About Samarthan

Established in 1996 as a public charitable trust, Samarthan is a support organisation to address the challenges of poverty underdevelopment in the states of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Samarthan promotes participatory development processes by challenging the conventional top-down model of development through direct field action, capacity building, research and advocacy.

Our vision

Every citizen contributes meaningfully in shaping democratic State and enjoys benefits based on the principles of equality and equity.

Our mission

Promote and support participatory governance for equity and inclusion in development processes by capacity building, generating evidences and advocating the perspective of the most marginalized for enriched democracy.

Responding to the challenge of COVID pandemic

The COVID-19 has given a global challenge and its impact on the poor and the marginalised continues to be the most serious. India with a large deprived population living on subsistence required helping hand from the civil society. We rose to the occasion since the beginning of the lockdown and addressed their perils of different forms- migrants on highways, social stigma of the returnee migrants, food security, entitlement realisation, access to basic services and sustained livelihoods.

Various ongoing projects were aligned to respond to the emerging needs of the COVID. Samarthan team in collaboration with the Department of Labour could provide support to scores of migrants of Chhattisgarh who were unable to return home in lockdown. Dry ration was provided to 1100 families in 350 villages. More than 2 lakh people were reached with messages on COVID appropriate behaviour in this year through wall writing and using social media platforms. Access of entitlements were provided to 30,000 deserving poor and migrants viz. subsidised ration, social security benefits etc. In 265 villages, women were trained and encouraged to set up kitchen garden to meet nutritional requirements of the family. During summer season, a campaign was run to enhance access to drinking water in many villages. As a result, in 265 villages of 17 blocks of various districts MP and CG, 2600 drinking water sources were surveyed, and non-operational sources got repaired and COVID appropriate behaviour norms were established.

It was realised that the local governments could demonstrate their leadership when other forms of Governments were out of reach of the citizens. The local leadership i.e. collectives of women and youth tried to mobilise resources and invested their energies to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 as warriors. We salute to those who risked their life, lost their life and also those who contributed for the cause.

I am sure that your compassion, commitment, contribution and continued support will help build Samarthan stronger to deal with disasters and development challenges with greater preparedness and passion.

Wishing everyone good health and safety.

Yogesh Kumar
(Executive Director)
Our reach: States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhatisgarh in India

Madhya Pradesh
Over 12 projects initiated with a focus on social accountability, strengthening of Gram Panchayats, children and women centric development, WASH infrastructure, water conservation and agriculture.

Chhattisgarh
8 projects initiated on health, education, social accountability with a focus on tribal rights and climate resilient growth

* Districts in lighter shade are geographical areas of intervention

2020-21
A Year of Impact
COVID-19 brought an unforeseen challenge for governance and management in India. With the grassroots experience spanning over two decades, Samarthan rose to the occasion to address the perils of returning migrants in MP and Chhattisgarh, contributing towards immediate relief solutions and a focus on long term resilience for the most vulnerable communities.
our response to COVID-19
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>30,000 Households</strong></th>
<th><strong>3000 Families</strong></th>
<th><strong>700 Rural Youth</strong></th>
<th><strong>20 PHC / CHC</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awareness drive on COVID-19 prevention and management</td>
<td>Facilitating entitlements access and developing coping up mechanism from loss due to death</td>
<td>Capacity Building on primary care in COVID-19 management</td>
<td>Medical equipment, PPE kits, masks and medicines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>500 Villages</strong></th>
<th><strong>800 Rural Youths</strong></th>
<th><strong>500 Villages</strong></th>
<th><strong>30 Gram Panchayats</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To ensure food security for everyone (including PDS)</td>
<td>Training on various government schemes and benefits, applicable during COVID-19</td>
<td>Ensuring availability of drinking water and functionality of water sources</td>
<td>Development of grain banks to address extreme hunger and poverty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>2,35,200 Individuals</strong></th>
<th><strong>19,800 Families</strong></th>
<th><strong>41,500 Individuals</strong></th>
<th><strong>10,300 Migrant Workers</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>reached directly through awareness drives and mask and soap distribution</td>
<td>supported with essentials, food kits and cooked food</td>
<td>supported in accessing entitlements of social security schemes</td>
<td>connected with government agencies for support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>750 Gram Panchayats</strong></th>
<th><strong>7100 Households</strong></th>
<th><strong>500 Migrant Students</strong></th>
<th><strong>8300 Volunteers</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>supported in establishing quarantine centres, grain banks and NTFP centres</td>
<td>supported with quality seed and development of kitchen garden</td>
<td>supported through Mohalla Pathshala (study centre)</td>
<td>Including PRI representatives and youths trained on preventive measures and management of COVID-19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using social media platforms and sharing messages in local dialect

In time of COVID, there were restrictions in travel and minimal visits of the field workers was possible, therefore, social media platforms were used to share information on COVID. More frequent transfer of information was required due to regularly emerging new insights and instructions, therefore frequency of transfer of messages was once in a week at least.

194
Whatsapp groups created towards awareness

3220
Slogans written towards awareness in 282 villages

Supporting Returnee Migrants and Promoting COVID appropriate behavior

A large number of migrants retuned home in rural areas with great difficulty due to lockdown. Many of them travelled with families on foot. Samarthan supported migrants on highways providing them food, water and meeting their basic needs like sanitary pads, chappals, baby food etc. More than 60,500 migrants reached through labor helpline in Chhattisgarh for safe return of migrants stuck in other states. More than 3,34,000 migrants were reached through awareness campaigns to protect from COVID and access their entitlements.

With COVID declared as a national disaster, there was a need to build a supportive environment for the returnee migrants in the villages to minimize stigma of being COVID carriers. Therefore, Gram Panchayats were sensitized, educated to implement COVID appropriate behaviours in their villages and develop isolation centers for the migrants. 1534 Elected Representatives were trained on role of GP during the Pandemic.

Addressing long term needs of the poor and returnee migrants

Agriculture appeared to be the main livelihoods option for the marginal and small farmers. Many of the migrants who had neglected their farm lands were encouraged to become cultivators. 1246 women from 107 VOs trained to prepare Village Poverty Reduction Plan (VPRP) to promote appropriate livelihoods.

1246
women from 107 VOs trained in preparing Village Poverty Reduction Plan

Facilitating access of entitlements and rights to the poor

A large number of the poor were deserving to get additional benefits announced by the government as relief under the PM Gareeb Kalyan Yojana as well as state specific schemes. More than 41,500 people were linked to social welfare schemes viz. Subsidized ration under the National Food Security Program, Social Security Pensions, Mid-day meal ration etc.

41,500
Individuals linked to social welfare schemes

Sensitizing Gram Panchayats to play their role as local governments during the pandemic

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Establishing Labour Resource Centers to facilitate migrants to access benefits

More than 7 Lakh migrants returned to Chhattisgarh during the first lockdown many of whom returned after many years. They did not have the relevant documents or had difficulty in availing social benefit schemes. In 9 districts in select blocks, 9 Labour Resource Centers (LRCs) were set up that provided information on safe migration practices, facilitated travel, registered labors with labor department and BoCW etc. while providing last mile linkages to social schemes.

These LRCs were run and operated as a small-scale enterprise by Shramik Mitras (youth labor cadre) that helped migrants from the LRCs and at their homes. Apart from this, a labor helpline was also set up to provide information and address mental and psychological distress due to loss of employment and a register (Palayan Panji) was maintained to track incoming and outgoing migrants from each GP.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>60,500</th>
<th>3,34,350</th>
<th>41,500</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>migrants reached through labour helpline</td>
<td>migrants reached through awareness campaigns</td>
<td>people linked to social welfare schemes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Providing direct relief to the poor and migrants

A large number of families were in distress due to lockdown, absence of daily wages and employment and diversion of medical services towards COVID management. Samarthan worked to support most vulnerable families to get relief and support. 294 malnurished children and 86 pregnant women were provided with nutrition supplement kit for 90 days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>21,450</th>
<th>90%</th>
<th>1100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Households benefitted with basic amenities</td>
<td>malnurished children achieved significant weight gain</td>
<td>Households provided dry ration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jhilmil addresses COVID social stigma

In Jhilmil village, two members of a family who had travelled from Madhya Pradesh were detected COVID-positive. Even after fully recovering and quarantining, they faced severe social discrimination from other villagers. A plan was devised to conduct discussions with local government and establish a monitoring team that communicated with the affected family and their neighbours. An orientation session was held with 48 villagers on COVID-19 and how they could help each other to overcome this challenge. Eventually, the situation was normalized and the family could search for employment in their native place.
The Government of CG emphasized on establishing isolation centers with the help of Gram Panchayats. In 8 districts of Chhattisgarh, 635 Quarantine centers were monitored and supported to improve facilities to suit the needs of children, women, adolescent girls, pregnant women and elderly returnee migrants. Basic facilities like clean water for drinking, bathing and cleaning; food that is hygienic, nutritious and in sufficient quantity was ensured. Comfortable sleeping arrangements for all were made.

Issues that were identified were discussed with the panchayat and the community and were resolved with the help of the panchayat and community contributors. This resulted in much better functioning of quarantine centers and the baseline on 15 parameters that stood at 39.1% (on average for 635 centers) improved to 96% at the end-line.

Monitoring Isolation Centres established for the migrants

As quarantine centres were set up, various issues emerged in the facilitation of returning migrants and their integration into the community. In Surguja, Sitapur district, 21 migrant labours returned from Kerala which included one pregnant female. She was initially sharing one room and a toilet with 10 other males and faced mental distress and complications in her pregnancy. When Samarthan's team members found out about the situation, they firstly ensured help to the woman and immediately contacted SDM office, and a separate room and toilet was arranged for her.

Sarguja develops a gender sensitive quarantine centre
COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS MANAGE FOREST PRODUCE TO SECURE THEIR LIVELIHOODS IN COVID-19

NTFP Sale in lockdown
A large amount of Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) is collected from the forests by the tribal families as their source of livelihoods - Mahua, Tamarind, Gum, Harra, Belhara, Bali, chironji, Tendu Pitta etc. Some of it is used for personal consumption and the rest is sold out. Lockdown in COVID-19 broke the market linkages for sale. NTFP collector families earn on an average Rs. 12,000 in one season from Tamarind and Mahua alone in Chhattisgarh.

How it happened
In 23 villages of Kanker, Sukma and Rajnandgaon districts in Chhattisgarh, about 5000 families are engaged in collection and storing it in community collection centers. Credit worth Rs. 12.33 lakh has been mobilized to store collected NTFP for future sale. Samarthan team facilitated the Self Help Groups (SHGs) of NRPC, Forest Department (Van Dhan Yojna). Gram Panchayats, village forest management committees to extend credit to the collectors as part payment. Profits / bonus will be shared among 2700 families after the sale of 30 quintals NTFP at peak mark price (based on current collection data).

Community management of NTFP under the Community Forest Right in Rajnandgaon

Under Section 4(1) e of the Forest Rights Act, conservation, rejuvenation and management of 224.12 hectares of forest in Tirpempeta, Daulavgarh & Edikamedugum villages is being done through the Gram Sabha green plantation Samiti, the village forest committee. The features of the Gram Sabha are the following:
- The Forest is guarded by a rotating team of five persons every night, a green baton kept in house, who are expected to monitor next day.
- The sale of NTFP of previous years, the committee saved Rs. 2.75 lakh in Gram Sabha account. This has been used as advance to the NTFP collector families. Over the last 3 years, 70% of the households of these villages collect, store and sale NTFP through the forest committee.
- Gram Sabha decided and planted 5000 trees in 3 hectares of land (bamboo, mango, Mahua, Awa etc.). Gram Sabha fixed fine on illegal felling of trees and collected about Rs. 15000 as fine in a year.
- The elders of the three villages negotiated with the forest and revenue department to determine boundary of the forest in their villages to protect illegal felling of trees.
- In village Tiplineta village 65 farm pond, the highest numbers in the district in a village, have been developed using MGNREGS funds with additional community contribution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NTFP Procurement so far</th>
<th>Tamarind</th>
<th>Mahua</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quintal</td>
<td>INR Lakh</td>
<td>INR Lakh</td>
<td>INR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sukma</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajnandgaon</td>
<td>8.55</td>
<td>0.47</td>
<td>8.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanker</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>15.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>132.00</td>
<td>3.98</td>
<td>135.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RELEVANCE OF SELF RELIANCE IN TIMES OF COVID-19 LOCKDOWN

Gram Panchayat Sivini - Kanker, Chhattisgarh shows the way

Since the announcement of lockdown due to the spread of COVID-19, the local markets and hats, which were the source of the villagers daily needs, have been shut down.

Samarthan has worked on water management in several districts, educating people about the use of treated water in cultivating a successful Kitchen Garden. Villages like Sivini, Goyanda, Chingdagaon have emerged to be self-reliant in terms of fulfilling their fruit and vegetable needs, based on the learnings from Samarthans initiatives.

In these villages, 69% households are producing vegetables in their backyards or tanks by using treated waste water. These households not only cater for their needs but also to those of others.

"Vegetables are not being brought from outside the village as no one can step out. In such situation, we are able to feed ourselves and others by exchanging vegetables because of the produce from the kitchen gardens that we learnt to set up."

- Umeshwari Mandvi, Sarpanch, Sivini

Families converted surplus into dry vegetables. About 5000 Kgs of green leafy vegetables have been prepared mixing vegetables with pulses. The example of GP Sivini needs to be replicated as a coping mechanism to address long term effects of COVID - 19. MGNREGS should promote kitchen gardening as one of the priority activity.

For more details, visit: www.samarthan.org

Visit www.samarthan.org for more details

[Images of kitchen gardens and vegetable beds]
our work in LOCAL GOVERNANCE
Supporting panchayats to prevent and address Gender Based Violence

The project is being implemented in 8 blocks and 80 panchayats in Chhatarpur district of MP with the objective of supporting Gram Panchayats in mitigating increased cases of gender-based violence that were observed post the state imposed national lockdown. The project aims to build capacity of various stakeholders engaged with Gram Panchayats on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) issues to develop preventive procedures and systems at different levels and demonstrating examples of management of GBV.

Mahila Shakti Samuh (MSS), Mahila Mudda Chaupals (MMC) and Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees (GPCC) are supporting community organisations that have been formed to create platforms on multiple levels in order to address the prevailing issues of women in the Panchayats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Action Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>MMC organised to understand problems faced by the women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees formed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>437</td>
<td>gender-based issues identified in Safety Audits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>identified issues resolved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>cases of Domestic violence were identified and addressed by CDPOs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Enhancing Access of Social Development Benefits to the Poor**

The project proposed to empower the rural poor, especially women and youth belonging to minority communities, with knowledge on digital portals and online information system to access benefits of various social development schemes through the cadre of local citizen leaders trained in each Gram Panchayat.

Project interventions intended to build the capacities of Dalits and Tribal in 100 panchayats of five districts in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh by providing supportive platform and capacity enhancement of youth volunteers (Soochna Mitras), community and elected representatives of the local government.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6715</td>
<td>PRI and Youth Volunteers trained in use of portals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8875</td>
<td>members from 763 SHGs trained in online services and schemes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9000+</td>
<td>households reached through Soochna Mitras in 100 GPs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>YouTube videos prepared and broadcasted through local Whatsapp groups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Empowering women migrants and adolescent girls for safe and informed mobility**

The project aims to empower women migrants, adolescent girls and their families, and community to enable safe and informed mobility by choice, and to facilitate linkages services and schemes in three districts (Surguja, Jashpur and Korba) of Chhattisgarh. The objectives of the project were building the capacities and strengths of individual migrant workers especially women and adolescent girls as well as facilitating creation and strengthening of their networks. It included understanding of their rights and awareness on issues related to safe migration and mobility.

Handholding support was provided to Mahila Mandals (women’s committee) that helped in influencing the thought process of the gram sabha and other CBOs. Mahila Mandal was successful in identification of families and women withing probable migrant groups which were then mobilized and made aware of positive and negative consequences of migration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1750</td>
<td>women linked to different social schemes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1511</td>
<td>members registered with labor department for benefits of various schemes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>611</td>
<td>women provided accidental insurance of 1 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>460</td>
<td>women associated with the Mandal have additional income amounting to Rs. 5.98 Lakhs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The project began in the year 2017, with a mandate to build on the social capital created by different community based groups and use institutional platform of Panchayats to facilitate multi-dimensional development. Over the past year the project has tried to address the impacts of COVID-19 on panchayats and has adopted a four-pronged strategy – creating awareness, ensuring food security, assistance in livelihood opportunities and enabling access to scheme entitlements for all.

Key stakeholders such as Change Vectors (CVs), village youths, SHG/VO/CLF and PRI members were educated on the role of Gram Panchayats in prevention and control of COVID-19 through virtual and physical training. GPDPs (Gram Panchayat Development Plan) and VDPs (Village Development Plans) were prepared in small groups/ward sabhas. Samarthans efforts induced collaborative work to help and support the deprived families at their respective villages.

**Strengthening Local Governance for Multi-Dimensional Change**

- **130** GPDPs prepared and uploaded on E-Gram Swaraj Portal
- **1100** youths trained on online portals
- **2641** Lakh rupees worth GPDPs sanctioned and implemented

COVID-19 provided an opportunity to explore possibilities of utilizing information and application of E platforms. There are several schemes having different types of portals with multiple pages and information options. A common rural citizen finds it difficult to reach out to these portals to find appropriate websites and portals to register their grievances and applications for realizing entitlements without support from the young boys and girls.

Jan Darpan portal was developed to keep track of various applications for entitlement made and resolved under different schemes. The portals strength is that it brings all schemes on one platform. The citizens have freedom to register their applications for delivery of various entitlements which might have been delayed or denied for several reasons- missing critical eligibility related documents such as Aadhar or caste certificate, incorrect information viz. wrong bank account number, age or gender or delays in entitlement realisation.

After formally launching the portal in October 2020, a team of 700 youths in 10 districts of MP and 6 districts of Chattisgarh were trained to use their android phones in order to access the portal to file applications and feedback of the citizens in accessing benefits of the schemes. More than 5400 applications have been filed till date. Out of these 39% applicants were women. Resolution of issues could take place for 922 applications and 36 got rejected due to non-eligibility or other reasons.
our work in Agriculture & Water
Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is a water focused flagship scheme and Samarthan is working in 16 blocks of 3 districts of MP (Sehore, Indore and Khandwa) and Kanker in Chhattisgarh to strengthen capacities of the Gram Panchayats and district/block level officials for effective implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission by training them on JJM guidelines, Village Action Plan (VAP) preparation process, water quality testing, water tariff collection O+M etc.

Models of participatory water management are being developed emphasizing on grey water, rain water harvesting, decentralized drinking management of water schemes, retrofitting faulty toilets, water conservation and livelihood improvement in tribal communities.

Capacity building of Village level institutions such as Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs), Water User Groups, Panchayati Raj Institutions, as well as community leaders was carried out to ensure maintenance, access and sustained security of clean drinking water to all village communities.

**Supporting Jal Jeevan Mission to ensure safe drinking water for every rural household**

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Land and water are the crucial component for farming; depletion of land, soil erosion depletion of ground water not only hampers the ecosystem but puts human life into great crisis and vulnerability. Many tribal communities are particularly dependent on farming for their livelihood and suffer due to climate change issues. With the overall goal of enhancing the income level of small and marginal households on a sustainable basis, the project worked in two blocks of Sukma, Chhattisgarh.

The major objective was to undertake land and water treatment measures like restoration of unirrigated areas, reduction of soil erosion and aiding improvement in the cropping intensity. It also included capacity building of the front-line functionaries, PRIs, community members and CSOs on the ridge to valley principle of watershed implementation.

MGNREGS was used as a primary lever to converge employment generation with gainful livelihood of vulnerable groups for enhancing their income level. It also focused on economic vibrancy and emergence of multiple options of employment for young women and men, and enhances the social capital to broad based community collectives, progressive farmers, agro-entrepreneurs etc.

**Sustainable water and agriculture in remote tribal district of Sukma**

Land and water are the crucial component for farming; depletion of land, soil erosion depletion of ground water not only hampers the ecosystem but puts human life into great crisis and vulnerability. Many tribal communities are particularly dependent on farming for their livelihood and suffer due to climate change issues. With the overall goal of enhancing the income level of small and marginal households on a sustainable basis, the project worked in two blocks of Sukma, Chhattisgarh.

The major objective was to undertake land and water treatment measures like restoration of unirrigated areas, reduction of soil erosion and aiding improvement in the cropping intensity. It also included capacity building of the front-line functionaries, PRIs, community members and CSOs on the ridge to valley principle of watershed implementation.

MGNREGS was used as a primary lever to converge employment generation with gainful livelihood of vulnerable groups for enhancing their income level. It also focused on economic vibrancy and emergence of multiple options of employment for young women and men, and enhances the social capital to broad based community collectives, progressive farmers, agro-entrepreneurs etc.

| 7157 | households benefitted from interventions |
| 4300 | Lakh rupees leveraged from MGNREGA |
| 369  | water related structures completed |
| 2562 | village level plans prepared |
| 22   | poultry sheds set up |
| 1050 | families earning from kitchen garden |
Samarthan worked in 16 villages covering 5 panchayats of to strengthen the resilience of villages in semi-arid areas of three Indian states and to increase their adaptive capacity to climate change. Participatory micro-planning was done in 15 villages where activities were planned based on the problems faced by the community in the village. Climate Volunteers were selected from the villages and trained in Climate change and project outcomes.

To build a climate-resilient village training-cum-workshop on Climate change, Backyard Nutrition Garden, Organic farming, and Low-cost vermi beds were given to the villagers to strengthen the resilience of villages and to increase their adaptive capacity towards climate change.

**Strengthening villages for climate change adaptation**

- 8 farm ponds constructed
- 15 villages developed multiple backyard nutrition gardens
- 80 smokeless stoves distributed

**Conserving surface runoff water in Ashtha**

The program carried out efforts to conserve water in 16 villages in Sehore by construction of structures like stop dams, check dams, gabions, farm ponds and also worked on tank renovations to revitalize water catchment areas. Not only is the conserved water useful in irrigation but the interventions also prevent surface soil erosion.

In addition to infrastructural interventions, special focus was also given to protect, promote and expand on natural resources with their optimum use and utilisation with proper accessibility. These efforts resulted in a direct impact with increased flora and fauna and greater crop yield.

- 40% increase in crop yield
- 10% (Rs. 1.5 - 2 Lakh) increase in farmer income
- 40 lakh rupees invested in water conservation
- 103 farm ponds constructed
- 514 Gabions constructed
- 28 Dams constructed
Beyond state boundaries: Strengthening civil society initiatives

Samarthan is a member of a longstanding network of support organizations established more than 25 years ago by PRIA, Delhi along with SSK in UP and Jharkhand, CYSD in Odisha, Unnati in Gujarat and Rajasthan and Samarthan in MP and Chhattisgarh. The network continues to collectively innovate several initiatives in participatory trainings, research, monitoring and evaluations.

Strengthening local governance and addressing local governance issues by providing local solutions, influencing policies and practices is one of the core mandate of the network. Several consultations with the CSOs on the challenges of COVID and legal framework were conducted beyond the boundaries of MP and CG.

Promoting model migration policy by state governments: Civil societies perspective

A national framework of model migration policy was collectively designed that was adopted by the Government of CG through sustained engagement and support.

Samarthan is an active founder member of Rapid Rural Community Response (RCRC), a national level network emerged at the beginning of the COVID pandemic. Samarthan contributes in policy discussions and collective actions to address the challenges of COVID on the ground for the poor and the marginalised in India.

Samarthan submitted a policy brief to the ICLD, Sweden “Migrants in the pandemic and the challenge for local government” based on the experiences of Samarthan with the migrants during COVID-19 to identify policy prescriptions.

Additionally, a paper titled “Responsiveness of MGNREGS in COVID Pandemic: Grassroots Reality and Policy Prescriptions in the state of Madhya Pradesh” was presented on the 4th December, 2020 in a National Webinar on MGNREGA As Humanitarian Response: Policy Insights organised jointly the UNICEF and MP Institute of Social Sciences Research, Ujjain.
### Organisational Transparency & Accountability

#### Staff and salaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salaries (INR/Month)</th>
<th>No. of people engaged</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5000-10000 (including volunteers)</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10001-20000</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20001-30000</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30001-40000</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41000-50000</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51000 and above</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>234</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Board meetings held in the year 2020-21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total members</th>
<th>Member’s attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28th October 2020</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09th February 2021</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Bankers and auditors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Bankers</th>
<th>Internal Auditor</th>
<th>Statutory Auditor</th>
<th>Management Consultant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Bank of India</td>
<td>AKB Jain &amp; Company Chartered Accountants (E - 2/316, Arera Colony, Bhopal - 462016)</td>
<td>BRISKA &amp; Associates (Formerly L K Maheshwari &amp; Co) (E - 7/574, Opposite 1100 Quarters Arera Colony Bhopal - 462016)</td>
<td>CA Arun Mehrrota Chartered Accounts Bhopal MP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICICI Bank Ltd</td>
<td>CA Amit Kumar Agrawal Chartered Accountants Raipur CG</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFC Bank Ltd</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axis Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kotak Mahindra Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Abridged Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on 31st March 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Current Year 2020-2021</th>
<th>Previous Year 2019-2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants from Indian Sources</td>
<td>4,50,14,531 (52%)</td>
<td>5,70,45,635 (44%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants from Foreign Sources</td>
<td>2,95,48,660 (34%)</td>
<td>5,76,60,029 (45%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td></td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Interest</td>
<td>62,38,560 (7%)</td>
<td>57,94,595 (4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and Development</td>
<td>61,27,138 (7%)</td>
<td>86,49,158 (7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,69,28,889</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,91,49,417</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project expenses (Indian Sources)</td>
<td>4,52,21,404 (52%)</td>
<td>5,69,57,154 (44%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project expenses (Foreign Sources)</td>
<td>3,23,89,235 (37%)</td>
<td>5,86,14,173 (45%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other expenses</td>
<td>10,98,653 (2%)</td>
<td>69,15,515 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,87,09,292</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,24,86,842</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Generated Income</td>
<td>82,19,597 (9%)</td>
<td>66,62,575 (5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Major Funding Partners

1. Bharat Rural Livelihood’s Foundation (BRLF)
2. Caritas India
3. CBGA
4. Charities Aid Foundation India (CAF – India)
5. Chhattisgarh State Aids Control Society (CG-SACS)
6. CMHO Mandla
7. Indo Global Social Service Society (IGSSS)
8. International Labour Organisation (ILO)
9. IPE Global Ltd.
10. Jal Sewa Charitable Foundation (JSCF)
11. Jhpiego, Maryland United States
12. Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board (MPTB)
13. National Foundation of India (NFI)
14. SRJian
15. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
16. Transforming Rural India Foundation (TRIF)
17. UNICEF
18. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
19. William J. Clinton Foundation
20. World Vision India

#### Our offices

**Head Office**
36, Green Avenue, Chuna Bhatti
Kolar Road, Bhopal, MP
Pin-462016

**Chhattisgarh State Office**
House No.1, Behind Bank of Baroda, KPS
Dunda, Raipur, CG
Pin- 492015
Our board of Trustees

**Dr. Amitabh Kundu, Chairperson**
Prof. Amitabh Kundu is an eminent social scientist and former professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi and a visiting faculty at several international universities and is an adjunct professor at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries. He is chairing the Committee for overvewwing the survey for Swatch Bharat Mission (Rural), set up by the Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Government of India. He chaired the post Sachar Evaluation Committee, set up by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India.

**Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Trustee**
Dr. Rajesh Tandon is the President of PRIA and is internationally known for his contribution to participatory research. The Chairperson of many international committees, as well as, of the advisory committees of Government of India, he is currently the Chairperson of UNESCO in community based research and social responsibility in higher education. Dr. Tandon serves as chairperson of the Global Alliance on Community-Engaged Research (GACER) network, which facilitates the sharing of knowledge and information worldwide to further community-based research.

**Mr. A.K Surana, Treasurer**
Mr. Surana is Chartered Accountant and Senior Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. He has extensive experience in reviewing re-structuring and developing financial management systems and accounting practices, budgeting, expenditure control, procurement procedure, finance, accounting, audit, company law and taxation matters for a host of projects and organizations in corporate and non-corporate entities in Government, Public and Private Sector.

**Mr. Ashok Singh, Trustee**
Mr. Ashok Singh is the Executive Director of SSK (Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra), Lucknow, which is a state level support organization specializing in participatory training. He is the executive committee member of VANI, a network of NGOs and serves as member on various committees set up by the Government of U.P.

**Mr. S.K Misra, Trustee**
Shree S.K Misra served as the Chief Secretary of the Government of Chhattisgarh. Later, he worked as Chairman of CG Electricity Board and CG State Administrative Reform Commission. MrMisra was also an Advisor of Chhattisgarh's Second State Finance Commission.

**Dr. Abhay Kumar Pandey, Trustee**
Dr. Abhay Kumar Pandey is currently a Professor at the Government Model College, Umaria. He was the Director of MP Social Audit Society, a semi-autonomous body set up by the Government of MP. Dr. Abhay Pandey was the founder of Lok Shakti, a large scale Non-Governmental Organisations, which served the tribal communities of Chhattisgarh.

**Ms. Banashree Banerjee, Trustee**
Ms. Banashree Banerjee is an Urban Planner. She has been a consultant on urban poverty reduction projects in India, Egypt and Bangladesh. The focus of her work has been inclusive and participatory approaches to urban planning and management.

**Dr. Rajendra Kumar Gupta, Trustee**
Dr. Gupta was the Professor at Management Development Institute (MDI), Gurgaon and faculty member of IIM, Lucknow. Prof Gupta is an eminent expert on Organizational Behavior. He is a serving member on various boards of the Public Sector Companies.

**Dr. (Mrs.) Madhu Verma, Trustee**
Dr. Madhu Verma is currently a chief economist at World Research Institute (WRI) and was a professor of Environment and Developmental Economics at Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal. She has done seminal work in the area of environmental cost-benefit analysis of various development programmes. She did her Post-Doctoral research work at the University of California (Berkeley) and University of Massachusetts (Amherst), USA.

**Dr. Yogesh Kumar, Trustee and Executive Director**
Dr. Yogesh Kumar has a doctorate in development economics and has worked for several years to promote community participation and supporting development initiatives. He specializes in participatory planning, monitoring and evaluation.

**Mr. M. Kandasami, Advisor, Financial Management**
Mr. M. Kandasami is a renowned financial and organizational management expert in South Asia with more than two and a half decades of expertise in financial and organizational management of non-profit organizations.