPC) set up to operationalise NRLM in Gujarat. It also participated in discussions for the 12th Five Year Plans approach to the water sector.

STATE REPORT: GUJARAT



THIS IS AN INDICATIVE MAP / ARTIST'S REPRESENTATION - NOT TO SCALE

AKRSP (India) started its field operations in the state of Gujarat in 1985. It is now functioning in ten districts namely Surendranagar, Porbandar, Rajkot, Junagadh, Narmada, Vadodara, Surat, Tapi, Bharuch and Dangs.

In 2010, 170 village institutions were formed in Gujarat, out of which 116 were women's groups. As the Sustainable Community Based Approaches for Livelihoods Enhancement (SCALE) project is nearing completion, it was essential that the village institutions promoted by AKRSP (India) in Gujarat become self-reliant. In the year 2010, AKRSP (India) therefore focussed on discussing the reduced role it would play in the future. All the activities done with the village institutions were in alignment with this one objective. The first steps towards this direction were already taken in 2009 and hence this year, the task was to take these initiatives towards their end.

In the three programme areas, AKRSP (India) continued with its interventions but most of these were focused on benefiting the poorest communities. In Netrang programme area, AKRSP (India) continued to work with the Kotwalia community and the poorest below poverty line farmers. The Kotwalia community is a Primitive Tribal Group (PTG) whose traditional source of livelihood is to make bamboo handicrafts. This year, the team of trained bamboo artisans were supported through enhanced marketing measures including development of a catalogue for showcasing their products and selling of their products in various fairs and exhibitions in the vicinity and also in major urban centres like Ahmedabad. A new project for small holder agricultural development was launched where BPL farmers undertook vegetable cultivation on a large scale in Narmada district in collaboration with the Tribal Sub Plan of the Government of Gujarat.



Poorest Kotwalia Women tending their Precious assets

In Surendranagar programme area, more than fifty poorest Saathni farmers were supported with various land improvement measures and small scale support irrigation to improve their land productivity. Furthermore, the number of farmers adopting organic farming increased to 917 in 2010. In Gadu, too the major beneficiaries of drinking water and sanitation activities were largely the socially and economically disadvantaged families. The other initiatives of AKRSP (India) included helping the poor in managing the water for agricultural purposes, provision of drinking water and providing alternate livelihood options.

As of December 2010, the Computerji centres trained 3178 youth on computer skills and 277 people obtained employment majorly in IT Industry, Banks, hotels and in government programmes etc. While, 12251 persons accessed information related to government schemes and agricultural markets.

STATE REPORT: MADHYA PRADESH



AKRSPI (India) started working in Madhya Pradesh in 2005. AKRSP (India) selected the Nimar region to begin its work in the state and set up its state head quarters in Khandwa. Since, the social and cultural background of the communities there were similar to that of the tribal communities in South Gujarat, it was easier for the organisation to manage the transition.

In the Khandwa programme area, AKRSP (India) has been working with tribal communities of Korku, Barela, Bhil and Bhilala. The key focus of the activities have been watershed development, Participatory Irrigation Management, promoting savings and credit groups and setting up Computerji centres.

In 2010, the Khandwa programme team expanded to 14 new villages. AKRSP (India) covered 1426 households from 121 villages of five districts. The Khalwa cluster

team focused mainly on Participatory Irrigation Management. Whereas Zirniya, Rajpur, Pandhana and Niwali cluster teams focussed on implementing the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in collaboration with the government of Madhya Pradesh.

During the year, 1026.8 hectares of land was covered under field bunding, nala plugging, land levelling and trenches. Also, 178 boribandhs and 96 gabions were constructed this year. The Village Development Committees (VDC) of each village managed all these activities on their own. Furthermore, promotion of goatery with the poorest and landless Korku farmers in Khandwa programme area continued with additional support, through para veterinarians in villages on a cost recovery basis. Village level volunteers called “jankaars” too were trained in providing primary care to goats.



Assets such as this water harvesting structure constructed under MGNREGS have provided critical support irrigation and help recharge aquifers as well

Activities related to improvement in nutrition and housing for goats were also taken up. Various measures covered under training and exposure visits included de-worming, breed improvement, pre and post pregnancy care of goats, feeding practices and market linkages for better price realization.

In 2010, 361 people got trained in computer skills and 893 accessed information on market and employment opportunities. The project is currently being implemented through one centre and 4 sub-centres and 26 people got placements.

STATE REPORT: BIHAR



THIS IS AN INDICATIVE MAP / ARTIST'S REPRESENTATION - NOT TO SCALE

In 2010, AKRSP (India) consolidated its work in Bihar:

Multi Input Area Development (MIAD) approach

Unlike earlier approaches wherein interventions are taken up in a sequential manner with economic development leading to investments in social development, MIAD aims to work simultaneously on economic and social development through community based approaches. Work at the community level was initiated since mid-2008 across 4 blocks of Samastipur and Muzaffarpur. By the end of 2010, AKRSP (India) was active in 135 tolas in 99 villages across 24 Panchayats of five blocks. A team of 25 field staff are implementing a range of interventions in Pusa and Muraul offices.

A total of 288 Community Based Savings Groups (CBSG) with 15-20 women in each group were promoted to provide basic financial literacy and smoothing of consumption needs.

In the domain of education, 42 Learning Support Centres (LSC) have been supported to nurture independent learning abilities of children in the age group 6-11 years. Also, 42 Early Childhood Development Centres with trained mother teachers have been established for children in the age group of 3-6 years.

3 Community Based Technology Learning Centres (CTLTC), including one in a local madarsa exclusively for women, were set up to impart training in basic computer skills among the youth.



Mahila Sammelan (Women's meet) Organised at Pusa, Bihar for Sharing Women's issues on Women's Day

Agriculture interventions include scaling up of System of Rice Intensification (SRI), a new method of growing paddy, with 2016 farmers. Also, vegetable cultivation was taken up with nearly 500 farmers and vermi compost was taken up with 196 farmers.

To promote health and prevent diseases, AKRSP (India) constructed 232 platforms and micro drainage facilities near hand pumps. Solar lanterns were piloted in two villages among 220 households and bio gas plants were constructed in 12 households for both cooking and lighting purposes.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES



A community needs assessment meeting in progress in Dangs district of South Gujarat

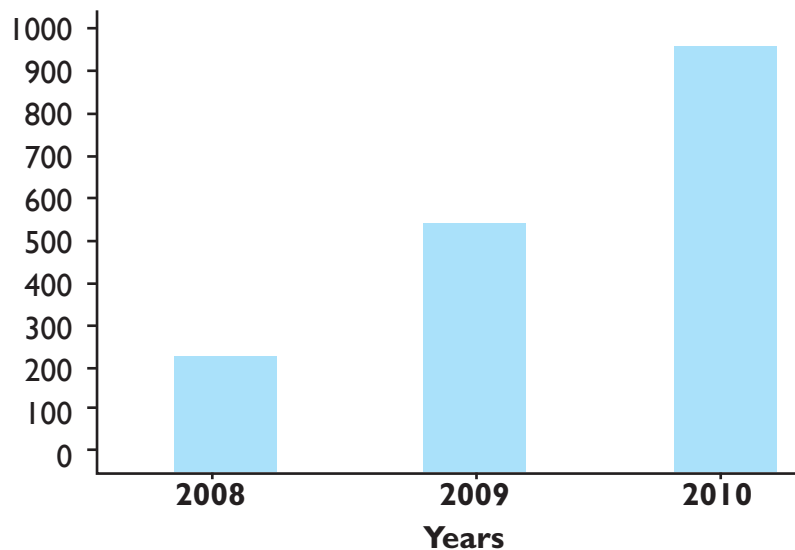
Towards A More Equitable Society

By the end of 2010, AKRSP (I) had promoted more than 3800 village organisations, out of which 2214 (60%) were women's groups. While many of the groups were membership based, there were a few representative groups also; village development committees, village water committee (a sub committee of the village Panchayat) etc. Overall membership was 76215, out of which 41000 were women members.

562 new groups were formed in 2011, the bulk of them in Bihar and MP. Overall there are 19 Federations, with varying objectives and design. Some, like those in Junagadh, have representatives of groups collectively addressing a regional problem like salinity ingress or river decline. Others are more typically federations of women's Self Help Groups.

The Village Panchayat is the unit of governance at the village level; and though many of them are ineffective because they are politicised, their increased empowerment by the state is leading to a change. AKRSP (I) actively collaborates and /or trains panchayats in 232 villages in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

Growth of women's group



On the road to Self Reliance

In the year 2010, AKRSP (India) focussed on making existing village institutions self reliant and discussing the reduced role it would play in the future. All the activities done with the village institutions were in alignment with this one objective. The first steps towards this direction were already taken in 2009 and hence this year, the task was to take these initiatives towards their end. The Grameen Vikas Sanghs in Shil and Kukaswada continued with their savings and credit activities. Moving on the road towards reducing their dependence on AKRSP (India), these VIs have started bearing the full cost of their operation expenses that include credit recovery, updation of records, conducting meetings and so on. They also managed on their own two mahila sammelans which were also platforms to spread awareness on self reliance.

In Sayla, AKRSP (India) withdrew its support from 25 Village Development Committees (VDCs) and linked 39 farmer's clubs with NABARD so that they can directly liaison with the government and NABARD without any involvement of AKRSP (India).

In Gujarat, the SHG federations are a 2-tier structure, which becomes a problem when the numbers are large and villages at a distant. Hence, 15-20 SHGs were linked to a middle tier structure that is called route or cluster level association. This helps in reviewing the performance of member SHGs in monthly meetings and extending support in areas like strengthening weaker groups, reviving defunct groups, handling defaulters, book-keeping and bank linkages. At the federation level, members form sub-committees which will have focus on issues like health, livelihood and soon.

Taking on AKRSP (India) roles : The Village Institutions promoted by AKRSP (India) continued to get involved in various project activities and social issues, without any support from AKRSP (India). So on one hand the mahila manchs in Netrang programme area continued to play an active role in biogas construction and maintenance, hand pump repairing, construction of drinking water schemes, expansion of System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and so on.

NABARD had awarded a project of forming 100 SHGs each in Dediapada and Sagbara to the mahila manchs of Dediapada and Sagbara. A total of 65 SHGs in Dediapada and 40 SHGs in Sagbara have been formed till now.

The 3 Mahila Manchs of Gadu programme area applied for registration under Section 12A and 80G of Income Tax Act so that their donors are exempted from paying income tax. In Mangrol, the Kharash Niyantran Mahasangh has become totally independent in conducting meetings, accounts management, liaisoning and so on. The Adivasi Mahila Sangh at Talala continued to bear the expenses incurred for their capacity building, the para workers started assuming a much larger role in the day to day operations. The Akhand Mahila Shakti Sangh, Maliya, set up its own office where the villagers come for meetings, trainings and coordination for various projects. This office space has been taken on lease and was originally a community hall.

Khaarash Niyantran Mahasangh (Federation to control Salinity ingress) – Mangrol

Mangrol Taluka of Junagadh District is a salinity prone region. Farming is rain-dependent. Most of the villages face issues related to scarcity of quality drinking water and water for farming. Due to drinking saline water, people here are facing many health issues too. People migrate out of town in search of work. AKRSP (India) is working in this region for providing drinking water and for preventing the spread of salinity. AKRSP (India) has formed Federations, Mahila Manchs, Water Committees and Salinity Prevention Groups at village and district levels. To address the issues related to salinity, all these groups have got together and thought to form 'Kharash Niyantran Mahasangh' (Federation to control Salinity) in the district. As salinity is a regional and long term issue and AKRSP (India) alone or the village level institutions alone would not be able to create impact, a regional organisation can bring about a more sustainable change in preventing the salinity ingress.

Objectives of the Kharash mahasangh:

The main objective of forming this Sangh is to represent the problems of the regions to the Government and other organizations and seek solution of the problems caused by salinity. The Sangh works closely with its members for building awareness amongst the farmers on issues of salinity, water conservation and water recharge, efficient water use technologies, working with PRI for drinking water issues.

Structure of the Mahasangh:

The Mahasangh is a representative body of local leadership, represented either institutionally or individually. The Village Institutions, like, Kharash Atkao Juth (KAJ), Kharash Atkao Sankalan Sangathan (KASS), federation of KAS and the two mahila Manchs are part of this larger umbrella for salinity prevention. And at the same time there are interested individual members, like sarpanchs of 7 villages, members of taluka (block) Panchyat and Zilla (District) Panchyat, few graduate concerned youth and so on.

Initiatives taken up by the Mahadsangh

Liason related planning: A book consisting of names of regional government officers and their departments was distributed in the respective villages. A committee for written communication with the government officers was formed which collects information on different issues and recharge data from all the villages and based on it they do representations to the government departments.

Impact on Canal survey and Repairing :

Mahasangh conducted the survey of the government constructed link Canal which provides fresh water across the coast, preventing ingress. The list of incomplete work from Rahij to Khambhaliya was submitted to the government. During the survey it was learnt that some farmers had dug wells in the canal and had also kept the mud piled up in heaps in the middle of the canal. As a result of this, the flow of water was getting restricted. For this, along with the farmers, cleaning of the canal was **carried out**. The canal survey was submitted to the salinity control office. However, there was no response from the office. As a result, an RTI was filed by the Mahasangh. At last, a memorandum was submitted in Porbandar and people from media houses were also called upon. As a result of this pressure mounted upon the government and eventually a tender for clearing the canal was placed.

Moving Beyond Akrsp (India)

The village institutions promoted by AKRSP (India) often take up activities that do not fall under the working areas of the organisation. But, after having reached a certain stage of maturity these institutions respond to the needs of the society and take up activities that they think are important for their community. The social issues addressed by the Mahila Manchs include the work done to promote the widow pension scheme and old age pension scheme by the manch in Sagbara, Mandvi etc. The Mahila Manch works for obtaining of widow pension scheme and land rights for widows. The manch conducts meetings with widows for ration cards, pensions and land-related issues.

Health is another issue that some of the Mahila Manchs have taken up. Jagruti Mahila Manch at Dediapada organised an eye check up camp in collaboration with a local NGO named Seva Rural. Around 105 people got their eye sight checked and three people were sent for immediate surgery. The Mahila Manch at Sagbara also organised a camp on women's health in collaboration with Seva Rural Zagadia.

Jagruti Mahila Manch, Mandvi

In Mandvi taluka, the Mahila Manch named Mahila Jagruti Mandal was initiated in mid 2000 and later registered as a formal body in 2005. The women consider the Mahila Manch as a forum which can help address social issues, create awareness, find solutions and act as a larger pressure group to negotiate women's issues at the taluka and other levels. The current structure of the federation consists of SHG's at the village level, a 'Route' nstitution covering 4-5 villages, and the executive committee at the taluka level. The Mahila Jagruti Manch has membership of 172 SHGs representing 2020 women through 10 Routes and one executive committee across 50 villages. In this Mahila Manch meetings, in addition to activities of savings and loans six committees are formed for Meeting management, Liasoning, Social security, Health, Financial activities and Office Construction.

Addressing the problems of widows: While women do face discrimination, widows are the most vulnerable group as they face social exclusion and economic exploitation. Considering the issues of widows a survey was conducted in 23 villages of Mandvi Taluka. In this the total population of widows was found to be 735 out of which the number of women owning land was 342. Further it was also found that out of these, number of women with irrigation facilities are about 257. Based on this study, the manch initiated interventions regarding Widows pension, Senior citizen pension, rationing card etc.

Subsequently, the Manch took up issues of women's land rights. The Jagruti Mahila Manch, is a member of the state level Network called "Working group on Women and Land Ownership" therefore they received further support from this network. Under such circumstances, the Mahila Manch helps widows develop self-confidence and courage. Due to the efforts of the paralegal workers of the social security (Samaj Suraksha) committee of the Manch, the widows have got an opportunity to fight for their land ownership rights and 33 women have already received 70 acres of land due to the efforts of Mahila Manch in 2010. This land is estimated to be worth Rs. 7 million. In addition, dairy and agriculture interventions to increase income were taken up.

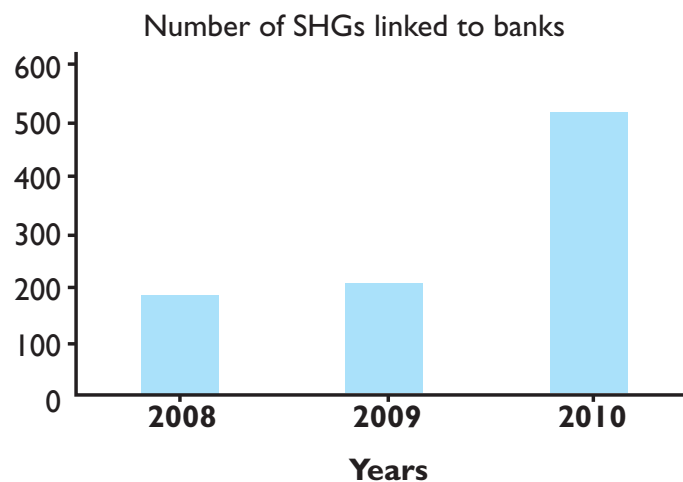
The Mahila Manch has become a representative for developmental problems of the villages also. In the Badtal village, the women collectively pressurised the Block Development Officer to provide drinking water facility to the villagers which the villagers got and they also pressurised the government to get the schemes approved for many other villages also. Similarly, while collecting kerosene and firewood women faced couple problem as it took an entire day, Mahila Manch collected all the relevant details regarding the same took up this issue with the District Development Officer where they discussed their problems. Mahila Manch has thus successfully carved a niche for itself and has helped changed the lives of many women for the better. It has also been extremely successful at getting support from all government agencies. Most importantly the women now have stopped accepting injustice quietly and have asserted their just rights.

In Khandwa, the focus was on training panchayats to take up National Rural Employment Guarantee Act work for productive purposes and making them accountable to the gram sabha. Exposure visits along with government officials to model panchayats in Maharashtra have helped motivate them and sensitise government staff. Overall 132 new groups were formed and four cluster level associations were also formed. The new canal irrigation societies of MP were highly motivated when leaders from mature canal societies of Gujarat visited them and shared lessons on managing irrigation. Many of the SHGs formed because of their larger presence at the village level and training provided on NREGA, RTI and other government schemes, are taking up an active role in improving services. Some of them successfully started an anti liquor campaign, while others are improving the anganwadi (Integrated Child Development Scheme) in the villages.

Promoting Savings and Credit

In Gujarat, the 1430 Self Help Groups had a total savings of Rs.32 million and loans of Rs.34 million, largely through rotational credit and bank linkages.

In Khandwa (Madhya Pradesh), 71 new groups were formed in the year taking the total number of members to 5045. The total savings was Rs.2.18 million and the total credit disbursed was Rs.2.21 million.



In Bihar, the Community Based Savings Groups (CBSG) enrolled 5711 members in 291 groups in 2010. Out of them, 97.5% members are women. They were trained on financial literacy both the programme areas in Bihar organised mahila sammelans for their CBSG members. These sammelans serve multiple purposes. They provide a platform to the members for sharing their experiences and develop leadership qualities as well. The members shared their stories of how the formation of CBSGs have saved them from being exploited by the money lenders for their small credit needs.



Community Based Savings Groups have helped women meet their short term consumption needs

ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS



Vegetable cultivation by small and marginal farmers have improved their quality of life substantially

Enhancing livelihoods has been a core activity of AKRSP (India) which largely focuses on increasing net incomes from existing livelihoods like agriculture or introducing new options like dairy or skill development with those for whom agriculture is not a viable option. In 2010, AKRSP (I)'s major focus has been on benefiting the poorest across all states through various interventions.

Agriculture Development: The major goal is to ensure food security, increase net incomes and reduce risk of farmers. AKRSP (India) therefore works to improve the quality of land, increase the availability of water for irrigation and introduce new inputs or technologies of cultivation so that the productivity increases.

Agriculture Extension

In Bihar, during the initial interactions with the communities, it was found that agriculture is a crucial source of livelihood for people there but because of small land holdings most villagers migrate and depend on remittance income. However, farmers reported that the overall yield of cereals like wheat, paddy or of pulses were low and the vegetable cultivators were less. Marginal farmers had no real options. AKRSP (India) piloted two new interventions in 2010. One was System of Wheat Intensification (SWI) and another was that of landless garden (Both of these are described in the section on new initiatives).

System of Rice Intensification (SRI) was scaled up in Gujarat and Bihar, covering more than 5800 farmers overall. In Netrang, AKRSP (India) changed its strategy and seeds were no longer provided to the farmers. Instead selected farmers were trained to become resource persons. A team of 7-8 farmers were developed as resource persons for SRI who provided training to other farmers. A total of 3793 households adopted SRI this year. Mass awareness campaigns were organized to promote SRI and the Gram Vikas Mandal took lead in organizing the campaigns. The SRI intervention has been successful in increasing the productivity level by nearly 30 per cent. It was piloted in MP with 13 farmers.

In Khandwa, to ensure food security for the poorest Kurko tribal households, 209 farmers were supported through deep ploughing of part of their lands and were also provided with inputs including seeds of traditional food crops like sorghum, pigeon pea and maize. This ensured that in case of failure of cash crop, small farmers are at least food secure.

Input Supply: While in Gujarat input supply is largely done by farmer federations and womens federations independently, in MP the work on input supply carried out by SHGs expanded to 1500 farmers across the four districts ensuring that they are free from the exploitative credit and poor input quality provided by local traders. In Bihar the Kisan clubs also pooled resources to procure inputs, a first for the area as collective work by farmers has not been done earlier.

Vegetable Cultivation With Support Interventions Help Shankar Dalpat Earn Income And Improve His Family's Diet As Well !!

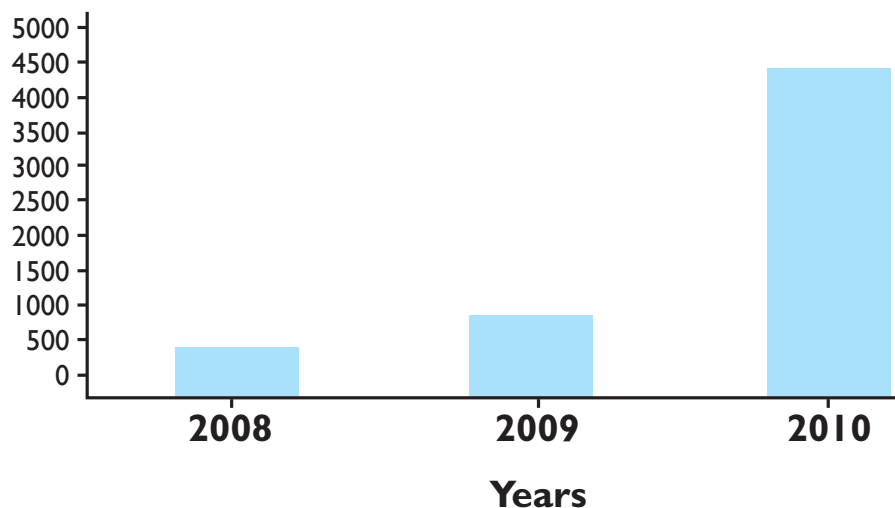
Kakoda village is located in Pandhana block of Khandwa District. It is one of the initial villages where AKRSP (I) had started its interventions in the region way back in 2005. Mostly inhabited by the tribal communities of Bhils and Barelas, poverty in Kakoda is partly due to poor natural resources in the form of degraded forest on the Satpura hills and degraded lands also lacking irrigation facilities. Shankar Dalpat a Bhil tribal resides in the village and holds 10 acres of land. Shankar has benefited through renovation work done in his dug well and was provided a mobile engine through a loan from the SHG's Revolving Fund. Further, a gabion structure constructed in the nearby nalla that flows through his land also helped in reducing soil erosion and recharging groundwater thus enhancing his agriculture productivity.

Shankar was provided a subsidy of Rs. 3000 for cultivation of creeper vegetable whereas he deposited Rs.2000/- as cash contribution for purchase of high yield seeds of Bitter gourd and bottle gourd besides collection of bamboos and wooden sticks and labour for land preparation, sowing of seeds, pit digging and weeding. Till date he has earned Rs. 22000/- by selling these vegetables from his farm in the nearby markets of Diwal and Zirniya. This is in addition to the cash value of Rs. 3000/ of the vegetables that his family has used for their domestic consumption.

Scaling Up Vegetable And Fruit Cultivation

In 2010, there has been a quantum jump in the adopters of vegetable cultivation and from just 891 last year to as many as 4534 farmers across all the three states of Gujarat, MP and Bihar. Most of these cultivators are small and marginal farmers. Vegetable cultivation with the poorest has had very significant results in terms of enhancing incomes and nutrition. In Netrang, as many as 3794 Below Poverty Line (BPL) farmers have taken up vegetable cultivation in Sagbara and Dediapada blocks alone covering an area of 3635.5 acres. Vegetables including bitter gourd, bottle gourd, etc were cultivated. This year, creeper vegetables were piloted in Sayla programme area and 28 units of bitter gourd, ribbed gourd and beans were grown. Also, two demonstration workshops were organized that were attended by 201 farmers. In MP 14 creeper vegetable nurseries were set up with 14 small but progressive farmers and vegetable cultivation was done by more than 200 farmers.

Number of vegetable cultivators



In Bihar, over five hundred farmers took up vegetable farming of which more than half were either landless or small farmers .

Overall 1850 farmers took up fruit cultivation. Fruits such as papaya, sapota, mango and lemon were promoted. In Gujarat and MP this horticulture work was supported by the Government and NABARD and in most cases farmers were also provided with support irrigation structures such as group well, check wall, mobile engines and gabion structures etc

Agriculture Marketing Cooperative Society

In Netrang, formation of an agriculture marketing cooperative society was initiated to meet the needs of marketing of vegetables and fruits. A workshop was organized where the formation process of cooperatives, leadership, functions etc were shared. Then farmers / members were taken on exposure visits to learn from existing cooperative societies over there. The society has already opened an account with the district cooperative bank and the registration process too has begun with submission of the documents to government for registration.

Weather-based crop insurance

Overall 1147 farmers took up weather insurance this year.

In Netrang, Initiatives were taken to start weather-based crop insurance scheme through Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd (AIC) for cotton-growing farmers of Narmada district. This year a new product for the cotton crop has been developed with less premium so that more farmers can afford it. During the year around 316 farmers took up weather insurance from 22 Villages as compared to 287 in 2009. In Gadu, 355 farmers took up weather insurance for groundnut crop while in Sayla, 480 small and marginal farmers were covered under weather based insurance which was an increase of almost 50% compared to the last year i.e. 2009. Totally 710 acres areas was covered under the scheme. In Saurashtra, farmers covered the entire premium costs while tribal farmers were provided subsidy.

A total of 192 farmers received a total claim amount of Rs.774326 for reasons of crop failure and increased gap between two rainfall spells (as per weather station data).

Soil and water conservation

In Gujarat, overall 740 hectares of land was treated through various measures including farm and contour bunds, land leveling, nalla plugs as well as gabions. In Netrang, gabions were scaled up hugely this year with the construction of 327 gabions in 43 villages benefiting 222 House Holds. Most of these beneficiaries were poorest households.

In Sayla, work with fifty Saathnis (who were poor landless farmers that received common land from the government of very poor quality) continued and nine of these farmers benefited from construction of farm ponds which would provide critical support irrigation as well as recharge the groundwater to some extent. This year significantly the beneficiaries of Land levelling have either been widows and/or women headed households. Deep ploughing and land levelling too continued with these farmers to

improve the quality of their lands with 20 hectares of land being levelled during the year. Wire fencing too was taken up to control crop raiding by wild herbivores on sathni farmers' lands. Three exposure visits were organised for the Sathani farmers to learn from model villages. Furthermore, 6 Sathani families are also involved in growing creeper vegetables.

In Gadu, the Sathni land given by government in the Bhanduri and Akaala villages of Meghal river basin is unproductive and thus becomes difficult for the farmers to cultivate. Furthermore, ploughing of this infertile land increases the soil erosion rendering the farming in this undulating land more difficult. To address this issue, several efforts were undertaken in the year 2009 spreading awareness among the villagers through workshops, motivational visits and formation of groups. In 2010 then in Bhanduri village, work for levelling and field bunding was carried out while in Akala village 12 families united and started a collective savings organization. In Akala, two farmers started the work of field bunding while two undertook the task of levelling the land. In the Gir forest periphery villages, thirty hectares of contour bunding and land levelling has been completed for Saathni farmers. Over the past five years as many as eighty one saathni farmers have benefited through land improvement activities and agricultural input supply which has helped them improve their incomes as well.



Poorest Saathni farmers reaping a rich harvest of cotton after their land was treated by AKRSP (India) insert shows the land quality before treatment

In Khandwa programme area, the focus was on small and marginal farmers belonging to the Korku and Bhil communities. Majority of the work done for soil and water conservation followed the principle of ridge to valley approach where micro blocks were fully treated. Seeing the work done by AKRSP (India) the district administration conducted a series of exposure visits and trainings for their staff regarding participatory planning and implementation of watershed activities. This year, 772 households benefited from field bunds and contour bunds and 185 households benefited from gabion structures.

Progress Under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)

In 2010, majority of the work done under MGNREGS in Khandwa programme area was labour oriented and hence activities involving materials were limited in number. From January, new Panchayats had come into charge post elections and AKRSP (India) provided technical support to those panchayats that wanted to implement natural resource management work under MGNREGS.

To help communities understand this scheme better, a number of video shows were conducted in Pandhana and Deditalai that resulted in greater community participation especially from women. In order to facilitate the process of handing over of assets created under MGNREGS, social audit was done in Rajpur cluster with overwhelming support from the panchayat members. Also, to make MGNREGS more transparent, all the project details, including fund details and status of the work done was shared with the community through a series of meetings in Zirniya.

Participatory Irrigation Management

During 2010, focus was on developing the capacities of the Participatory Irrigation Management Federations towards the efficient management of PIM activities in 25000 hectare area covering 235 villages which included Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited Karajan, Ver and older canal projects (Pingut, Baladava, Lakhigam, Kevadi, Isar, Chopadavav, Kakdiamba etc).

The capacity building was mainly concentrated on the leaders and employees for the management of water distribution and recovery as well as liaison with Government departments.

In Khandwa programme area, the Canal Irrigation Society (CIS) in Jamdhad PIM project was formed in 2010. One kilometre of the canal was renovated in June and the lining work



of the same canal was done covering a length of 130 metres. Repair and maintenance work was also carried out in the Sandalpur and Dabiya PIM tanks.

Animal Husbandry

In Netrang and Sayla programme areas, quality health based services were the focus in 2010 for the milch animals. In Netrang, health check ups were done with the support of veterinarians from the government. A training on animal care was organised which covered all the essentials of animal care, procurement etc. In addition, cattle feed were also distributed. AKRSP (India) entered into a MOU with SUMUL Dairy to provide veterinary services to Kotwaliya beneficiaries. Thus veterinary doctors from SUMUL dairy as well provided veterinary services to Kotwaliya beneficiaries at a very nominal cost. Also coordination with Government Veterinary doctors in the area to provide support service to Kotwaliya beneficiaries resulted in the department providing mineral mixtures and other veterinary medicines free of cost to all the Kotwaliya beneficiaries and also organized an animal health camp.

The milk collection facilities were also taken care of as part of the agreement with the dairy cooperatives and its collection centres. As a result all the beneficiaries who received the milch animals became the members of SUMUL Dairy Cooperative milk collection network. To reduce the ill effect of animal mortality, insurance support was provided for the beneficiaries for all animal purchased and distributed at very low premium rate under agreements with the New India Assurance Co Ltd, Bardoli. During the year the average gross income of the individual beneficiaries from the milk production was approximately Rs.2500 to 3000 per month.

A study to assess the benefits of a flexible financing mechanism to purchase animals found that the programme helped to improve the food security as it helped to stabilize the income. During the vulnerable periods, the flexible payment system was of great help.

In Sayla, AKRSP (India) continued partnership with BAIF Development Research Foundation to ensure artificial insemination, mineral and vitamin based fodder promotion and other livestock management activities. AKRSP (India) set up two centers for this. This year there was more demand from the community for the veterinary services due to good and timely service as well as the affordability of services from these centres. Indeed apart from the centres, in 20 villages, artificial insemination was carried out with 401 cows and 393 buffalos. Furthermore, fodder was distributed among 40 families from 20 Villages. This resulted in increased milk productivity by at least 100 grams and also resulted in reduced mortality rate as well. In Gadu, the women from the poorest Siddi community who had been given buffaloes last year were given trainings in vaccination and prenatal care.

Animal Husbandry Programme improves the quality of life of Tinaben's family !!

Tinaben Dineshbhai belongs to the Kotwaliya community (Primitive Tribal Group based in South Gujarat) in Mandvi Taluka in Surat District. There are 6 members in her family including 3 children. Her husband, Dinesh bhai was a farm labourer and was engaged in the sugarcane factory in nearby Madhi. He used to migrate with family and stayed for eight months in Madhi. Due to this, their children were not able to attend school. Despite working hard for the whole day in his farm he used to earn just enough for two meals per day and Rs. 2,400/- for eight months on migration. From this wage he was neither able to save any money nor did he have enough to purchase house utensils especially for food.

AKRSP (India) started the animal husbandry programme among the PTG families in 2008 through PTG Dairy Development Project which was financially supported by Tribal Sub Plan, of the government of Gujarat. Under the programme, the family was given a Buffalo and other supportive services such as animal management trainings, health care trainings, animal insurance etc. In addition the family was also provided with milk utensils, fodder and an animal shed. Tinaben is a member of the SHG which was formed and started regular saving. Presently the family has a buffalo and a calf and they are getting regular income from the sale of milk.

Dineshbhai now gets an average monthly income of Rs. 4,500/- per month. The family also repays the loan regularly. They have now taken up cultivation of cattle feed on their own homestead land. Further they have invested in an electric motor to irrigate their land which cost Rs. 2,500/-. In addition now they have set up their own grocery shop and purchased a two wheeler as well as assets like television and furniture all from the additional income from animal husbandry !



Goat rearing has helped poorest Korku women earn much needed supplementary income

Goat Rearing

In Khandwa programme area, the goat rearing promoted for the landless and poorest farmers continued. Through continuous dialogues with the community it emerged that this activity has had a significant impact on enhancing the incomes of landless and marginal farmers. AKRSP (India) continued to provide support through para veterinarians in villages on a cost recovery basis. Village level volunteers called “jankaars” were trained in providing primary care to goats.

Trainings of these village level volunteers have had encouraging results. Activities related to improvement in nutrition and housing for goats were also taken up. Thus mineral bricks and mineral salts were provided to goat rearers for improving nutritional status of the goats. Efforts are on towards evolving a capacity building programme on general management practices of goat rearing. Common Interest Groups (CIG) of goat rearers in some villages were formed to improve management and marketing of goats. Various measures covered under training and exposure visits included de-worming, breed improvement, pre and post pregnancy care of goats, feeding practices, market linkages for better price realization.

Non-farm based Livelihoods

Bamboo Crafts & furniture Promotion

In Netrang, the bamboo crafts promotion work with the poorest Kotwalia tribal groups gathered momentum in 2010. A sub sector value chain analysis and development was taken up for Bamboo products and this led to strengthening of supportive services like marketing. A collaboration was taken up with National Institute of Design for bamboo product designing, finishing, technology support and marketing. Kotwaliyas were given trainings extensively for 3 months with the help of diagrams, charts, graphs etc to make them understand the system of production, along with an orientation on the costing of the bamboo products. The trainees were then registered as a cooperative society for bamboo artisans which is called "Gujarat Vans (Bamboo) Kala (Crafts) Udyog" promoted under Primitive Tribal Group bamboo programme.



Kotwaliya youth busy making furniture from bamboo

Furthermore, a Common Facility Centre (CFC) was set up at Netrang where the artisans have a workshop right on the roadside to do the craft work. Since the infrastructure is limited in villages, this facility centre was set up to facilitate production. Furthermore, a catalogue displaying the different bamboo crafts and furniture which are being made here was developed to aid the marketing process. A group of eight Kotwalias have been trained in marketing skills and this group contacts potential clients as well as identifies fairs and other avenues where craftspersons can market the products. This year they attended many events and fairs at Ahmedabad, Ankleshwar and Baroda. This has resulted in higher visibility of these artisans so that government agencies and other private parties are contacting the community through this marketing group and AKRSP(India) role has been reduced to facilitation. A hundred and twenty six Kotwalia families were benefited this year through this support.

Placement Services

The Computerji centers now not only impart training on computers but also facilitate job placements for the candidates seeking employment. A Placement cell has been set up to cater to the growing needs of the trainees seeking employment. Services under this cell are information related to job opportunities, training on life skills etc. The registration desk at the cell helps the centers to map the needs of the youth with the available employment opportunities. Information related to job opportunities is also sent via SMS to all registered candidates. A nominal rate of Rs.50 is charged from the students. Currently, 258 candidates have registered at this cell and 194 youth obtained employment mainly in Banks, hotels, corporates as well as government programmes etc.

Linkages

Linkages were developed with Corporates including Larsen and Toubro, Tata Nano, Ambuja cement, Magus, Team Lease, & NIS Sparta there is a strong partnership between the organization and the candidates can be placed. Pre-placement talks as well as motivational training about the work culture & environment of various organizations were organized. Companies were also invited to field locations to interact with the students to develop better relations between the candidates and the employer.

Soft Skills Training

Training on personality development and soft skills were organized at every center to ensure that the candidates registered at the placement cell are confident when they face interviews. These workshops helped them for the attitude change and for confidence building and also helped them to increase their retention at the organization in which they are placed. During the period 1146 candidates were provided training on soft skills which linked with various corporate like Vodafone, L & T and various private & public sector for job opportunities.

PROVIDING ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY



Young girls of Bihar have started taking a keen interest in studies after the opening up of Learning Support Centres

Complementing Mainstream Education in Rural Areas

When AKRSP (India) conducted a study to find out the development issues of the rural community in Bihar, it was realised that the people there have a strong desire to educate their children. They saw it as the only hope to break free from the vicious cycle of poverty and improve the quality of their existing lives.

AKRSP (India) therefore decided to demonstrate a community led approach to provision of quality education and create an environment conducive to learning for children. And so the Learning Support Centres (LSC) were set up. Initially, the LSCs were centres where trained voluntary teachers facilitated children in the 6-12 years age group to become independent learners by providing grade specific competencies and developing their abilities to use classroom inputs.

But once the centres started functioning, the team observed that the children came to the centres along with their younger siblings and different teaching methods were needed to keep them engaged. Hence, the organisation decided to set up separate centres for the children in the younger age group. As a result, AKRSP (India) also set up Early Childhood Centres usually in the same place as the Learning Support Centres for children in the age group 3-6 years with trained mother teachers.

In 2010, the capacities of teachers have been continuously upgraded through various teacher training programmes and the capacities of Village Shiksha Samitis (VSS) too have been strengthened. As a result many parents and community members are participating in decision-making in education at the community level. 211 volunteers were trained to work with 4000 primary school level children through village based learning support centres (LSCs) and early childhood development centres (ECD). The Early Childhood Care and Education programme is running at the LSCs, in which women from the community have been trained as 'mother teachers'. These mother teachers focused on the developmental needs of children between 3-6 years, who also came to learn at the LSCs, accompanying their older siblings. They also developed stronger relationships with the community and worked on the needs of children between 0-3 years, through home visits and interaction with caregivers. Some of the mother teachers also linked up with the ICDS centres in the area, and this model was replicated in other working areas. While there are a total of 1803 boys and 1987 girls studying across 42 Learning support centres there are 822 boys and 985 girls at the 42 early child care and education centres.

Developing Skills of Rural Youth and Accessing Information

The focus of the computer training and learning centres programme from the beginning of the year has been on making the centers sustainable and to ensure increased coverage. Efforts have been taken to cater to the increasing demand of low cost computer education; new areas are being explored to set up centers. In addition to the above steps, efforts have been taken to facilitate the placement services to the rural youth and launching the centers as Information resource centres for the community/farmers on different areas concerning their livelihood. In Bihar, basic training on computer skills was provided to over 500 young people. This included basic Microsoft functions such as working with Word (mainly typing and developing documents) and Excel files, exploring Internet and being able to use the email. Establishment of computer training centres not only created long term engagement but a bridge to modernity. Vocational training for the rural youths on three different trades, like mason, mobile repairing & auto mobiles was provided. Among these trainees some got opportunity to raise their income.

Village Level Resource Persons

Currently in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh there are 32 Village Level Resource Persons actively working on various needs of the community. Village Level Resource Persons (VLRPs) are instrumental in disseminating information in villages as well as spreading the word about the courses at the centers so that more community members can access benefits. Trainings, workshops, meetings, on Tally and computer marts etc are being organized by the staff as well as by **Village Level Resource Persons**.

Software & Hardware Trainings

This year 3649 trainees successfully completed various courses related to software from different CTLC centers across Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh & Bihar. In addition to this, 89 trainees have also been trained on Hardware & Networking from 4 Computer Marts. Currently, 935 candidates are undergoing the software course and 45 are undergoing the hardware courses.

Teacher Training

The center located in Surendranagar Programme Area organized a short term course for teachers in collaboration with local NGOs. The prime focus of the training was to train teachers on basic computer operations and was organized in 13 schools in as many villages. A total of 130 teachers were trained under this programme.

Information Services

An initiative was taken by the centers to provide information on various aspects to the farmers and community. During the year, 13144 individuals accessed agriculture and government programmes related information. It has become a nodal point for filling all online application forms, checking results, providing information related to various government schemes. The information from these centers has been helpful in improving the livelihood of community by acquiring livestock, linkages with milk dairies for proper milk rates, as well as proper milk collection facilities.

The centers also hosted large number of awareness generation events like Computer Yatra for spreading awareness related to various courses offered by the center for the youths, campaign related to weather insurance for the farmers and personality development workshops for youths seeking employments.

Other Services

Marts were opened to provide individuals with skill to repair the computer and as well set up their own centre offering courses on hardware and network. In total there are 4 computer marts running successfully. This center also provides services in repairs & maintenance of computers as well as hiring them.

REDUCING DRUDGERY



Biogas plant in operation in Bihar

Alternate Energy

With global warming becoming a reality, the search for greener energy sources has gained unprecedented momentum. And increasingly the solutions that are available locally and are renewable are being sought after. AKRSP (India) promotes alternate energy sources in all its programme areas through its interventions of bio gas plants, wind mills and solar energy.

Implementing BioGas projects

In Bihar the biogas programme which began last year was taken ahead and twelve more biogas plants were constructed. The plants are being used both for cooking and lighting.

In Gadu programme area, the Environmental Conservation Institute which was launched last year by the paraworkers of AKRSP (India) took up all bio gas related activities. They constructed 115 biogas plants benefiting as many women and also repaired 200 plants after a survey was conducted to assess number of plants needing maintenance.

In Netrang programme area, AKRSP (India) constructed 172 biogas plants in 17 villages. Except one all of them were constructed with toilets as per the demand of women.

The poorest sections including the Kotwalias were given a higher subsidy than the rest. A total of 581 biogas units were repaired. This year the Women's federations (Mahila Manchis) played a key role in the implementation of the biogas programme. The Mahila Manchis of Mandvi and Netrang virtually managed the whole programme by initially organizing collection of beneficiary contribution through SHGs and then taking up repair & maintenance of old Biogas plants of Netrang cluster. They also managed sourcing of vendors of material on their own. Slowly but surely the Mahila Manchis are becoming self-reliant for biogas Repair & Maintenance from this year. 70 plants have already been repaired successfully by them during the year. After the successful installation of biogas plants, training the beneficiaries to operate the biogas plants too are done by these women.

In Khandwa 12 biogas plants were constructed and four were repaired.

Tapping energy from the sun and wind

In Bihar programme areas, most of the village are electrified but the power supply is non-existent for most parts of the day. So the first thing that AKRSP (India) did was to create awareness amongst the community for the use of alternate energy sources. AKRSP (India) piloted two units of solar lanterns in two hamlets in partnership with The Energy Research Institute (TERI). Each unit has a set of four photo voltaic panels, five junction boxes and 50 solar charged CFL lanterns. In each of the hamlets, entrepreneurs have been identified who are responsible for charging the lanterns during the day and distribute it to the households in the evening. Each household pays Rs.2 per day per lantern. Almost all the households belong to marginalised communities. In 2010, two more solar units of charging solar lanterns were set up taking the total coverage to four Panchayats through four charging stations benefiting 220 households in all. Significantly, solar lamps were also installed as a pilot in one Learning Support Centre (LSC) to help children read.

In Khandwa, in a similar model as piloted in Bihar last year was piloted this year and a tie up with TERI has resulted in provision of solar lanterns in two villages of Khalwa cluster. Two entrepreneurs have been provided with 60 solar lanterns each in Udiyapur and Dabiya villages respectively. The project is aimed at utilizing renewable solar energy as an alternative to reduce dependency on use of non-renewable sources of energy especially kerosene.

In the areas surrounding the Gir Forest in Gadu programme area, the communities have traditionally been dependent on the forest for collection of fuel wood. However, since the forest was declared a protected area, this traditional method of cooking had to be abandoned. Hence, AKRSP (India) promotes the usage of solar cooker here. In 2010, a total of 50 households were given solar cookers



One of the many roof rain water harvesting structures constructed by AKRSP (India) for socially marginalized communities in drought prone Surendrangar

Drinking Water

Rural women in India travel long distances everyday to fetch water for drinking and other domestic purposes. Because of this, girls end up missing school and women suffer from various health problems. The problem is not restricted to individuals alone. Water plays a vital role in the social dynamics of a village. Caste dominance and a complete disregard for the views of women render even the most efficient water supply inefficient. AKRSP (India) has been working to bring drinking water directly to villages so as to reduce the drudgery of women as well as to help them spend their time more productively and young girls can go to school.

Working in partnership with Government

In Gujarat, AKRSP (India) works in close coordination with the Water and Sanitation Management Organisation (WASMO), a NGO set up by the government of Gujarat. AKRSP (India) was designated as the Implementation Support Agency for WASMO's Swajaldhara scheme in Sayla programme area and in Gadu programme area under the coastal area development project. This year, the organisation focused on benefiting the socially and economically marginalised communities in Sayla and Gadu programme areas.

In 2010, AKRSP (India) continued to support increased access to drinking water through Pani Samitis as well as improved access to sanitation in select villages across its

programme areas in Gujarat. Pani samitis were supported to prepare and implement village plans for in village distribution in 87 villages. Most of the beneficiaries of the drinking water programme were the poorest sections of the community.

In Gadu, 600 assets for women in the form of Roof Rain water harvesting structures have been completed, 96% of which were for the Dalits and poorest families. In the Coastal area development project (CADP) work began in 19 villages during 2010 with capacity building of pani samitis and technical surveys. Seventy eight Gram Sabhas were organized and 139 men and 69 women members of Pani Samitis were trained in pre construction subjects, water and accounting. Furthermore, seven sites were selected to rejuvenate existing drinking water sources within these villages. Thus four percolation tanks, one percolation well and 2 check dams have been taken up for renovation. Plan estimates and technical surveys have been completed in all these sites.

In Surendranagar, gram sabhas were held in all 30 villages taken up for work this year, thirty Pani Samitis have been formed and community acceptance has been obtained. Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRAs) and Village Action Plans too have been completed in all 30 villages. Furthermore, water quality of new water sources of 23 villages was tested in 2010. One water supply scheme has been handed over to the villagers during 2010.

In 11 villages, school children were trained in individual health and hygiene related issues. Furthermore, sanitation kits have been distributed, one to each school which includes classroom wise a general dustbin, soap, bucket, mugs, mirror, nail cutter, comb and games etc. AKRSP(India) facilitated installation of Reverse Osmosis (RO) plant and Ultra Violet (UV) plant with capacity of 100 Litres per hour in 6 schools under Jalmani Program supported by WASMO. Thus four Reverse Osmosis plants and two Ultra Violet plants were installed in 2010 in schools. These schools were targeted as the Total Dissolved Salts in the ground water was found to be high in that region. School teachers too had consistently requested AKRSP (India) on several occasions for RO as a source to provide safe and clean drinking water to school children.

Process under self reliance

In Sayla programme area, a drinking water asset assessment survey was carried out covering 67 villages of Sayla and Chotila blocks. It was found during the survey that chlorination was not being done regularly hence an awareness campaign was done in these villages. Further, in 30 villages the community was trained in the use of the water quality testing kit. Furthermore, user manuals for repair and maintenance of these assets

have been prepared to be distributed to the pani samitis of these villages. Maintenance manuals for water supply schemes repair too have been prepared during 2010.

Enhancing Hygiene and Health Awareness

In Gadu programme area, AKRSP (India) continued its partnerships with Aga Khan Planning and Building Services (AKPBS) for technical guidance and communication materials on sanitation and with Aga Khan Health Services (AKHS) to help conduct training of women's groups on health and sanitation, the Water and Sanitation Management Organisation (WASMO) and the Taluka Panchayat were partners in funding and sharing of their existing communication material on sanitation. The sanitation programme was scaled up over last year and a total of 1188 toilets were completed this year across 21 villages. Further, in Madhavpur 110 soak pits were constructed for the poorest households belonging to Dalit, landless, Devipujak and Koli community of two villages.

In Sayla programme area, a total of 175 toilets were constructed in three villages with special priority being given to widows, disabled persons, women headed households, senior citizens and persons from socially marginalized communities. In Netrang programme area 183 toilets were constructed in four villages. This year the Nandini Van from Environmental Sanitation Institute (ESI), Gandhinagar was called in for mobile awareness raising programme in all four villages. This Van was donated by Mrs. Kamla Chaudhary to Ishwarbhai Patel Director of ESI.



Toilet Constructed for Visually challenged families in Surendranagar

The Van has a meeting hall, kitchen, Toilet Bathroom, LCD projector, Laptop and a Public address system and is popularly known as "Sanitation on Wheels". The awareness campaign through the van helped motivate the villagers considerably.

Working in Bihar

The primary source of drinking water in the programme areas of Bihar is hand pump and most of the hand pumps lack drainage facilities which results in water logging around the hand pumps. Looking at these two problems, AKRSP (India) initiated water testing and platform construction in year 2009. In 2010, a total of 232 platforms have been constructed covering 20 hamlets or Tolas as they are called in Bihar, benefiting 1347 families, all of them from marginalised communities. In addition to this, four new handpumps were constructed and three open dug wells were renovated to provide safe drinking water; 267 persons were trained in improved sanitation and hygiene practices.

Government health workers including 31 accredited social health activists and 33 auxiliary nurse midwives were trained in various aspects of reproductive and child health as well as preventive measures to reduce maternity mortality and infant mortality rate. More than hundred families were motivated to construct individual toilets out of which twenty have completed construction in 2010.

Water quality testing

In Surendranagar water samples being collected pre and post monsoon by Government Departments including Gujarat Water Supply and Sewerage Board, WASMO, were tested in the Nirmala water testing lab set up by AKRSP (India). A total of 1425 samples have already been tested from these departments in 2010. Subsequently, awareness raining was done based on the results of the tests. As many as 523 persons were trained on various aspects of water quality. Furthermore, during the trainings 17000 chlorine tablets were distributed across 10 villages for regular chlorination in every house hold. In Gadu programme area too more than 1100 water samples were tested for Physical, chemical and bacterial content and feedback given to users for maintaining quality of their drinking water.



Reverse osmosis plant provides quality drinking water to communities in salinity affected coastal villages in Gujarat

NEW INITIATIVES

LANDLESS GARDENS : BOON FOR THE POOREST



Vegetable gardens such as these with landless farmers in Bihar has helped improve nutrition and incomes

In Bihar, AKRSP (India) was already promoting kitchen gardens, and other agriculture related livelihood intervention, such as the system of rice and wheat intensification, among the poor in villages, but was still grappling with the issue of including the ultra poor, who owned no land and relied solely on manual labour:

Like many game changing innovations the beginning of landless gardens was serendipitous. AKRSP (India) staff member had gone to attend a conference in Africa and returned with a few photographs of vegetable cultivation in bags in Tanzania which planted a seed in the mind of another staff member who then experimented with this idea. The organization decided to distribute gunny bags and vegetables seeds to some families and showed simple ways to nurture and grow vegetables on the thatches of their homes. It tested the innovation among some 100 families spread across 29 hamlets of 14 villages in Muraul and Pusa.

It was an entirely new concept to Naibul Khatun a landless farmer but she found it was not too difficult to follow the suggestions of AKRSP (India)'s field workers to grow bottle gourd out of a bag. To her surprise and delight, she harvested as many as 50 pieces of the vegetable in a month and half, and for the first time in her life was able to add a vegetable to her three children's diet.

Naibul was not alone in finding landless gardens a useful solution to feed her family. In the nearby hamlet of Fakrana is Muraul village, 60 year old Nanki Devi also was able to grow enough vegetables in two bags to supplement the meals served at home. Hailing from the under privileged weaver cast, her husband Munilal Das and two sons own no land and are able to only intermittently find work as laborers. The family often went to bed on empty stomachs. "For the first time, I was able to regularly cook vegetables for the

family, "she says." Maybe in the next season I will be able to grow enough to sell some in the market."

As with all pilot projects, it wasn't all smooth sailing. AKRSP (India)'s farm team in Bihar found that although they provided 2 types of seed to a bag often only one plant in 9 sprouted. At the same time, they also found that minor tweaking in the way the vegetables are grown in the bags would ensure a better harvest.

Although Ram Ashish Sahu of Magrabi tola of Baghauni village planted four varieties of seeds in 4 bags for his extended family of 25, he was able to only grow bitter gourd and spinach. But Sahu, like Dilip Mahato of Baluaghat tola of Muhammadpur village, is not entirely discouraged by the results. "we have learnt quickly how to avoid mistakes in cultivating in bags and will surely have better results in the second season". In the second season of planting in September and October, AKRSP(India) decided to limit 4 seeds to a gunny bad and two gunny bags to a family to ensure it grows the vegetables in sufficient numbers for household consumption. They also decided to provide four bags to some families so that these households are able to grow a surplus that would earn them some supplemental income.

Way forward

Although landless gardens were introduced barely six months ago in mid 2010, its success and the alacrity with which households are keen to adopt the innovation has emboldened AKRSP(India) to scale up the intervention to 300 families in the second season of planting. The field staff is confident that the initiative, which requires very little in way of funding and supervision, will count participating households in thousands by the end of the 2011.

The families' involved in the intervention are so short of dietary options that they are eager to continue

to cultivate landless gardens even if development professionals do not closely supervise it. Says Ram Ashish, "I will cultivate vegetable in eight bags for the entire family and would like to grow pumpkins and bottle gourds in addition to spinach and bitter gourd."

The innovation has not only enthused families supported by AKRSP(India), but also has spread to households that are not included in its interventions. For example, Chandeshwar Prased of Harsinghpur Lamba tola of Lauton village, who heads a relatively better off household, started to cultivate vegetables in bags without any professional support and intends to continue.

The intervention has also drawn interest among other development organizations that operate both at the national and regional levels.

NEW INITIATIVES

SYSTEM OF WHEAT INTENSIFICATION



In 2010, AKRSP (India) piloted a new, more productive technique of growing wheat in its programme areas in Bihar. This new method, known as System of Wheat Intensification (SWI), is a variation of SRI (System of Rice Intensification) that is promoted widely by AKRSP (India) in its South Gujarat programme area. The technique is already tested by NGO's like Pradan. And the idea emerged from the work done on SWI by PRADAN and other NGOs. The team decided to pilot SWI with 76 farmers having maximum 3 acres of land and minimum of 0.4 acres. It was also decided that instead of using hybrid seeds, high yielding variety of seeds will be used as the same seed can be used for three years and the cost is approximately one eighth of that of the hybrid seeds.

The main objective behind piloting this new farming technique was to maximise productivity to ensure food sufficiency and provide some marketable surplus.

Availability of irrigation was a criterion for selection of farmers who were from 2 different blocks.

The next step was to finalise the seed variety. After discussing with local farmers and agriculture scientists and a market survey, it was decided to use PBW 343 and PBW 373 produced by Uttaranchal Seeds and Torai Development Corporation Limited.

To demonstrate the increased yield from this new technique, it was decided that each plot will be divided into two equal halves, with one half for traditional method of cultivation and one half for SWI.

The SWI method is different from the traditional method of cultivation in the following ways:

1. Seed Rate: SWI needs less seeds compared to the traditional method of wheat cultivation in Bihar. During the pilot, it was observed that in 0.2 acres

of land, the farmers used 2 kg seeds while in a plot of same measurement, farmers used 13 kg of the same seed variety for traditional method of cultivation.

2. Seed Treatment: This is an important aspect of SWI. The seeds are treated before sowing so that they sprout faster and are resistant to diseases and pests at the initial stage.
3. Land Treatment and Use of Manure : In SWI, chemical fertilisers are not needed. Instead, farmers are encouraged to use Farm Yard Manure (FYM) vermin compost. The quantity of fertiliser used is also less compared to the traditional method. Also, in SWI the seeds are planted with a spacing of 10 inches by 10 inches.
4. Irrigation and weeding: The farmers were told

to ensure five rounds of irrigation and that too in a manner that the field has enough moisture. There is no need to flood the field as is the practice in traditional method. Also, the weeding in SWI has to be done manually with the help of a specially designed weeder. The results of this pilot were successful, 32% increase in yield, 85% decrease in seed use, 32% increase in gross revenue but a 350% increase in labour days (and cost). Overall net incomes have increased by 20%.

Discussions with farmers have led to a modification in some of the methods and use of tools (weeder) to reduce labour costs. SWI will now be scaled up in Bihar and other parts of Gujarat and M.P.



Farmers irrigating their Wheat crop in Bihar

NEW INITIATIVES

EXPANSION TO NEW AREAS



Honey bee rearing is being piloted in Dangs to provide alternative sources of income to the tribal farmers

In 2010, AKRSP (India) expanded to new districts in Gujarat as a part of its long term strategy to move towards the remote and poor tribal regions of South Gujarat. The new areas included the district of Dangs. Dangs is ranked as the most under-developed district in India with regard to the density of people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, agricultural wage and output of agricultural labour. This ranking was done by the Planning Commission in 2003 for 477 districts on the Index of Backwardness. There are 311 villages, 70 panchayats and one taluka. Around 99 per cent of the population belong to tribal communities, namely, Kokna, Bhils, Warlis and others.

AKRSP (India) started working in Dangs in July setting up an office at Ahva with a small team. Initially, the AKRSP (India) team met villagers and conducted small group meetings to find out the needs of the community. The team attended gram sabhas where they introduced the organisation and its work. The formation of a Gram Vikas Mandal (Village Development committee) and women's Self Help Groups was initiated. Based

on Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) conducted, a few pilots were identified. Dangs has high rainfall, many rivulets and an undulating terrain. There is water for irrigation, but lack of lifting devices. Curiously, despite high rainfall, drinking water access is a major problem. Since 60% of land is forest, agriculture plots get raided by wild animals. Hence, mobile engines and wire fencing, along with agricultural extension have emerged as pilots. Three villages were identified for implementation of group wells, Lift Irrigation and soil and water conservation work. In 2010, five mobile engines were given and wire fencing was done. Initial meetings with the District Government have been done and partnerships are being explored.

The local honey has a distinct flavour and a good market. Hence in collaboration with a Bombay based social enterprise (Under the Mango Tree) honey bee keeping has been initiated with 35 households in four villages after organising trainings on beekeeping as an income generation activity.

REACHING OUT



Folk Dance being performed as a part of the 100 episode completion of the Community Radio Programme supported by AKRSP (India)

AKRSP (India) has worked for over two decades with the rural communities and in the process and accumulated experiences and learning that can now be shared with other NGOs, government agencies, donors, banks and other stakeholders of the developments sector. To achieve this end, AKRSP (India) has adopted the following strategies :

- Capacity building of other stakeholders
- Documentation and dissemination of improved practices by communities
- Undertaking research and sharing the findings
- Policy influence through dialogue, NGO networking and collaborative project
- Promoting interface organisations

Undertaking Research And Sharing Findings

In 2010, AKRSP (India) completed a study on sustainability of village institutions promoted by NGOs for natural resource management. A workshop was organised in Ahmedabad where all the participating NGOs, namely, PRADAN, Development Support Centre (DSC), Seva Mandir, Foundation for Ecological Security (FES) as well as academicians participated to discuss the findings of the study.

Other studies taken up during the year included a documentation of AKRSP (India)'s work with Panchayati Raj Institutions both in Gujarat as well as Madhya Pradesh. Furthermore, baseline review studies on watershed and Gir periphery villages were also completed during the year. Lessons learnt from AKRSP (India)'s work with tribal communities in South Gujarat was published along with a review of irrigation infrastructure and lessons from AKRSP (India)'s work in the past decade. A year long study on impact of



Shri A.M.Tiwari Secretary Tribal Development, visiting AKRSP (India) programme areas in South Gujarat

AKRSP (India)'s work in the Meghal river basin was initiated. A study was also conducted to assess the impact of different financing mechanisms for animal purchasing on food security of the marginalized tribal communities in South Gujarat.

Capacity Building Of Other Stakeholders

With an aim to share its learning with a wider audience, AKRSP (India) set up a unit for training and capacity building called AKRSP (India) Services in 1998. AKRSP (India) Services provides support in four critical areas:

- Long term and short term capacity building of all stack holders (NGO, Government, Bankers, donors and CSR)
- Trainings and exposure visits of NGOs and government agencies
- Evaluation and consultancy services
- Lecture and seminar sessions in academic institutions

During the year, the services unit reached out to an array of institutions like universities, corporate bodies, banking institutions, training institutes with a wide variety of trainings. The thematic priorities were participatory rural appraisal and organisational development. In Anil C Shah Tribal Livelihoods Resource Centre at Netrang, the majority of the trainings were on Corporate Social Responsibility for government bodies while Dr Kamla Chowdhry Community Training and Learning Centre conducted training majorly for corporate bodies.

Overall, 12000 persons got trained through AKRSP (India) services, 4000 at its training centres and 8000 through off site trainings.

In addition to this, AKRSP (India) Services prepared micro plans for 9 villages on behalf of the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC). Some of the major projects handled by the unit included :

1. Evaluation of the watershed projects of the Gujarat Government project in Jamnagar district and South Gujarat region.
2. Project management services on leadership and communication in livelihood.
3. Training on agriculture and livelihood of field workers of Integrated Jeevika-I project (under Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojna) to 56 staff of four implementing NGOs.
4. Trainings on microfinance and accounts to 6000 women SHG members promoted by District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) under the Sakhi Mahila Mandal project.

Documenting And Disseminating Improved Practices

The community radio programme in tribal dialect completed 100 uninterrupted episodes in May, 2010. The occasion was celebrated by organising a function in Ahmedabad that was attended by more than 500 listeners from the Netrang programme area. The listeners not only showed their ownership for the programme through this but vowed to play a greater role in deciding the future course of the programme.

In 2010, AKRSP (India) partnered with The Livelihood School to document some cases where innovation in processes and products that have led to promotion of livelihoods. The cases were written by the field level practitioners themselves. Each of the cases depicts a story initiative of the AKRSP (India) field staff to bring about a change in the current livelihoods of the rural population. The cases were later compiled and made into a book. The book was launched jointly by the Secretary of Rural Development, Government of Gujarat and the Chief General Manager of NABARD, Gujarat region.

Practitioner's learning Program with SEEP Network on Rural Agriculture Financing for Food Security (RAFFS)

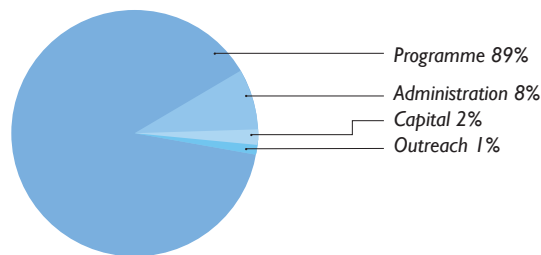
AKRSP (India) participated in the Practitioner's Learning Programme as part of RAFFS (Rural Agricultural Financing for Food Security) which was funded by SEEP Network USAID. Two staff members from AKRSP (India) coordinated a study to assess impact of various financing mechanisms for dairying program that improved food security of the poorest tribal groups in South Gujarat. The findings were presented at the 25th Annual Conference of SEEP Network at Arlington, Washington DC USA. The same was shared with the Government of Gujarat and all the country partners across the world. The study was published world wide by SEEP Network and can be viewed at www.seepnetwork.org/pages/RAFFS.aspx

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

AKRSP (India) continued to implement the 10 year (2002-2011) Sustainable Community-based Approaches to Livelihood Enhancement (SCALE) project co-financed by the European Union, Operational in Gujarat and south west Madhya Pradesh. It also received support from the State and Central Governments, Sir Ratan Tata Trust, the Ford Foundation, USAID, Microsoft and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for various projects. It also started implementing field activities in Bihar funded by His Highness the Aga Khan, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Marshal Foundation, Canadian International Development Agency, AKF (USA).

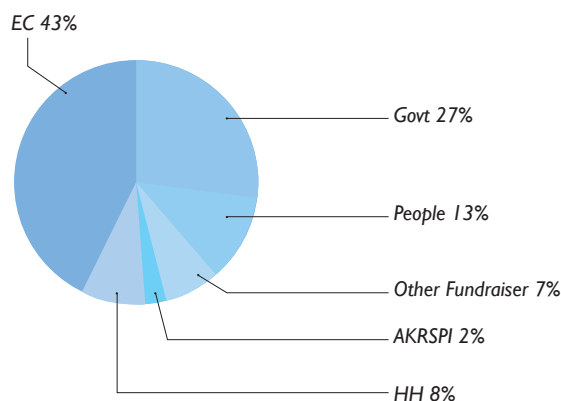
AKRSP(India)'s expenditure for 2010 was Rs.309.01 million, out of which programme expenditure was 274.80, operational expenditure was 23.86 million capital expenditure was Rs.7.04 million and outreach expenditure was Rs.3.30 million.

Utilisation of funds 2010



The European Union contributed Rs.133.83 million. Communities contributed a sustainable Rs.39.02 million, reflecting strong partnership and involvement Government funding was Rs.84 million. Government support for AKRSP (India)'s programme has increased significantly over the past few years. Other donors including Microsoft, USAID, Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Marshal Foundation, Canadian International Development Agency, AKF (USA) and Ford Foundation amounted to Rs 21.24 million. AKRSP (India) corpus contribution was Rs.6.96 million. His Highness contribution for Bihar was Rs.23.96 million.

Source wise funds (Overall)



ABOUT AKRSP (INDIA)

His Highness the Aga Khan, the spiritual leader of the Shia Ismaili community, founded the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India) in 1983. It is a part of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), whose agencies work on all aspects of development – social, economic and cultural. While each agency pursues its own mandate, all of them work together within the overarching framework of the AKDN so that their different pursuits can interact and reinforce one another. The common goal is to help the poor achieve a level of self reliance whereby they are able to plan their own livelihoods and help those even more needy than themselves. A central feature of the AKDN's approach to development is to design and implement strategies in which its different agencies participate in particular settings.

The Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India) is a non-denominational, non-government development organisation. AKRSP (India) works as a catalyst for the betterment of rural communities by providing direct support to local communities to promote activities and develop models for sustainable natural resource use and development of human resources.

AKRSP (India) began field operations in 1985 and has since become one of the larger grassroots NGOs in India. It has innovated and pioneered several efforts in areas such as participatory irrigation management, joint forest management, rain water harvesting, watershed development, preventing salinity ingress and alternative energy, promoting appropriate institutions which empower rural communities (especially women and marginalised communities)

AKRSP (India) is active in over 1300 villages in three environmentally challenged and economically vulnerable regions of Gujarat: the tribal block of Bharuch, Narmada, Surat, Tapi, coastal salinity affected Junagadh and the drought prone Surendranagar. Since 2004, AKRSP (India) is working in the remote and tribal blocks of Khandwa, Khargone and Burhanpur and Badwani districts in Madhya Pradesh. Since 2008, AKRSP (India) has initiated work in the flood prone districts of Muzafarpur and Samastipur of North Bihar.

Human Resource Development

Like every growing development organisation in the country, AKRSP (India) faces the challenge of recruiting, training and retaining its human resources. With a history of working in Gujarat for 20 years before expanding to Madhya Pradesh in 2004 and subsequently to Bihar in 2008, AKRSP (India) has varied mix of people of different regions, cultures, religions and linguistic backgrounds.

The organisation interacts in three languages; English, Gujarati and Hindi (which is slowly emerging as the common means of oral communication). AKRSP(India) believes in

empowering staff to participate in the growth and development of the organisation, and grow with the organisation. It encourages a balance of contextual and domain knowledge as well as conceptual and execution skills in its teams.

With the organisation's entry into new areas and taking up of new projects, the scope and opportunities for young people who want to work with AKRSP (India) has increased. This year AKRSP (India) recruited 82 new staff (and 48 staff left the organisation) taking the total staff strength to 291. To ensure that new staff get the required support post orientation, AKRSP (India) has decided to institute a system of developing mentors in AKRSP(India). A workshop was held for developing such a mentorship program in AKRSP (India) to understand the potential and limitation of mentoring in the organizational context.

In 2010, AKRSP (India) invited two consultants to look at the HR and OD issues in a organisation which is changing rapidly, in a fast changing India. The consultancy work, which will be finalised by 2011, will help AKRSP(India) identify key processes and systems to address staff needs.

CAPACITY BUILDING

In 2010, 247 staff members went through structured trainings. The capacity building activities can be classified into three broad categories:

1. In house training
2. Visits to other NGOs
3. Sending staff for external training programmes.

IN HOUSE TRAINING

This year, 157 staff members were trained in a range of issues.

Visits to other NGOs/Organisations

This year, 31 staff went for exposure visits to other NGOs and organisations.

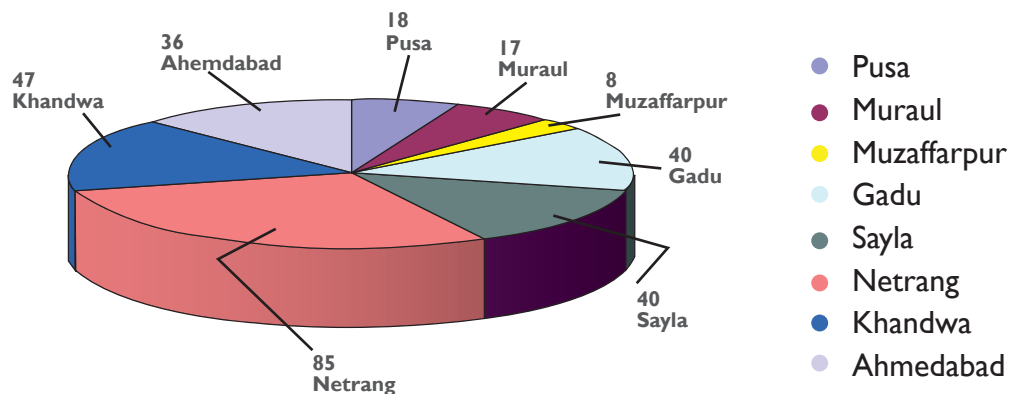
EXTERNAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES

59 staff were trained externally. Two senior staff attended a training organised by Lead for Environment and Development – India on Climate Change. Two staff participated in the Practitioner's Learning Program (PLP) with SEEP Network, which provided training and international exposure. Four staff was sent to IRMA (Institute for Rural Management, Anand) for course on Management Appreciation for Voluntary Agencies.

Organisational Structure

AKRSP (India) employs 291 people. They are stationed at the central office at Ahmedabad and field offices in Netrang, Gadu, Sayla and Madhya Pradesh. Because of the distance from Ahmedabad, Bihar has a small central office to support the two field units there. Bihar has 43 staff, mainly development professionals with a small complement of support staff.

AKRSP (India) has three regional offices in Gujarat, one in Madhya Pradesh and two in Bihar. Netrang (Bharuch), Gadu (Junagadh) and Sayla (Surendranagar) have established campuses and the offices in Pusa, Muraul and Muzaffarpur and Khandwa are in rented spaces. These are known as Spear Head Teams (SHTs). The SHT'S in Gujarat and MP implement programmes through the cluster and project offices which are located near to the community. In Bihar, there are no cluster offices.



AKRSP (India) has three regional offices in Gujarat, one in Madhya Pradesh and two in Bihar. Netrang (Bharuch), Gadu (Junagadh) and Sayla (Surendranagar) have established campuses and the offices in Pusa, Muraul and Muzaffarpur and Khandwa are in rented spaces. These are known as Spear Head Teams (SHTs). The SHT'S in Gujarat and MP implement programmes through the cluster and project offices which are located near to the community. In Bihar, there are no cluster offices.

The SHTs play an integral role in evolving the regional strategies. Most of the professionals here are designated as Programme Specialists (PS's), who provide technical inputs on specialised issues. Spear head teams are led by Area Managers (AMs). There are four Regional Support Officers (RSOs) responsible for each SHT to provide support from the Central Office.

The organisation implements its programmes through field professionals designated as Development Organisers (DOs). They work in field teams known as clusters. AKRSP (India) has 22 such field teams (18 in Gujarat and 5 in MP). DOs are meant to organise communities in various village institutions and provide technical inputs. These teams are led by Cluster Managers. In Gujarat, there are many large government funded projects whose mandate is beyond a cluster or whose focus is on a particular underprivileged community. Separate project Teams, headed by a Project Manager, have been set up to implement these projects.

For the Microsoft project, which in many ways is different from the Natural Resource Management interventions, a separate structure has been set up which is integrated at the field level. The IT coordinator and Project Manager supervise the project and interface with Aga Khan Foundation (India) and Microsoft.

At each Community Based Technology Learning Centre (CTLIC), there is an IT trainer and a community coordinator. The IT trainer acts as the technical resource person while the community coordinator shares the project with the community and also focuses on making CTLIC an Information Resource Centre.

In addition, there are specialised units which have an enterprise support or cost recovery model. In Surendranagar, the Water testing laboratory as well as the Cheese Plant have separate staffing structure. In Netrang, a separate team supports the Bamboo Craft enterprise of the Kotwalias.

The set up in Bihar has a different structure. Since the central office in Ahmedabad is very far, a small central office was set up in Muzaffarpur. It is led by a General Manager and has a team of managers who provide support to the Spear Head Teams.

Outreach activities have a separate staffing structure. AKRSP (India) Services, the training and capacity unit, has six full time staff at the two training centres and at Ahmedabad. In addition, there is a full time communication manager a radio programme specialist at Ahmedabad.

Development work from the central office at Ahmedabad is carried out by Directors/ Senior Managers/Managers, who work as 'thematic leaders' responsible for different sectoral and sub sectoral activities. The central office also hosts a Research and Monitoring Unit led by a Senior Manager. A Chief Executive Officer (CEO), appointed for a fixed tenure, heads the organisation.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nasser M Munjee	Chairperson
Isher J Ahluwalia	Director
Tom Austin	Director
Ela Bhatt	Director
Wajahat Habibullah	Director
Pradip Khandwalla	Director
Kasim Ali F Merchant	Director
S B Ravi Pandit	Director
Anwer Ali B Rayani	Director
Madhu Sarin	Director
Venu Srinivasan	Director
Bakul Virani	Director
Apoorva Oza	Secretary

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Anwer Ali B Rayani	Chairperson
S B Ravi Pandit	Member
Bhupinder Gupta	Member
Apoorva Oza	Member
Alok Krishna	Secretary

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Pradip Khandwalla	Chairperson
Ela Bhatt	Member
Kasim Ali F Merchant	Member
Apoorva Oza	Member
Sr.Manager (HR)	Secretary

AUDITORS

Statutory Auditors	M/s Haribhakti & Co Mumbai
Internal Auditors	M/s Talati and Talati Ahmedabad

BANKERS

State Bank of India
Navrangpura Branch
State Bank of Saurashtra
Usmanpura Branch
Bank of Baroda
University Campus Branch
Ahmedabad

STAFF LIST

CENTRAL OFFICE

CEO

Apoorva Oza

Programme staff

Ashok Gupta*
Ashok Vyas
Falguni Lokhil
Govind Desai
Hasmukh Patel
M.S.Vahora
Melville Braganza
Nandini Arora
Nagasubramanian Ganesan
Rohma Khokhar
Shiji Abraham
Suchi Dave
Umesh Desai

Research Monitoring & Communications unit

Niraj Joshi
Caroline C.
Nidhi Dubey*
Dhriti Bhattacharjee
Naheda Shaikh

Admin & accounts

Alok Krishna
Amit Shah
Alkesh Trivedi
Prahlaad Singh
Remya Nair
Sunil Balolkar

Support staff

Amita Bhatnagar
C. H. Nair
Dhulsinh Chauhan
Leela Nair
Madhubhai Patel
Nasreen Mansuri
Nimisha Modi
Parbatsinh Pawar
Rashmikant Limbachia
Saijan Singh
Swapna Pramod
Vijaysingh Rathod

GADU

SHT programme staff

J P Tripathi
Ali Akbar S.Ratlamwala

Gohabhai Faga
Kirit Jasani*
Manojtsinh Gohil
Subodh Kumar*

Admin & accounts

Pratul Damodara
Rohit Chavda
Shailesh Barot

Support staff

Bakul Joshi
Shantilal Bamania
Vazirkhan Pathan

Maliya cluster staff

Natvar M.Virani
Bhayabhai Patat
Manisha Multani
Rahul M Rami
Sarang Daki

Talala cluster staff

Ashwin Joshi
Chandrakant Bhorania
Hitesh Khera
Laxman Vala
Mehul Bhatia

Mangrol cluster staff

Keshu Kothariya
Pankaj Joshi*
Ketankumar Joshi
Lalit Koradia
Sudha Rathod
Vejanand Jugal

Madhpur cluster staff

Kalusinh K. Mori
Ravji Chavda

Chorvad cluster staff

Govind L. Chavda
Hanif Kalvatar
Hasmukh Rathod*
Kirit Fuletra
Raja Garchar
Ramesh Makwana
Ramesh Vasia
Ravi Aen*
Shakyasinh Chavda
Nakum Vajesinh

CTLC staff

Jitendra Bhatt
Mahipat Kumar
Sangita Sagar
Suraj Bamaniya*
Tarak Popat

Vijay Kamani
SAYLA

SHT programme staff

Pankaj Dave
Dashrath Valand
Lavji Parmar
Mansukh Gadhia
Natwar Khavaida
Pravara Deshpande*

Cheese plant staff

Binay Kumar
Mahesh Khavadiya
Soma Dhoriya

Water- testing laboratory

Hardik Takoliya

Training centre staff

Dipak Jargela
Shailesh Mehta

Admin & accounts

Dhruvesh Vaidya
Rakesh Makwana
Sreenivas Madhavan*
Usha Srivastava

Support staff

Devi Koshiya
Pola Ghanghal
Shivram Gondaliya
Vazirkhan Pathan

Sayla cluster staff

Hiral Joshi
Hira Vala
Naresh Mataliya
Rasik Metaliya
Veena Jadav

Chotila Cluster staff

Mansukh Virugama
Bhagwan Patel
Dheeru Vala
Harsukh Kaneria
Pravin Rohit
Surekha Patel

Kamlapur cluster staff

Vitthal Kakania
Gatur Solanki
Jignesh Bhatti
Mahesh Boricha
Naren Metaliya

CTLC staff

Nitin Upadhyay

Shailesh Kamariya
Shailendra Mahani
Sureshchandra Patel
Haresh Ramani
Punita Oza

NETRANG

SHT programme staff

Raman Patel
Bharat.Patel*
Mihir Bhavsar
Rajesh Vasava
Ramesh Saparia
Taral Rana

Training centre staff

Jayram Rabari
Mahendra Patel
Narendrasinh Yadav
Mula Patel*
Admin & accounts
Trushar Gadhvi
Prabhakarsinh Zala
Charul Panchal*
Panchal Priyakantbhai
Pritesh Vaidya

Support staff

Afzalkhan Pathan
Naran Patel
Pragji Makwana
Bamboo Unit
Charu Chandra
Ashish Zala*
Brijesh Shah*

Dediapada cluster staff

Anila Vasava
Meena Solanki
Meram Dangar
Prabhav Tandel

Sagbara cluster staff

Chetan Macwan*
T T Mehta*
Rajesh Patel
Shakil Mansuri
Navinchandra Vankar
Neeta Chaudhry
Vinod Vasava

Netrang cluster staff

Pravinsinh Jadav
Dharmesh Vasava
Dinesh C Patel
Hasmukh Patel
Harji Solanki*
Jayesh Gediya

Neeta Patel
Pravinkumar
Khimsuriya
Salimbhai Kadiwala*
Vijay Vasava

Mandvi cluster staff

Dhaneshwar Pandya
Aruna Patel
Ishwer Chaudhary
Jashvantsinh Damor
Jaymatiben Desai
Mayur Abhangi
Mayur Chauhan

Jeevika Team

Sajan Prajapati
Amarsinh Vasava
Amruth Babaria
Arvind Patel
Dalsukh Vasava
Jignesh Patel
Kundan Kumar
Manjula Chauhan
Manoj Patel
Nitesh Rathod
Ratilal Patel
Vishu Vasava

Rajipla Cluster staff

Suresh Chaudhary

Integrated Dairy Project Mandvi

Kantilal Makwana
Anil P Patel
Irfan Mohammed
Bichara
Dhiraj Chaudhry*
Govind Gadhe

Intigrated Dariy Project Mahua

Ambika Prasad Tripathi
Dinesh Ratda
Mehul Parekh
Praful Zala
Vishal Trivedi

DANGS

Natwarsinh Gohil
Dashubhai Vasava
Jagdish Vamja
Maganbhai Makwana
Suresh Patel
Vipul Patel
Yogesh Ravut

VANSDA PIM unit

Kanubhai Patel
Ramesh Taviyad
Sanjay Vasava

CTLC staff

Daxa Chaudhary*
Pallavi Soni
Rana Makwana
Sunil Vasava

GTZ Training Resource Team

Kishore Kamani*
Kiran Patel
Thakarshi Dawra
Parshottam Vankar

MADHYA PRADESH

SHT programme staff

Mahendra Patel
Ashok Minz
Edward Wheeler
Janmejaya Mishra
Jivraj Sutariya (Retired)
Keshri Malav*
Naveen Patidar
Parbeen Singh
Ramkrishna Mahajan

Admin & accounts

Govind Singh Gautam
Sandeep Joshi
Surendra Sharma

Pandhana cluster staff

Ganesh Rajne
Manoj Soni
Pramood Kumar*
Radhakishan Patel*
Pradeep Tiwari
Vikas Singh*
Vijay Chauhan

Dedtalai cluster staff

Ganesh Verma
Gourav Gavshinde
Kamlesh Panchole*
Manoj Singh
Sunayana Ingle
Vijay Khernar

Rajpur cluster staff

Rajeev Kumar
Mansukh Olakhia
Nilesh Sharma

Khalwa cluster staff

Chandrarekha Malviya
Deepak Chauhan
Gurprit Kaur Bhatia
Hirjha Khan
Sanjeev Tiwari
Subash Choudhary
Vineet Malakar

Niwali cluster staff

Raosaheb Parmar
Deepak Sharma
Laturi Singh Dandotiya
Sagarmal Parasher*
Sajeed Mansoori*
Radheshyam Patel
Usha Mukati

Zhirniya Cluster

Rahul Kumar Tiwari
Shailendra Kumar*
Anil Patel
Anil Kumar Yadav
Deepsingh Rajput
Santosh Awase
Yogesh Malviya

CTLC Staff

Kamal Kishor Bhalray
Vivek Maheswary

BIHAR

Muzaffarpur

Debasish Guha
Krishna Mohan Sinha
Subendra Sanyal*
Asha George
Binit Gupta
Dinesh Yadav
Dhaval Shah
Kumar Ujjwal*
Pallav Kumar*
Rajib Kumar Roul
Tanwir Ahmad*
Manoj Kumar Khuntia*
Navendu Pandey

Pusa

Bala Krishnan
Ajay Kumar*
Ajit Chaudhary
Amarjeet Gaurav
Anita Kumari Vishwakarma
Ananyat Ansari
Arvind Toppo
Bhagwan Prasad
Dilip Dubey*
Dilip Panda

Gunjan Kumar*
Imran Belim
Joyshree Mondal*
Mukesh Chandra
Mukesh Kumar
Niraj Pathak
Niraj Singh*
Rajani Bhushan*
Ram Kumar Paswan*
Rajoo Singh
Sanjay Kumar
Shrimi Kumari
Viney Kumar Tripathy
Vivek Sinha
Yashwant Kumar

Muraul

Rajesh Jha
Ajeet Kumar
Ajлина Tirkey
Ambrish Kumar
Amit Atal
Anand Kumar Sharma
Bharat Bhushan
Jitendra Kumar
Kaushal Kumar
Priyadarshi Priyam
Rajiv Ranjan Rai
Rahul Kumar*
Rakesh Kumar
Saurabh Mehta
Shain Nigar*
Shashi Bhushan
Naib Jahan
Uday Kumar*
Vivek Anand

* These staff members left the organisation in 2010.

PARTNERS IN OUR ENDEAVOUR IN 2010

- Aga Khan Foundation
- European Commission
- **Government Of Gujarat***
 - Tribal Department
 - Rural Development Department
 - WASMO
 - GWSSB
 - Irrigation Department
 - Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation
 - Sardar Sarovar Nigam Limited
- **Government of Madhya Pradesh***
 - Rural Development
 - Irrigation Department
 - Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Programme (DFID Funded)
- **Ministry of Non Conventional Energy Sources (MNES)**
 - Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh
- **NABARD (Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh)**
- Ford Foundation
- Sir Ratan Tata Trust
- Sir Dorabji Tata And Allied Trusts
- Microsoft Corporation
- Marshal Foundation
- USAID
- Hilton Foundation
- GTZ

RESEARCH PARTNERS

India Natural Resource Economics
Management Foundation (INREM)
Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA)
Gujarat Institute of Development Research (GIDR)
Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal (IIFM)
International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
Development Support Centre (DSC)
Centre for Environmental and Social Concerns (CESC)
Centre for Environment Education (CEE)
Watersheds Services And Support Network (WASSAN)
Maharaja Sayajirao University (M.S.U)
Small Enterprise Education and Promotion (SEEP) Network
Centre for integrated Development (CFID)
PRADAN
Livelihoods School, Basix

NETWORK PARTNERS

Aga Khan Development Network
Sajjata Sangh
Pravah
Mahila Swaraj Abhiyan
Charkha
Working Group for Women and Land Ownership

COMMUNICATION PARTNER

Charkha

* Most government funding is government of India schemes which are co funded by the state government.

ADDRESSES

CENTRAL OFFICE

AGA KHAN RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME (INDIA)

9th -10th Floor, Corporate House,
Opp. Dinesh Hall, Off. Ashram Road,
Ahmedabad-380 009

Tel: 079-66312451/61, 27541678

Fax: 079-66312471

Email: mail@akrspi.org

SURENDRANAGAR FIELD OFFICE

Nr. Shree Raj Shobhag Ashram
Sayla – 363 430 Dist. Surendranagar
Tel- Fax : 02755-280668
Email: sayla@akrspi.org

BHARUCH-NARMADA-SURAT FIELD OFFICE

Movi Road, Netrang-393 130 Dist. Bharuch
Tel: 02643-282127 Tel-Fax -283331
Email: netrang@akrspi.org

JUNAGADH FIELD OFFICE

Campus Building, Khera Road,
Gadu – Sherbaug – 362 255 Dist. Junagadh
Tel. No. (02870) 285119 Tele Fax : (02870) 285118
Mob: 9925239304,
E-mail: gadu@akrspi.org

MADHYA PRADESH FIELD OFFICE

HIG-7, Scholar Den School Road
Dindyalpuram Colony Khandwa (M.P) – 450001
Tel-Fax: 0733-2249292
Email: mp@akrspi.org

BIHAR – CENTRAL OFFICE

C/o. Dr. Gyanendra Kumar
Ground Floor, Hanuman Nagar
Street No:2, Near Bihar Batallion,
Gobarsahi, Dist : Muzaffarpur
State: Bihar (India) – 842 001
Ph: 0621-2220151,
Email: muzaffarpur@akrspi.org

MURAUl FIELD OFFICE

Near Registry Office Campus Post: Dholi,
Block – Sakra, Dist Muzaffarpur – 843 105
Ph: 0621-2290830

PUSA FIELD OFFICE

Opp. Police Station, Waini Nr. Kudiram Bose Pusa
Railway Station, Post. Waini,
Dist. Samastipur-848 131 Ph: 06274-283322
Email- akrspipusa@akrspi.org

© AKRSP (India), 2011

Design & layout: www.threedotdesigns.com | Printing: Print Vision Pvt.Ltd., Ahmedabad.
Printed in India,



AGA KHAN RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME (INDIA)