



“Where Change Begins: A Year of Impact and Inclusion”

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Saath Gramin Trust

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Foreword

This year has been one of purpose, persistence, and progress. From the dusty fields of Gujarat to classrooms in Silvassa and community halls across Uttar Pradesh, Saath Gramin Trust has stood beside women, girls, farmers, and families—enabling them to not only survive but thrive.

Whether it was guiding a tribal woman through her first tailoring order, training adolescent girls on menstrual hygiene, or helping a farmer dig the first pit for vermicomposting, our work has remained rooted in grassroots realities and shaped by the voices of the community.

We believe that sustainable change begins by building local capacities, fostering dignity, and creating inclusive systems. Every workshop conducted, every household visited, and every skill imparted brings us closer to a future where women lead with confidence, girls grow with pride, and communities flourish from within.

This report is a reflection of our collective journey and commitment to a future where every woman is skilled, every girl is informed, and every farmer is resilient.

Key Achievements for 2023 – 2024

1. Empowering Women: Building Skills, Strengthening Livelihoods

Saath Gramin Trust continued its mission of transforming the economic landscape for rural and tribal women by creating sustainable livelihood opportunities.

- **Livelihood Training under 'Saksham':** In Sayli and Khadoli villages of Silvassa, 75 tribal women underwent intensive livelihood training in poultry farming, tailoring, and bakery skills. Trainings were practical, local-context based, and demand-driven. Participants were supported post-training with exposure visits, market linkages, and follow-up mentorship.
- **Stitching Training Centers in Parsi Pada, Patel Pada, and Pelar Pada:** Three centers were established where 40 women received comprehensive training in machine control and garment making. The dropout rate was 0%, with daily attendance exceeding 97%. Products such as handkerchiefs, blouses, bags, and sanitary pouches were made and marketed locally. Nine women secured jobs post-training, and twelve participants earned over ₹7,000 collectively by fulfilling local orders and displaying their products at SHG shops.
- **Bakery and Snack-Making Program:** Eighteen beneficiaries received bakery training, with seven actively selling products like cakes, cookies, ladoos, and vada pav. Sales to schools, government offices, and companies earned them approximately ₹9,000. A major milestone was an educational session at Tokarpada English Medium School, where participants earned by demonstrating cookie-making. Product promotion was supported through pamphlets and samples distributed to potential clients.
- **Poultry Farming Initiative:** An exposure visit and training were followed by a pilot with five women receiving chicks, feed, and technical guidance. Four beneficiaries sold poultry locally, earning over ₹88,000 collectively, and three reinvested to scale their poultry farms. Twenty-three applications were submitted to the Department of Animal Husbandry to support more women in poultry-based entrepreneurship.

- **Recognition and Institutional Support:** Saath Gramin staff's poultry model inspired a Panchayat exposure visit attended by 175 participants, including the District Panchayat CEO, who announced plans to fund poultry farming through MGNREGA in Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
- **Financial Literacy Campaigns:** More than 500 women participated in financial education sessions covering budgeting, savings schemes, digital tools, and debt management. These workshops built financial confidence and enabled better household economic planning.
- **Marketplace Showcasing:** Saath Gramin also created platforms for women to display and sell their stitched and baked goods, expanding their visibility and customer base within local markets and events.





2. Empowering Girls – Creating awareness of Health and Hygiene

As part of its commitment to promoting health and hygiene, Saath Gramin Trust organized educational sessions focused on menstrual hygiene within schools located in Silvassa. These sessions aimed to raise awareness and educate students, particularly young girls, about maintaining proper menstrual hygiene. Through interactive discussions, informative presentations, and practical demonstrations, the trust engaged with over 500 students, imparting crucial knowledge about menstrual health and hygiene management.

By conducting these sessions and providing menstrual hygiene resources, Saath Gramin Trust addressed a vital aspect of health education. It empowered young girls by equipping them with the knowledge and resources necessary to maintain their health and well-being during menstruation. Additionally, initiatives like these help break taboos surrounding menstruation and promote a culture of openness and understanding regarding menstrual health within the community.



3. Sustainable Agriculture – A step towards promoting/conserving organic farming

In partnership with Coromandel International Limited Ankleshwar, Saath Gramin Trust implemented a project focused on climate change resilience and organic farming. This initiative involved thorough local assessments, collaboration with stakeholders, and setting clear objectives. Sixty-five farmers, including women, were trained to anticipate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the impacts of climate change. They were equipped with the skills needed to build adaptive capacity, reduce vulnerability to climate-related hazards, and enhance their ability to recover and bounce back from disturbances caused by climate change. As a result, these farmers successfully developed vermicompost beds and integrated vermicompost into their practices, showcasing a strong commitment to sustainable agriculture and women's empowerment. The project also led to the establishment of SAHAJIVAN KRISHI FARMERS PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED.



4. Research & Knowledge Creation:

Saath Gramin Trust is involved in various research and knowledge-creation processes across the country:

- As a research partner of Mott MacDonald Pvt Limited, Saath Gramin Trust has leveraged its expertise to provide valuable insights and services in various studies. In Gujarat, a stakeholder perception evaluation was conducted with over 25,000 participants, gathering diverse perspectives from residential, commercial, and transport sectors. This comprehensive data collection has been instrumental in addressing the unique needs and challenges of different communities.
- In the districts of Kanpur, Auraiya, and Etawah in Uttar Pradesh, we developed family-based micro-plans for 7,500 Project Affected Households (PAHs). Through household surveys and consultations, we engaged directly with these households, providing information and support to create customized micro-plans that address specific needs and challenges, fostering sustainable livelihoods within their communities.
- Conducted Stakeholder Perception Evaluation. This evaluation aimed to gather perceptions, insights, and knowledge from stakeholders in the residential, commercial, and transport sectors across various districts of Gujarat. Saath Gramin Trust surveyed more than 25,000 people to capture a diverse range of perspectives and experiences comprehensively.

- As part of a Need Assessment, surveyed 848 households from 30 villages in Singrauli district, Madhya Pradesh, and Nagpur district, Maharashtra. This survey aimed to gather data on various aspects, including demographics, socio-economic status, infrastructure, access to services, and specific needs of the communities in these areas. The findings from the survey were instrumental in informing development programs, policy-making, and resource allocation to address the identified needs and improve the quality of life in these regions.