



ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



A Quest for
Justice, Dignity and Hope.

www.utthangujarat.org



VISION

Utthan envisions a society that imbibes and ensures the values of gender justice, equality and peace, in practice, resulting in happiness for all.

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Utthan Gujarat

Ahmedabad
Gujarat





ઉત્થાન
Utthan

VISION

Utthan envisions a society that imbibes and ensures the values of gender justice, equality and peace, in practice, resulting in happiness for all.

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(સુધી)

કાળી રોજ

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ઉથાન
Utthan

MISSION

To initiate sustainable gender sensitive, grass root processes of empowerment amongst the most vulnerable communities; through a process of inclusion, building conscientiousness, and organising around their major issues



ઉથાન
Utthan



2021-1

The Beginnings

Utthan's journey began in 1981, when four women chose to work in the desolate Bhal region of Gujarat, helping marginalized communities to self-organise around critical livelihood issues and develop local leadership. Utthan, which means 'upliftment' in Hindi initiated a people's movement comprising a large number of women and youth, to address their rights to regular, safe drinking water, protecting and accessing common land for their livelihood security, challenging patriarchy, feudal exploitation and caste discrimination at local levels. In the process, Utthan facilitated the formation of a community-based organisation known as Mahiti (knowledge), which has been a local force since 1994.

Utthan's intense work for nearly 40 years

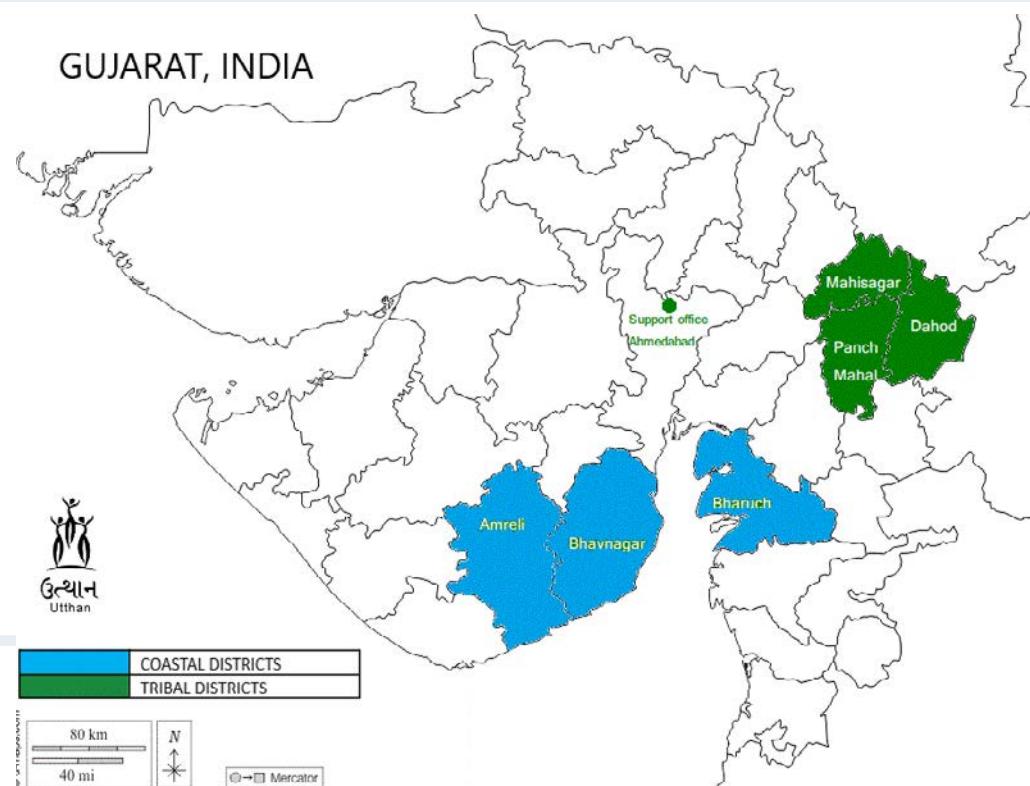
has been in the drought-prone coastal areas of Saurashtra - Amreli, Bhavnagar and Kutch districts and the poverty-stricken tribal districts of Dahod, Panchmahal, and Mahisagar of south Gujarat. Continuing its quest for exploration and sharing of learning's, Utthan's leadership and work has extended to neighbouring districts and to communities in Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha, as well as to movements in South Asia and across the world.





THRUST AREAS

- **Livelihood Security**
- **Gender equity & Women's rights**
- **Conflict transformation towards peace & justice**
- **Access to safe water, sanitation & hygiene**
- **Institutional Building & Leadership Development**





Livelihood Security

Establishing models demonstrating gender sensitive, ecologically sustainable livelihood security alternatives to enhance incomes, improve food security and quality of life of the most marginalized

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The Village Development Committees (VDCs) were facilitated in the selection of Demo partners on just indicators and with those showing commitment to share learnings with others. The team with the support of VDCs facilitated several scaleable livelihood demonstrations with 100 women farmer families by providing trainings in sustainable agriculture package of practices and on field support. The VDCs played a role in monitoring of demonstrations. These demonstrations became learning sites for other farmers.

Micro planning & Gram Panchayat Development Planning: Intensive exercises included orientation of hamlet wise leadership, Village Development Committee and Panchayats for preparing Integrated Village Plans was taken up in four villages. Panchayats were involved for the first time in a detailed village needs assessment process. Men and women were facilitated to discuss village needs in various sector through on- site visits and focus group discussions. Discrimination, exclusion, safety of most vulnerable were kept in mind while culling out village needs hamlet wise and for the various common needs.



Building capacities of 1000 women master farmers in sustainable agriculture

Women Master Farmers spread over 30 villages of 6 blocks: 929 women master trainers gained experience through capacity building & demonstrations in various livelihood practices/ innovations. This led to implementing scientific PoPs themselves. They further reached out nearly 1800 other women farmers to spread their learning/for replication. This led to better recognition of women as farmers and holders of technical knowledge by village community



Discussions: Motasharnaya model village

Several scaleable livelihood demonstrations keeping in mind safe and sustainable technologies, innovation for better production and improved disposable income were implemented viz. 42 Water & soil conservation related demonstrations done: Well deepening, farm bunding, Drip irrigation, gabion. 201 demonstrations replicated – kitchen garden, creeper vegetables, organic composting, ginger, onion demos, poultry, goatery.

“

Drip demonstration with Ramuben Natabhai Dabhi, Kharakdi village (a single woman - widow & OBC)



Installation cost for 1 acre = 1,28,000 .

Project support= Rs. 35000

Contribution = Rs. 24500

GGRC subsidy = Rs. 68000.

Between March – June (4 months)

- Increase in lemon production = 4000kg
- Direct Increase in income = 4000 kg. *
Rs.20/kg. = Rs. 80000
- 50% reduction in use of electric motor
to 3 hrs and reduction in electricity bill
@ Rs.500/ mth. = Rs.2000

“Drip has reduced water use by 75% and doubled my income at the same time.”

538 people were trained in various agricultural practices



Watershed Development Initiatives with Climate Change Adoption and Climate Proofing

Two projects covering 3 villages and outreaching 1600 families in Dahod district continued with activities included construction of Gabion, Earthen Dam benefitting 37 families, creating 5747 human days. Kharif and Rabi demonstrations in maize saw replication in 62 acres. Kitchen garden efforts outreached 80 families on 149 gunthas. Horticulture activities (1500 Nos of Mango, Guava, Lemon, Drumstick). 20000 no.'s of Sagvan, Sevan, Kher, Limda plantation were done over 16 Ha.

Implementing an integrated model by bringing legislations that have a scope of strengthening democratic processes at the village level in coherence to achieve the target of a systematic and procedural governance mechanism in poor rainfed areas

Three Fellows joined a cohort of persons working at the grassroots at the village level in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh in a collective collaboration with Revitalizing Rainfed Agriculture Network and Centre for Social Justice. They attended three learning cohorts to build an understanding in using The Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996, Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA), The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (BDA) and the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 (CAFA) to strengthen democratic processes through establishment of various committees envisaged under these laws to promote and implement themes of rainfed agriculture and preserve natural and biological resources. Efforts to establish and strengthen various committees envisaged under these laws to promote and implement themes of rainfed agriculture and preserve natural and biological resources were taken up in 18 villages of Dahod and Mahisagar districts.

Linkages with varied stakeholders

Gender Equity & Women's Rights

Support to Strengthen Governance & Leadership within Women's Sangathans

- Strengthening Federation membership base: Increase in membership by nearly 700 women
 - Access to entitlements & rights: Financial inclusion of new women was done and support in availing business loans to 150 women. Linkages with Government Schemes were facilitated for 3950 women
 - Improved recognition at village level - as Master Farmers, VDC members, GPD action committees
 - Raising issues in Gram Sabhas
 - Leadership in Networks - WGWLO Steering Group
 - Capacity building of women & men leaders: 83 leaders went through the second phase of Training on gender-sensitive Leadership
 - 2 women from Dhanpur, were honoured for their contribution to sustainable agriculture, at the Krishi Mahitosav, block level event at Dhanpur. In coastal area 108 women join the Krishi Mahotsav.



Samarthan Mahila Sangathan, Bhavnagar - outstanding leadership & visibility

ਮਹਿਲਾ ਸ਼ਾਕਿਤਕਰਣ ਕੇਤੇ ਥ੍ਰੋਏ ਕਾਮਗੀਰ
ਮਾਟੇ ਸੁਸ਼ੀਲਾ ਸੋਲਾਂਕੀਨੇ ਸਨਮਾਨਿਤ ਕਰਾਵ

Ushilaben Solanki, President-

warded for her instrumental contribution in leading the Sangathan & women's issues in Davnagar district.

**Aluben Dabhi, ex-President & current
member, SMM**

varded for her work on Awareness on
omen's issues.

The Sangathan today has over 3000 members.

 Snapshot Search

માર્ગદર્શન	મહિયાસેનકાનું નેતૃત્વ અને મહિયા
માર્ગદર્શન	સાહિત્યાભિનાન મેળે કાણ થોડાની અને

विशिष्ट सेवा-विद्वान् अनुसारे
संक्षेप लक्ष्य पुराण महिमा न
सूक्ष्माभेद सेवनीपूर्व उत्तम करना
अनन्य है। उत्तम लक्षिती सेव्या
लक्ष्य संक्षेपाद्य सूक्ष्माभेद
महिमा लक्ष्य अनेकी विधियों का
पुरा उत्तम वेगवान् लक्ष्य है। इ
संक्षेपी कार्यवाही अधिकारिक अ
पूर्व तेज आदि तेजाना वज्र
अधिकारिक इतर इतरां योगो ए
उत्तमायापक प्रभासामात् पर्वती ऊर्जा
इतरामान व्यावरणम् उत्तमकर ए
कल्प वेष्टकर्त्त वीरांशुं महाका
लिताना कल्पनुभवाना उत्तम से
संक्षेपाद्य वज्रांशुं कर्त्तव्याम् व्या
प्ति।

Safety & Security of Women & Girls

- Approximately 335 survivors of violence approached the Nyay Samitis run by the Women's Federations and were supported to access justice through individual, family counselling, legal recourse.
- Data collection for an Utthan conceived Study on Safety of women and girls in rural public spaces was initiated. Institute of Social Studies Trust, our knowledge collaborator conducted an orientation to discuss the tools, which were then administered by team and Nyay Samiti members.

5 Nyay Samitis informal redressal mechanism - supported 335 survivors, building precedents

One of the firsts in Saurashtra:

Approval of compensation of Rs.
4 lakhs for rape survivor, recd. Rs.
1 lakh

2 cases involving satta paddati
successful resolved, strongly
influenced caste panchayat



Witch labelling , an important issue
being dealt with in tribal area

fountainink.

The witches of Dahod

Women always get the worse deal, but in India we consider their life is in eternal peril if they are labelled as witches.

Source : [The Hindu](#) | Dec 11, 2010



Rewritten GyanMai Bhakti (organises her way with practical precision around a kind friend, a kin of grinding stones, and a great place). Things, both valuable and poor, are





Women's Rights to Resources and Entitlements

- Land, Property & Forest Rights:** The four paralegal workers of the Swabhooti Kendras running in Ghogha, Bhavnagar & Dhanpur, Dahod directly reached out to 20 villages through regular interactions with various stakeholders. One paralegal worker on forest rights reached out to 10 villages. 850 individual forest rights and 143 individual claims were facilitated.

Swabhooti Kendras - Women's Land, Property & Forest Rights



- Part of Collective Impact Study
- Legal Clinics as a strategy
- 850 IFRs -143 IFR claims passed, 57 in appeal, rest in process
- 16 CFRs

Empowering Young Girls through Higher Education

- Utthan's collaboration with the Kavita Mehta Foundation (KMF) for the sponsorship of 8 girls to reach the top of the ladder and complete their higher education continued.



Conflict transformation towards Peace & Justice

Documenting transformative change processes of a model, providing the scope to motivated youth from marginalised communities to become ambassadors of inclusive and peaceful coexistence

Efforts of 24 Fellows reaching out to 230 villages in coastal and tribal area to create awareness pertaining to Constitutional rights and values

- Improved sensitivity amongst Fellows: More sensitive towards societal issues such as dowry practice, gender discrimination led to initiating change in their own families
- Using RTI as a tool for accountability: In tribal areas fellows used RTI as a tool to hold Gram Panchayat accountable and got hand pumps, road and other development works done
- Strengthening Gram Sabha: Their outreach has increased, leading to increased women participation in Gram Sabhas in about 60 villages of both areas
- Education: Youth groups are being made in Mahuva, who are actively working on School Monitoring Committees furthering importance of Gram Sabhas
- Local platforms: Nagrik Manch is being set up in Bhavnagar and Rajula. Mahuva Nagrik Manch already deals with issues plaguing the society
- Awareness on Ethical voting: Election campaign was carried out in both areas of 220 villages in the May. Action was taken around experienced failing of EVMs in tribal areas to ensure replacement and resumption of casting of votes
- Collaborations: were made with CSJ in coastal area for integration of legal awareness in 30 villages of Rajula. Rapport with 'Nyay Samitis' was built for connecting women facing violence
- Building community leaders: Built a critical mass from within community. Been able to connect values with issues at the grassroots
- Initiated work by involving different type of target groups and use of local folk culture as a media - Dayro, Kabirvani group

Voices of Saathi Fellows



Access to Safe Drinking Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

Institutional Capacity building for Gender-sensitive and Inclusive WASH in communities

- Monitoring visits & handholding with 10 CSOs in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha for recommendations for future action plans. As the National Resource Agency of Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation to facilitate an appropriate implementation of inclusive and sustainable water and sanitation programs (WASH), the initial months of the year were spent in consolidating experiences. Training modules for CSO trainers were finalized and IEC material in Hindi for CSOs was provided

Sharing Utthan's learnings in gender sensitive WASH mechanisms

- Utthan developed an action plan to apply its years of learning in gender sensitive WASH community capacities in the work areas of NGOs supported by the Bajaj Foundation. Several discussions were taken up for potential collaborations. Utthan also developed potential for rainwater harvesting solutions in urban Ahmedabad.

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Expanding to Bharuch for intensive efforts in Empowering women through securing their rights to access to safe and sufficient drinking water, ODF sanitation and hygiene through gender just community mechanisms.

- This collaboration helps us implement a strategic mission of applying our collated learning's in the Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) Thrust area to create a model in a new location with a new type of stakeholder.
- Community organising & coordination with Panchayat and village institutions
- Quantitative & qualitative data collection & analysis of 2 villages (464 household surveys ,5 Focus Group Discussions)
- Preparation of 3-year Action plan was taken up based on baseline
- Utthan's new full-time operations were initiated in Valia (Bharuch) on 1st Feb.2020.

Condition of Drinking Water & Sanitation in Dungri and Naldhari Villages



Institutional Building & Leadership Development



Strengthening Village leaders, Block,
District & Area level Institutions

- Efforts were continued to strengthen all kinds of grassroots leadership, the village level institutions, Women's Federations and Farmer Producer Organisations.

Strengthening Utthan as an institution



- Annual meeting was held and it led to clarity in Utthans aspirations for coming 3 years. Inputs on importance of quality Communication & Clarity of roles within team was discussed through role plays and discussions. Aspirations which emerged included: Building identity as an expert on WASH & Gender in 2 new States, Focusing on strategies having large scale impact and outreach, Strengthening value-based leadership in existing community institutions supported by Utthan, Developing existing work in Gujarat (Programme & Financial mgmt.)
- Training on Evidence based advocacy & linking grassroots issues to policy level was held for 15 members leading to prioritisation of advocacy issues
- Improving monitoring systems of our Livelihood interventions by critical observations by Sachin Oza, DSC.
- Engagement of an MIS professional & deployment of 1 team member for MIS
- Visibility: Utthan's brochure was re-developed and printed, website redesign & conversion to dynamic one was initiated

Potential Opportunities under discussion

- Partnering in a research with ISST on 'Sustaining Power for Women's Rights in South Asia': to analyze the strategies and processes of women's movements in South Asia in the face of backlash from regressive social, political and economic forces.
- Demonstrating Reverse watershed in Bhavnagar with support of NABARD
- Scaling up Forest rights action & advocacy collectively with WGWLO (Exploratory stage)
- Expansion of work to Maharashtra on community and institutional capacity building on WASH



Utthan's Board



Mr. Vijay Parmar
Chairperson,
Managing Trustee, Janvikas



Mr. Binoy Acharya
Member,
Director, UNNATI & President,
Voluntary Agency Network India (VANI)



Mr. Ashoke Chatterjee
Member,
Former Director,
National Institute of Design



Dr. Sudarshanlyengar
Member,
Former Vice Chancellor,
Gujarat Vidyapith,
presently associated with ARCH



Ms. Nafisa Barot
Member,
Founder & Former Director, Utthan



Dr. Sara Ahmed
Member,
Adjunct Professor,
Ahmedabad University



Ms. Neelima Khetan
Member,
Former Director, Sewa Mandir



Prof. Alka Parikh
Member,
Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of
Information & Communication
Technology

Partners in Transformation



Institute of Social Studies Trust

and several individuals...

Networks and Alliances

- State and National Level
- International Level
- Working Group on Women and Land Ownership
- Sajjata Sangh
- Pravah
- Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch
- Janpath
- India Wash Forum
- Gujarat Mahila Manch
- Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council
- Water and Environmental Sanitation Network Water Conflict Forum
- South Asia Consortium for Inter Disciplinary Waters
- Global Water Partnership
- Gender Water Alliance
- Freshwater Action Network South Asia
- Feminist Alliance for Rights
- Capnet

Accounts & Transparency

Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2020

PARTICULARS	Annx.	FC	INDIAN	TOTAL (2019-20)	TOTAL (2018-19)
Funds and Liabilities					
Corpus Fund and Asset Funds	1	9,33,553	13,23,417	22,56,970	22,52,858
General and Earmarked Funds	2	3,71,026	17,33,115	21,04,141	20,50,451
Unutilised Grants	3	12,04,470	18,07,330	30,11,800	79,30,567
Current Liabilities	4	-	3,59,221	3,59,221	3,21,895
Income and Expenditure Account	5	3,47,991	12,20,031	15,68,022	10,88,745
TOTAL		28,57,040	64,43,114	93,00,154	1,36,44,515
Assets and Properties					
Fixed Assets	6	8,25,554	7,69,983	15,95,537	16,28,667
Investments	7	2,63,460	13,07,792	15,71,252	76,28,994
Current Assets	8	17,68,026	43,65,339	61,33,363	43,86854
TOTAL		28,57,040	64,43,114	93,00,154	1,36,44,515

UDIN: 20030268AAAAFR2863

As per our report attached
For B C M Associates
Chartered Accountants
FRN 100808W

For Utthan

Bharat Mehta
Partner
Membership Np. 030268
Ahmedabad
Dated: 05.11.2020

Trustee
Ahmedabad
05.11.2020

Income and Expenditure Account for the Period 01.04.2019 to 31.03.2020

PARTICULARS	Annx.	FC	INDIAN	TOTAL (2019-20)	TOTAL (2018-19)
Income					
Grants	9	6,32,820.73	2,8594,428.47	2,92,27,249.20	2,46,82,034.55
Donation	10	2,04,914.00	5,000.00	2,09,914.00	1,05,000.00
Other Income	11	1,97,233.00	7,97,728.00	9,94,961.00	27,80,020.00
Interest Income	12	975.00	1,14,409.00	1,15,384.00	1,38,236.85
Scrap Sale Income		-	-	-	-
TOTAL		10,35,942.73	2,95,11,565.47	3,05,47,508.20	2,77,05,291.44
Expenditure					
Expenditure on Objects of the Trust	13&14	6,32,820.43	2,79,06,928.47	2,85,39,748.90	2,48,98,667.58
Establishment Expenses	14	1,518.41	7,03,481.72	2,85,39,748.00	2,48,98,667.58
Contribution to Administrative Fund of the Charity Commissioner	-	-	97,982.00	97,982.00	-
Remuneration to Trustees	-	-	6,00,000.00	6,00,000.00	4,14,000.00
Audit Fees	-	-	87,500.00	87,500.00	1,22,226.00
Depreciation	6	1,31,144.00	1,67,939.00	2,99,083.00	2,94,483.00
Depreciation Recouped	1	1,31,144.00	1,67,939.00	2,99,083.00	2,94,483.00
Project Expenses Absorbed by Utthan		-	-	-	-
TOTAL		6,34,338.84	2,93,95,892.19	3,00,30,231.03	2,66,04,369.78
Excess of Income over Expenditure		4,01,603.89	1,15,673.28	5,17,277.17	11,00,921.66
Trf to Asset Fund (Capital Purchase)		-	38,000.00	38,000.00	4,200.00
Excess of Income over expenditure/ Excess of Expenditure over Income)		4,01,603.89	77,673.28	4,79,277.17	10,96,721.66

UDIN: 20030268AAAAFR2863

As per our report attached
 For B C M Associates
 Chartered Accountants
 FRN 100808W

Bharat Mehta Partner Membership Np. 030268 Ahmedabad Dated: 05.11.2020	Trustee Ahmedabad 05.11.2020
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UTTHAN IS A PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST REGISTERED IN 1981 UNDER THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUSTS, ACT 1950. DONATION TO UTTHAN IS EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAX UNDER SECTION 80G OF THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961. FOREIGN DONATIONS ARE ALSO AUTHORIZED AS PER UTTHAN'S REGISTRATION UNDER THE FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION REGULATION ACT.



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