

Annual Report 2020-21



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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY:



Dear Friends,

I take great pleasure in dedicating the 31TH Annual Report of Gram-Utthan to all our stakeholders. It has been an enriching experience and incredible journey over the 31 years towards empowering the poor and marginalized communities. Our beginning was supporting the rural poor women Self Help Group for economic development and gradually, we have grown and expanded geographically and sector wise.

The year 2020-21 has been a very purposeful and impactful as we have been able to break new ground and have several achievements to our credit in expanding and deepening our interventions. The most challenging factor during the year was the outbreak of corona virus and the subsequent lock down starting from 23 March 2020. Gram-Utthan was immediately got into the action in mobilising resources to provide relief support to the food insecure families impacted by COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Our central team in Bhubaneswar and in the field worked relentlessly in reaching out to the poorest of the poor and the vulnerable families living in the slums of Bhubaneswar and in our operational areas with relief activities.

We gratefully acknowledge the support and cooperation received from our donors, partners, blocks and districts administration. This has been also possible with the guidance from our learned and eminent governing board members, support from our professional staff and cooperation from our development partners and most importantly our communities. We aim to achieve new heights in the upcoming years by playing a strategic role as a third sector to meet the systemic challenges and constraints and making our paths democratic and participatory, leading to the social and economic empowerment of underprivileged communities and key stakeholders.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to all of you for your unwavering support to us. Your investment – financial, emotional, and intellectual – in our mission is our greatest strength. We hope to have you by our side through all what it takes to improve things for the most vulnerable in our society.

Thank you for your valued support!

Govind Chandra Dash

Section-1

ABOUT THE ORGANISATION:

Gram-Utthan which means 'Rising of Village' a non-profit, non-political, non-religious and non-government organization was established by the initiative of Mr. Govind Dash, a founder member, with a group of committed activists. GU, as a Non- Governmental Development Organization (NGDO), was registered on 9th April 1990 under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860. Our development activities focus principally on the underprivileged populations, who have no opportunity to participate, contribute or benefit from their economies. Its aim is to therefore create an opportunity for these people to be included in a world that they have largely been left out from.

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT:

VISION: Creation of an equitable society in which poor and disadvantaged would be able to lead a better life with dignity and securities

MISSION: Enabling the poor and disadvantaged for qualitative changes in their lives through an empowerment process.

OVERALL GOAL: Socio-economic development of rural poor with a thrust on women, children and their empowerment

LEGAL STATUS:

- Registered under Society's Registration Act XXI of 1860 bearing its registration No: 22736/226, dated on 1st Mach 2008 Issued against 19150/7 of 9th April 1990.
- FCRA No: Registered under Section 6 (1) (a) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 1976, Registration No. 104870115, Dated of Registration: 27/09/1995, Renewed on 1/11/2016.
- Registered under section 12AA (2) of Income Tax Act 1961; Registration No: Tech. 12A-54/2004-2005, dated on 17/11/2004
- 80G: CiT(E)/Hyd/158(12)/9aG/201s-15, Dated:28.06.2016,
- PAN Number: AAATU1223F
- TAN Number: BBNG00758C
- NGO DARPAN UNIQUE ID: OR/2009/0013905
- GST Number: 21AAATU1223F1Z6

OUR VALUES:

- Value driven integrity and Participation
- Committed, Competent and Cooperation (C 3)
- Development driven
- Collective Concern for learning and growing together
- Transparency and openness
- Equity, Efficiency and Honesty

STRENGTHS

- Working in 22 districts, 64 Blocks, 835 Gram-Panchayats, 3453 villages
- Working in partnership with 186202 women members from 16100 SHGs
- 193 nos. of Professional staff, skilled and disciplined from diverse educational background having extensive experience on developmental sector
- Always endeavors to Plan to Team up & Team up to Plan
- Well designed systems, procedures and developmental policies
- Has a good reputation with Government institutions, CSOs & NGOs in the state.
- Associated with various national and international level organizations including corporate bodies for support services
- Maintains credibility with Donors and financial institutions

GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM:

The Governing Body members of Gram-Utthan are responsible for policy decisions headed by its President. The day to day operations of Gram-Utthan are administered by the Secretary and have the power to exercise any powers and functions of the Governing Body except those related to approval of appointment of any new members to the Governing Body or those relating to framing /changing /amending of the bylaws, rules or regulations. Over and above this, the management of GU rests with the Governing Body, comprised of 11 members, each of whom is selected for a three- year term. We have a personnel policy which is followed to enhance transparency.

HUMAN RESOURCES: GU lays great emphasis on 'Human Resource'. The consequence can be noticed in the environment of team spirit, collective experience, hard work and commitment in which and on the basis of which the whole organization runs. Very essentially this is manifested through the 193 full-time staff who proficiently strives to achieve its vision. Now, more than ever before, GU has long- and short-term volunteers participating in the project activities injecting fresh ideas and knowledge into the strong GU team.

GEOGRAPHICAL PRESENCE: Our programs continued to reach out to women and girls, especially from the marginalized communities in the poorest and remotest villages to make a positive impact in their lives and livelihoods. We worked in 23 districts, 64 Blocks, 835 Gram-Panchayats, 3453 villages to directly reach out to more than 5 lakhs population through livelihood, microenterprise, health, education and skill training, micro-housing, clean energy solution, WASH improvements, Disaster preparedness interventions of whom 90% women, girls and vulnerable youth. Gram-Utthan has been quite successful in reaching out to a large number of beneficiaries in different location.

DEVELOPMENT INTERVENTIONS: "Our ground-breaking community development programs in women empowerment and livelihood promotion, Skill training for employability, Water Resource and sanitation improvement, Disaster Risk Reduction, health and financial inclusion have placed us firmly at the forefront of rural and urban community transformation in the region and beyond."

Section-2

HIGHLIGHTS OF: 2020-21

1. COVID-19 Emergency Response

The early months of 2020 witnessed the Corona Virus COVID-19 sweeping across the world and turning into a pandemic. India was not left unaffected. Gram-Utthan as an organization immediately shifted its focus onto the wellbeing of the families lived in starvation during the country wide lockdown. The lockdown dramatically affected the rural poor and slum dwellers as it led to an immediate deterioration of their living conditions. Gram-Utthan undertook strategic and collaborative actions to bolster public health efforts to contain Covid-19 and minimise the disruptions and humanitarian fallout on poor people's

livelihoods, education of children, safety and protection of girls and young women and the healthcare of persons with HIV and other chronic illnesses. The organization mobilized resources as Covid-19 response to support the poorest and most vulnerable people to overcome the crisis. The project promoted mass awareness on Covid-19 disease and its prevention strategies strengthened the government's public health infrastructure and

community support systems that enable poor families to access the government safety nets. Intensive COVID-19 relief operations started in a mission mode since 27 March 2020 by mobilizing resources from different donor agencies, philanthropic and corporate agencies, and provided much-needed relief to the rural poor, the migrant families and the urban areas of Bhubaneswar and other towns in our operational areas.



Achievements

Gram-Utthan is proactively engaged in humanitarian response activities and distributed Humanitarian Support and distributed Relief to the vulnerable community who are struggling for their survival as follows;

- Dry Ration Kit & Hygiene Kit 3100 nos. to Female Sex Workers, leprosy patients, orphan children, beggar, House Maid Servants Widow, Rag-Pickers, in Slums of Khordha District supported by AzimPremji Philanthropic Initiatives & UBL
- Masks & Soap for Hand Washing to 11342 girls, women & school children in Kendrapara, Jajpur, Bhadrak, Puri, Angul, Cuttack, Balasore&Dhenkanal
- PPP Kit 300 nos. to Doctor, Nurse, Front line health workers, Police & Corona warriors through the Collector Khordha supported by ULB.
- Masks -6086, Sanitizers-758 & Gloves-5397 to the social activists across Odisha and some other States.

In addition to relief distribution GU also carried out the following activities.

Activities have been undertaken:

- Awareness generation on Covid-19 & prevention
- Social Distancing & Counselling to distressed community
- Using Mask & Its utility
- Practical Hand Washing Session



Relief Distribution in coastal Kendrapada by the support of HSBC

Our sincere thanks to HSBC for providing relief support for the food insecure families in Kendrapada district, Odisha who were worried to survive with loss of work and income due the impact of COVID-19 pandemic and the crisis of cyclone YASS. The Food insecurity among low-income and disadvantaged families was found to be a serious problem during the Cyclone YASS that hit the coastal Kendrapada district on May 26, 2021. People of Rajkanika block was very much affected for both COVID-19 pandemic and the Cyclone YASS.

250 needy families were provided dry rations - Atta, edible oil, chili powder, turmeric, water bottle, rice, dal, salt) along with Tarpaulins.

Distribution Details:

Sl. No	Revenue Village	HHs	Occupation
1	BAJARPUR	112	construction workers, migrant families, Daily wage labourers, fishing communities, marginal farmers, livestock growers
2	GAJARAJPUR (Madaranga patta & Gharabhanjakola -(Hamlet)	92	Daily wage labourers, fishing communities, marginal farmers.
3	CHARIPOKHARI	46	Daily wage labourers, fishing communities, marginal farmers
	Total	250	





IMPACT

- 250 families provided food ration (Atta, edible oil, chili powder, turmeric, water bottle, rice, dal, salt) along with Tarpaulins.
- 250 households expressed that grocery items provided by HSBC is enough to eat for atleast for 30 days for family tied up with 5-6 members.
- The Tarpaulins have helped to cover on their thatched houses as temporary shelter, protect from rain and heat as well.
- This support has become a great impact during this food crisis period where a large number of people still waiting to have this kind of support. However, the people who received the relief support have expressed their gratitude to the HSBC and Concern India Foundation with beaming faces.

1.2. Micro-enterprise Development Programme:

It has fruitful experiences engaging the women in small business like processing of mixture packaging, Grocery/General shop business, food processing, rearing of goat, poultry and dairy development etc. on a limited scale. Almost 523 families got benefited during the reporting year.

1.3. SHG Digitization in E-SHAKTI Portal:

The need of digitization of records of SHGs has been felt for quite some time due to irregular and delay in maintenance of books of accounts. Transparent and proper maintenance of records of SHGs was facilitated in helping and strengthening of SHGs. It is also felt that digital empowerment that helps in bringing SHGs on a common web based e-platform by making book keeping easy for low literacy clients. Considering its importance, the NABARD supported SHG Digitalization in Odisha under E-SHAKTI Programme has been successfully implemented in 10 blocks of Jajpur district, where 285 Animators were trained and engaged to bring 8550 SHGs into functional stage.



1.4. Urban SHG Promotion:

Catalyzed the formation of Urban SHGs, their federations, capacity building of all members and access to financial inclusion of SHG members under DAY-NULM- Supported by SUDA, Odisha.

The program has been phase wise implemented in the following areas:

- Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, Bhadrak Municipality & Jajpur Municipality
- Vyasagar Municipality, Basudevpur Municipality, Chandbali NAC, Dhamnagar NAC

1.5. Upscaling and mainstreaming climate smart integrated fish farming through PFO:

Gram-Utthan piloted the “Umbrella Programme for Natural Resource Management (UPNRM)” in 2011-12 with the financial support from NABARD and technical support of GIZ. Upon successful implementation, the IFF model under the UPNRM program continued implementation till 2017 focusing on sustainable aquaculture integrated with rearing of Duck/ Poultry/dairy/ Vegetable Cultivation and horticulture crops. Our process of aquaculture integration has not only been able to utilize the byproducts/wastes as principal inputs, but also made the farming practice highly remunerative and farmer friendly. Having seen the demonstrated model, KfW Bank, Germany supported in 2018-19 for Mainstreaming Climate Smart Integrated Aquaculture Model.

Activities	Achievements
No of FPCs legally registered	4
Women fish farmers enrolled into FPCs	2500
Set up of fish nursery Units	4
Set up of Hatchery unit for availing quality and timely fish seeds and fingerlings	1
Established Farmer Resource Center (FRCs)	4
Demonstration Fish Pond unit	1
Duck Rearing Transit House	1
Cage Catfish Farming Unit	1
Azolla & Vermi-compost unit	2
Establishment of Vegetable and horticulture nursery unit	1

1.6. Malnutrition Correction: Addressing malnutrition is one of our ultimate goals so as to improve food security for children, women farmers and their families. The pond based fish farming project has been integrated with vegetable cultivation, horticulture promotion and home garden promotion. Project activities centered around helping especially children and women improve the availability, access to and utilization of appropriate and nutritious foods. As a result, Gram-Utthan has made remarkable achievements in improving the health and nutrition status of the targeted group. These pathways are not mutually exclusive but work together to strengthen the project towards better household food security and nutrition.

1.7. Promotion of organic Garden: It has been noticed that the poor and migrant families lack access to adequate and nutritious food in the emergence of COVID-19. So, we promote 'Organic Gardening' and encourage it on a household level. We train the families to prepare organic kitchen gardens and undertake backyard farming. The purpose is to increase both their food and nutritional security. We are providing seed support to migrant families for promotion of kitchen garden activities. They grow vegetables that appear on their plate's nutritious food. They also stop buying vegetables.

2.8. Aahar Scheme-Supported By District Aahar Society, Kendrapara

Aahar Scheme is a food subsidisation program supported by the Government of Odisha. GU has been assigned by District Aahar Society Kendrapada, as a part of social security measure. Gram-Utthan started its Aahar Programme on 15th February 2016 and providing 500 meals at Pattamundai Aahar Kendra & Aahar Kendra District Head Quarter Hospital 700 meals (Lunch-500 & 200 Dinner) meals daily @ Rs.5/- per meal



Section-3

3.1. Accessible Family Toilet (AFT):

Gram-Utthan has partnered with FAAS that give us a platform to create access to special sanitation facility for the people who need special attention. These special needs peoples include physically challenged injured, old aged and pregnant women. This special sanitation system includes constructing a new or retrofitting individual's household toilet for the peoples that require special assistance. The program focused in 4 districts such as Kendrapada, Jajpur, Bhadrak and Balesore.



3.2. Sanitation Project supported by BPCL through HFHI:

Lack of adequate sanitation and safe water has significant negative health impacts including diarrhoea in Khaparakhola 2) Muri Bahal of Bolangir district. The communities clearly have an acute need for water and sanitation. The major health threats in the areas are waterborne diseases including diarrhea, cholera, Malaria, typhoid, skin diseases and headache etc. Various forms of waterborne diarrheal disease are the most prominent examples, and affect mainly children in the areas. Hence, the BPCL supported sanitation project is implemented in Khaparakhola 2) Muri Bahal of Bolangir district.

3.3. Livelihood Improvement Project (LIP) through Integrated Watershed Management:

The project titled "Livelihood Improvement Project (LIP) through Integrated Watershed Management" is implemented in coastal Banki and Athagarh blocks of Cuttack district, Odisha. The project is funded by DCB Bank and implemented by Gram-Utthan as grassroots partner from August 2020 to March 2021. The DCB Bank also supported phase-II project which started on 1st April 2021 in Banki block of Cuttack District, Odisha. The project implementation work is going on in 14 villages from 4 GPs. The primary focus of this project was to improve water resources and enhance productivity by adopting a participatory watershed management approach.

Major Components:

- Community Institution building in watershed area
- Community mobilization/ awareness generation
- Capacity building for user group/SHGs and watershed Committee members
- Restoration of Water Harvesting Structures (WHS)
- Renovation of farm ponds.
- Construction of hand pumps
- Construction of changing rooms near hand pump for women near hand pump
- Knowledge generation/ Information, Education and communication

Achievements

- Mobilized villagers and formed 4nos of village level User Groups (UGs) in Kadalibadi Gram-Panchayat, and 5nos. of village level User Groups formed in Ostia Gram-Panchayat. A total of 09 UGs formed during this reporting period.
- 4nos. of Watershed Committees formed in 4GPs.
- Built up appropriate mechanisms for adoption of participatory approach and empowerment of community based institutions include WCs, SHGs & UGs.
- 04nos of Rainwater Harvesting Structures' work is completed at Kadalibadi, Ostia and Kantapanhara

Photo showing the completed water harvesting structure:



Use group





Watershed Committee Meeting

3.3. Fencing and tree plantation around the Water Harvesting Structure in Kantapanhara watershed.



Quantitative achievements:

Committee formation for tree plantation	1
Digging of pits	1100
Number of trees planted with nurturing and guarding of trees	1100
Number of persons deployed for watch and ward of trees	02

Types of tree plantation

Sl. No	Name of plants	Quantity
1	Mango	200
2	Papaya	350
3	Lemon	20
4	Guava	125
5	Jackfruit	20
6	Coconut	10
7	Litchi	10
8	Sapeta	10
9	Drumstic	175
10	Orange	10
11	Golden hedge	150
12	Cashew	20
	Total	1100

Fencing with barbed wire:



Purchase of RCC Pillars



Purchase of Barbed wire for fening





Fencing with barbed wire and coloring



Digging of pits and filling of pits (carrying compost, mixing with soil & basal dose of fertilizer)



Procurement of saplings, / saplings purchase, transportation to sites and planting saplings



Installation of main gate for entering tractor/other big vehicle when needed

Present Status of plantation



Section-4

4. COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE INTERVENTION:

4.1. Targeted Intervention supported by OSACS:

The OSACS supported Targeted Intervention (TI) project is intervened at three locations in the capital City of Bhubaneswar i.e. Malisahi, Rasulgarh and Bomikhal. The project covered 350 FSWs. Under this project, Gram-Utthan helped the FSWs to protect themselves from HIV, reduce the stigma associated with the illness and mitigate its negative economic impact.

Focused Actions:

Component	Activity
Behavioral Change Communication (BCC)	Capacity Building, Advocacy among stakeholders & Counseling services
Community Mobilization	Out Reach Service, DIC/HSL meeting, Events, SHG, IEC activities Social Protection Scheme etc.
Condom promotion	Condom Gap Analysis – CGA, Condom Distribution, Condom Demo & Rede-Mo, Social Marketing.
STI management	Regular Medical Check-up-RMC, Presumptive Treatment-PT, Rapid Plasma Reproductive –RPR, Treatment at PPP, Follow Up.
Referral & Linkages	Health Care Provider, Other PUSS etc.
Enabling Environment	Advocacy Meeting, Crisis Management, DIC/HSL Meeting

4.2. ASHA Training Module 6 & 7 Round-IV:

District	Subject	No of Batches	No of trained ASHA
Kendrapada	ASHA Refresher Training	16	487
	ASHA NCD Training	1	39
	Roll-Out Bridge IPC Skill Building Training to ANMs	4	103
	Newly Selected ASHA Training	1	27
Jajpur	ASHA Refresher Training	13	396
02 districts	4trainings	35	1052

Section -5

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF SKILL TRAINING PROJECTS/PROGRAMMES THROUGH KISD:

5.1. Skill Training for poverty Ridden Youth under National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)

Gram-Utthan works for the marginalized youth, helping them attain gainful employment by providing vocational education and training. Targeting girls and boys between the age group of 18 and 24 years, the program strives to empower them through market-oriented skill training, along with placement support. The program aims at making them confident and independent to lead dignified lives.

Trainees: Unskilled & unemployed poverty ridden youth, women & men.

NSDC Sponsored Skill training track record	Total
Enrolled	30,537
Trained	29,525
Placed	23,725
Self employed	21,879

5.2. Skills for Life Project supported by HSBC-SWADES Foundation

This project has been successfully implemented in Kendrapada district of Odisha state where emphasis was given on formal placement and self employment>

Achievement:

Training Details	Skill specific Trades		
	IT & ITES	Motor Winding	Home Appliances
Enrolled	468	81	83
Trained	454	79	80
Placed	364	78	79

5.3. Skill training & Life Skill Education for vulnerable women & Adolescent Girls Supported by NOMI International Network, USA:

The NOMI supported Project is implemented in Slums of Bhubaneswar train the vulnerable women & Adolescent Girls. At present such women & Adolescent Girls have been enrolled and getting trained on two selected trades i.e. Tailoring and Beautification with the following.

Physical Training Completed

1st Cohort	2nd Cohort	3rd Cohort	4th Cohort	5TH Cohort
50	50	50	50	50
Total	250 Numbers of trainees completed Foundation training			

Additional Activities:

- Encouraged the Trainees to participate on important days & events
- Health Camp with provision of free medicines, Monthly Body Temperature Scan of COWs and staffs, Relief Distribution, Virtual Graduation Celebration, Observation of World Toilet Day, Observation of World Aids Day, Observation of Swaschata Divas
- Special Awareness for Covid-19, Special Awareness for Flood and Heavy Rain
- Special Awareness on Cyclone, Special Awareness on HIV/AIDS

Educating adolescent girls



5.4. Classical/ Satellite Silai School Project Supported by USHA International:

The project implemented by Gram-Utthan as Mother NGO) and other Field NGOs like DarbarSahityaSansad (DSS), Swayanshree, RadhaKrushna Club (RKC) in partnership with USHA International. At present 160 Classical Silai Schools and 420 Satellite Silai Schools are functioning in 18 districts of Odisha.

Increase of Income of USHA Silai School Women Entrepreneur through Gram-Utthan & USHA Intervention:

Financial Year	No of Women Trained	No of Sewing Machine Given	Days of Training per Batch	Earlier Income of Beneficiary Per month	Current Average Income (PM)	Nos of District	Remarks
2012 -19	718	200	07	500	4100	17	Progress during last 08 years
2019-20	60	20	07	640	4500	02	-
2020-21	80	40	07	775	5700	04	-
2021-22	305	85	09	950	5900	10 (old & new)	Training is continuing
Total	1163	345	-	716	5050	23	



Section-6

GU's DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTRE (DRC), NUAPADA:

One of the institutional mechanisms desired to take proactive steps to address the area of concern is the creation of District Resource Centre (DRC). The DRC helps to identify and provide training in conventional and non-conventional trades specifically through creation of Self Help Groups. The Centre promotes micro-enterprise development and establishes effective marketing linkages. The centre forms different livelihood collectives, demonstrate farm mechanization for supporting the small and marginal farmers including female farmers. Also, it provides forward and backward linkages with funders offering grants, financial institutions, development and commercial banks, agencies offering loan.

COLLABORATION & STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP: GU gets involved with programmatic & economic activities. To carry out these activities, the organization has ongoing collaborations and strategic partnership with regional, national and international Donor Agencies and trying more & more to bring their attention towards our operational area.

ADVOCACY, NETWORKING AND GOVERNANCE: Efforts are being undertaken to strengthen the network for wider reach and impact. We firmly believe that the field of sustainable development is a cooperative one, not a competitive one. If we are to achieve the high goals we set, we must combine our efforts with those of other actors. All stakeholders from government and corporate to civil society and donor agencies have different skills that together can help achieve the desired results. Over the last year we have endeavored to build networking with

- Sa-Dhan
- INAFI India
- Planet Finance
- Access Development
- South Asia Microfinance Network (Acted)
- Member of National Coalition Network for supporting unorganized sector workers
- State level Net work member for child Protection

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"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself".

By Henry Ford