

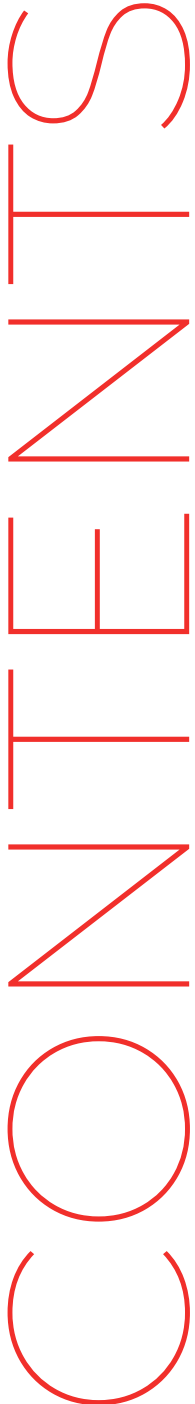


A quest for justice, dignity and hope.

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024





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Established in 1981, Utthan is committed to empowering vulnerable communities to self organise, take the lead and address issues critical to them. Our approach is deeply rooted in grassroots development strategies, aiming to equip vulnerable women and young girls with the necessary perspective, resources, and tools to amplify their voices, exercise control over resources and entitlements, and assert bodily autonomy. Utthan also collaborates closely with governmental bodies to drive systemic improvements and engage in policy dialogue. Our practice areas include Gender Equity, Sustainable Agriculture, Entrepreneurship Development, Natural Resources' Management, Drinking Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene.

## Our Vision

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

## Mission

To empower women and young girls by providing them with the perspective, resources and tools they need to amplify their voice, gain access & control over productive resources, entitlements & services, and take control of their bodily autonomy.

## Approach & Strategy



# UTTHAN: CULTIVATING CHANGE, EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES SINCE 1981

*1981 marked the beginning of a remarkable journey. Four women, fueled by a shared vision for social justice, ventured into Gujarat's Bhal region. They encountered communities facing immense challenges – limited access to resources and a lack of control over their destinies. Utthan, meaning "rising" in Hindi, became their shared purpose – to empower these communities to thrive.*

## From Grassroots to Movement

The name Utthan sparked a movement, not of charity, but of collaboration. Women, youth, and the community at large joined hands. Together, they addressed critical needs for safe drinking water, secured access to common lands for sustainable livelihoods, and tackled deeply entrenched social inequalities.

## Mahiti: Knowledge Empowers

A pivotal moment arrived in 1994 with the founding of Mahiti, meaning "knowledge" in Hindi. This community-based organization became a cornerstone of Utthan's work. Mahiti fostered a culture of learning and self-discovery within the communities, equipping them with the tools to navigate challenges and advocate for themselves.

## Learning, Growing, and Reaching Out

Utthan's journey began in the coastal districts of Saurashtra and expanded to the tribal areas of East Gujarat. Over four decades, this commitment to exploration and knowledge-sharing has expanded its reach. Over the years, Utthan expanded its reach, extending its impact to other states, including Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Odisha. We actively participate in international movements across South Asia and beyond, fostering a continuous exchange of knowledge and best practices.

## Impacting Lives, Advancing Goals

By promoting self-reliance and collaborative problem-solving, we've contributed significantly to achieving various United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



# OUR PRESENCE

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With a presence in six districts of Gujarat, Utthan empowers 265 villages **touching 1.2 million lives**. Our work spans diverse landscapes, from the tribal regions of Dahod, Mahisagar, and Panchmahal to the coastal areas of Bhavnagar, Amreli, and Bharuch.



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# Message From The CEO

*Dear Stakeholders and Supporters,*

As we reflect on the progress and challenges of the past year, I am filled with gratitude for the unwavering support that has enabled Utthan to empower vulnerable communities, particularly women and young girls. Our commitment to justice, dignity, and hope has driven our initiatives.

In 2023-2024, Utthan's interventions were focused on critical thrust areas including gender equity, sustainable agriculture, and entrepreneurship development. In our efforts to collectivize women, we strengthened our four women's federations with a membership of over 18,000 members. These federations serve as platforms for women to advocate for their rights and access resources. Our training programs have equipped women leaders with the necessary skills to navigate challenges and lead community mobilization.

Our work in Drinking Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) has reinforced the importance of gender-sensitive approaches, ensuring that women lead the charge in managing water and sanitation projects in the Valiya block of Bharuch district, Gujarat. In continuation of our efforts to improve food security, Utthan continues to promote sustainable agriculture with 5,000 women farmers. This year, we observed a significant number of them adopting sustainable agricultural practices, resulting in enhanced food security and economic stability.

Moreover, our Livelihood Security initiative goat-based enterprise have created sustainable income opportunities for women, enabling them to break free from cycles of poverty. The Samarthan Credit Cooperative promoted by Utthan improved its systems and services, enhancing access to financial resources and promoting entrepreneurship through microfinance initiatives.

This year, Utthan also published its learnings on various platforms, demonstrating our commitment to being a learning organization. As we move forward, Utthan remains committed to building strong alliances and partnerships that can amplify our impact.

Our collective vision of a society rooted in gender justice and equality is not possible without your support. We invite you to join us on this journey of empowerment and transformation.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards



**Pravin Bhikadiya**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Practice Areas

Utthan's mission is guided by five core strategic thrust areas: Gender Equity & Women's Rights, Livelihood Security, Access to Safe Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, and Institutional Building and Leadership Development. These strategic priorities serve as a roadmap for achieving long-term goals and shape the overall direction of the organization.

## Operationalizing Our Mission: Practice Areas

Within these strategic thrust areas, Utthan implements targeted interventions known as "practice areas." These practice areas represent specific activities designed to achieve our mission. Our expertise and strong partnerships with local, national, and international stakeholders enhances the effectiveness of our operations. Our practice areas are as follows:

### Gender Equity

Advocating for gender equality and enabling marginalized women to lead empowered and independent lives.

### Drinking Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Ensuring communities have access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities, promoting good hygiene practices for improved health outcomes, and building resilience to climate-related water challenges.

### Sustainable Agriculture

Promoting sustainable farming practices to enhance food security, economic stability, and climate resilience among women farmers.

### Women's Participation in Governance & Planning

Empower women to actively participate in local governance, driving sustainable development and equitable progress.

### Entrepreneurship Development

Supporting aspiring entrepreneurs, particularly women, in building sustainable businesses that contribute to local economic growth and climate resilience.

### Natural Resources Management

Empowering communities to improve, manage, and protect natural resources, including water resource management, increased green cover, and promotion of climate-resilient conservation policies.

### Disaster Response and Recovery

Provide relief (immediate aid), recovery (rebuilding), and resilience (preparation) to help communities survive and thrive after disasters.

A core strategy across all our work is Institutional Building and Leadership Development, which strengthens community-based organizations and promotes leadership to drive sustainable development and local governance.

# Gender Equity & Women's Rights

Rural women in India, face significant hurdles. Limited access to resources, education, and job opportunities restrict their economic freedom. Additionally, the burden of unpaid care work and the disproportionate impact of climate change on their livelihoods pose further challenges.

Utthan tackles these issues by partnering with rural women and promoting a collaborative approach. We empower women through the establishment of "Sangathans" – federations that act as strong support networks. These Sangathans position women as leaders of change within their communities, equipping them with the skills and resources to advocate for themselves.

Utthan recognizes the importance of working alongside various stakeholders to create lasting positive change. Through collaborative efforts with local and state government bodies, law enforcement agencies, and other relevant organizations, we address gender-based challenges effectively. This collaborative approach ensures that solutions are grounded in local realities and have sustainable long-term impacts.





# THE POWER OF FOUR: OUR ACTIVE FEDERATIONS



Four vibrant federations currently operate in Gujarat with 18000+ members:

- Samarthan Mahila Sangathan – Bhavnagar
- Shakti Mahila Sangathan – Mahuva
- Vanita Shakti Mahila Sangathan – Dhanpur
- Ekta Mahila Sangathan – Gothib

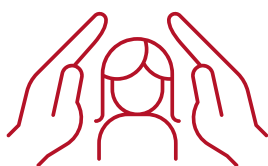
These federations working towards achieving sustainable solutions that emphasize gender equity, economic empowerment, justice, and climate resilience. Their efforts, in collaboration with various stakeholders, have led to significant achievements in the past year, which are outlined below.



**2466**  
New members joined the Women's Federation



**592**  
Cases dealt with by the justice committee



**127**  
Survivors (Women/Girls) of Violence received Support from trained Women Leadership



**2073**  
Women supported to apply for resources & entitlements

## Empowering Women Leaders: Building Skills and Leading Change

The training sessions conducted for women leaders for a thorough understanding of gender dynamics and violence against women (VAW) at both community and societal levels.

It aimed to develop leadership skills with a focus on collaboration and community mobilization. Additionally, the programme trained participants to effectively raise awareness about the impact of VAW and promote the development of strategic partnerships. This included exposure visits to various organizations, further enriching their knowledge of VAW and enhancing the recognition of federations.



## Equipping the Justice Committee: Legal Knowledge for Action

The Legal Clinic empowered Justice Committee members with the legal knowledge and skills needed to effectively manage cases of VAW. The training focused on:

- *Case management: Documentation procedures, register maintenance, and legal perspectives on filing cases.*
- *Regional case review: Analysing regional trends to refine approaches.*
- *Technological proficiency: Introduction to E-court applications for a deeper understanding of legal processes.*



Reflection Workshop for Nyay Samiti (Justice Committee) leaders sharpened their skills in managing cases. Key topics covered filing FIRs (First Information Reports), member profiling, understanding the Nyay Samiti constitution, and the importance of counselling for survivors.



## Breaking Barriers: Youth Melas *Empower Young Minds*

Our Youth Melas promoted open communication and a sense of belonging among adolescent girls and boys in grades 7 and 8. This initiative aimed to dismantle prevalent societal gender biases and cultivate a culture of equality. Through engaging games like cricket, the program addressed these challenges in a unique way. Girls participated in activities that challenged traditional perceptions, such as hammering nails, while boys engaged in tasks like threading needles and preparing chapatis. This approach aimed to instil gender-neutral perspectives from a young age.

**We conducted 55 Youth Melas, reaching a total of 8,114 students (4,025 girls and 4,089 boys) across 57 villages in both tribal and coastal regions of Gujarat.** To ensure program efficacy, we provided refresher training workshops for the leaders of all participating Sangathans, equipping them with the necessary skills to effectively facilitate the Youth Melas.

## Annual General Meeting

**In March 2024, all four federations held Annual General Meetings (AGMs) in Bhavnagar, Mahuva, Dhanpur, and Santrampur.**

These meetings reviewed progress made between March 2023 and January 2024, culminating in International Women's Day celebrations. A total of 608 women, including 38 from Rajula, participated in the AGMs. The events featured seed bank stalls and informative sessions on Common Service Centres and Swabhoomi Kendras. Government and non-government officials actively participated, offering valuable knowledge and expressing their support for the federations' ongoing work.



## DISTRICT/ BLOCK CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FOR AVAILING THE SOCIAL WELFARE SCHEMES

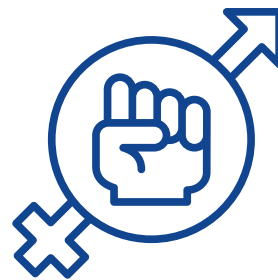
A total of four district consultations were organized in Bhavnagar, Mahuva, Dahod, and Mahisagar. These consultations were organized to help the community share their grievances and better access government social welfare schemes. The discussions primarily included five government schemes: Vrudh Pension Yojana (Elder Pension), Vahli Dikri Yojana (Support for Young Girls), Palak Mata Pita Yojana (Support for Caretaker Parents), Ganga Swarup Sahay (Widow Pension), and Divyang Sahay Yojana (Disability Pension). These meetings allowed eligible citizens, especially women facing challenges in accessing these schemes, to share their concerns with government officers. A total of 542 participants attended these consultations.



## Resilience in Action: Sudha Ben's Journey with Shakti Mahila Sangathan



With the support of Shakti Mahila Sangathan, Sudha Ben turned her struggle into a journey of empowerment, highlighting the power of resilience and community.



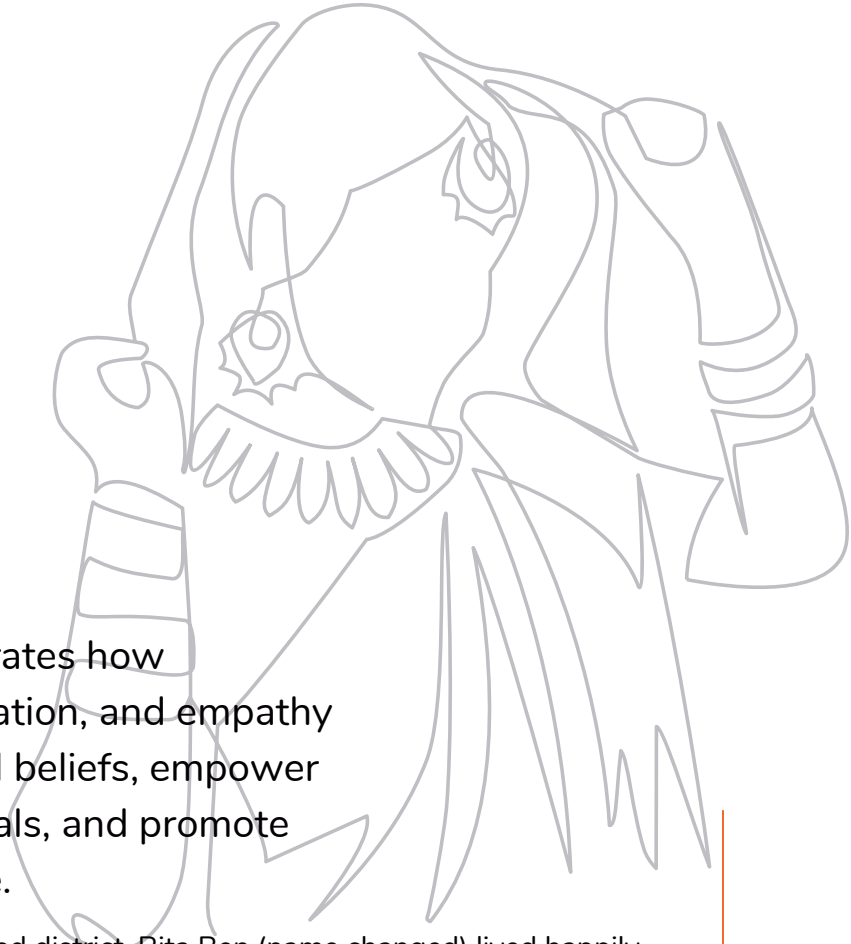
Sudha Ben (name changed)'s story is a testament to strength and resilience. Residing in Katpar village of Mahuva block and working as a labourer, Sudha frequently attended meetings organised by the Shakti Mahila Sangathan.

Facing significant marital challenges, Sudha sought help from the federation. During one meeting, she confided in Manjula Ben, who brought her case to the Nyay Samiti. Supported by her parents, Sudha attended the Nyay Samiti meeting. Despite mediation attempts, Sudha's husband refused reconciliation. After six meetings and counselling sessions, they decided to pursue separation and alimony.

After a year and a half, Sudha was awarded 57,000 rupees as annual alimony and 5,000 rupees per month temporarily by the court. She continues to fight her case with determination and confidence.

Sudha's journey highlights the importance of women's federations, demonstrating the importance of resilience and community support in navigating challenging situations and advocating for justice and equality.

## Breaking the Shackles of Stigma: A Widowed Woman's Battle Against Witchcraft Accusations



Rita Ben's story illustrates how education, communication, and empathy can challenge harmful beliefs, empower marginalized individuals, and promote positive social change.

In the village of Sanjoi of Dahod district, Rita Ben (name changed) lived happily with her family until her husband passed away unexpectedly in 2018. After his death, people in the community blamed her for various misfortunes, calling her a witch.

Once respected, Rita Ben became isolated and scorned by relatives and villagers who believed she brought bad luck. One day, Rita Ben met Mangu Ben, a member of the Sangathan. Mangu Ben invited Rita Ben to a local meeting of Vanita Shakti Mahila Sangathan being held in her hamlet. Rita Ben gathered her courage and participated in the meeting. When Mangu Ben encouraged participants to introduce themselves, Rita Ben timidly spoke her name. Mangu Ben advised her, **"If you don't speak up, no one will hear you,"** leaving a lasting impact on Rita Ben. Inspired, she joined the Sangathan.

Following that, one day Rita Ben faced a critical moment when her in-laws accused her of witchcraft. She immediately called Mangu Ben and the women's helpline for assistance. Mangu Ben and the helpline team intervened and counselled her in-laws and ensuring her safety. Rita Ben's determination and Federation's involvement not only restored her reputation but also began changing villagers' attitudes.

# Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Utthan, under its Water and Sanitation program, prioritizes the development of gender-sensitive institutional mechanisms and technologies, recognizing access to sanitation as a fundamental human right, according to the United Nations. Since its inception, Utthan has been committed to addressing the intersection of women's safety, security, and access to clean drinking water. Advocating for decentralized, community-driven initiatives, Utthan has championed women's leadership and community involvement in planning, implementing, and monitoring water and sanitation projects.

Utthan's persistent advocacy efforts have resulted in integrating these principles into the Swajaldhara Scheme guidelines in 2002 and the Gujarat Jal Disha in 2010. Furthermore, Utthan has developed and implemented specialized sanitation solutions tailored to local geography and needs, ensuring sustainability through its People's Learning Centre on Water and Sanitation program.

In collaboration with the Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation (BRLF) from 2016 to 2019, Utthan extended its reach to rural Gujarat, working to enhance sanitation facilities. Transitioning from solely implementing projects to playing a capacity-building role, Utthan served as a National Resource Agency for 20 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) across five states, sharing its expertise and supporting other organizations in their sanitation interventions.





Utthan improved the sanitation facilities and conducted awareness campaigns in Bharuch's Valiya block, Gujarat, this year. These efforts led to notable improvements in sanitation facility usage and maintenance through the active involvement of water and sanitation committees. Edelgive and Apcotex provided crucial support to this initiative.

The main goal of this project was to empower women by ensuring their access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene. This was achieved by establishing community mechanisms that consider gender dynamics in six villages of Valiya block, Bharuch, Gujarat.

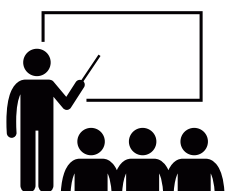
Access to safe drinking water and open defecation are the two key problems being addressed through this Project. Utthan has established a community centered model to demonstrate the importance of gender just, community based institutional mechanisms to ensure access to safe and sufficient drinking water and ensure that villages are open defecation free. This has led to building ownership, sensitivity and capacity of the community to manage these Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) systems offering alternatives and solutions to the communities' present problems and vulnerabilities.



**1,482+ Engaged**  
Community  
Engagement &  
Rapport Building



**227 Empowered**  
Adolescent Girls  
Receive Menstrual  
Health Training



**719 Trained**  
Hygiene Promotion  
for WASH  
Committees, Leaders,  
& Children



**6**  
WASH Committee  
Members Trained on  
Water Testing Kits



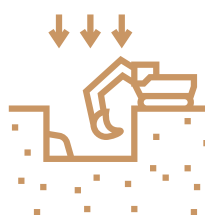
**412 Informed**  
Community  
Awareness  
Programs on  
Sanitation



**118 Learned**  
Gender Equality  
Training for WASH  
Leaders



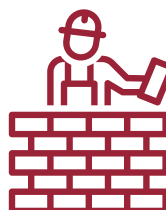
**274 Engaged**  
School Children  
Celebrate World  
Handwashing Day



**149 Units Built**  
Liquid waste disposal  
Infrastructure  
(Platforms & Soak Pits)



**141 Constructed**  
New & Renovated  
Toilets for Improved  
Access



**12 Skilled**  
Masons Trained  
for Sanitation  
Construction

## From Passive Observer to Active Advocate for Community Development: Transformation of Yusuf Ahmed Shah



**“My view on community contribution has changed. It's important, and together, we can achieve a lot more.”**

**- Yusuf Ahmed Shah, Deputy Sarpanch of Siludi**

Yusuf Ahmed Shah, the Deputy Sarpanch of Siludi village in Valia, has undergone a remarkable transformation, catalyzed by Utthan's initiatives. Siludi, a community of 368 households, faced significant water and sanitation challenges. In 2020, Utthan launched the WASH project to address these issues in Valia, including Siludi.

Initially doubtful, Yusuf Bhai's concerns about community contributions were addressed through open dialogue with the team. He learned about the importance of community involvement and the negative consequences of unused sanitation facilities due to a lack of engagement. Regular discussions with Utthan's team, including transparency about project activities and costs, helped Yusuf Bhai understand the approach.

Yusuf Bhai's transformation became evident as he joined the water and sanitation committee and encouraged others to participate. He took the lead in organizing monthly meetings and advocated for initiatives like providing clean water to the local ashram school.

Yusuf Bhai's journey showcases the impact of individual involvement in community empowerment. His journey from skepticism to active participation emphasizes the significance of community engagement in Utthan's initiatives, highlighting the potential for positive change through understanding and involvement.

# LIVELIHOOD SECURITY

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# LIVELIHOOD SECURITY OVERVIEW

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Utthan places a high priority on ensuring livelihood security, particularly for women, through initiatives that promote income growth, food security, and empowerment via gender equality. Our efforts center on sustainability, fairness, and empowering individuals for societal advancement. We lead gender-inclusive development, provide training for women to become entrepreneurs, and ensure fair access to resources. Utthan also addresses environmental issues with sustainable measures such as solar-powered irrigation and the promotion of sustainable agriculture among women farmers. By collaborating with governments and other socio-technical institutions, we promote a thriving environment that offers opportunities for women and young girls, with a strong emphasis on sustainability, equity, and human well-being.





During the fiscal year, Utthan focused on supporting small and marginalized women farmers, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and reducing reliance on chemical fertilizers. Emphasizing soil and water conservation, these efforts strengthened climate resilience and addressed crucial food and nutritional security needs among marginalized households.

In collaboration with Gram Panchayats and government bodies, Utthan facilitated district-level consultation meetings to promote dialogue and address livelihood challenges, including those related to the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). In addition, as part of Utthan's core strategy to establish grassroots institutions for envisioning, realizing, and sustaining change, we reformed the Village Development Committees (VDC). These committees comprise women and men from diverse socio-economic backgrounds.

A significant achievement of the year was Utthan's successful implementation of the goat-based entrepreneurship program in tribal area (Dahod), significantly enhancing income opportunities, especially for women engaged in livestock management. This initiative is integral to Utthan's broader Livelihood Security programme, which aims to create sustainable livelihoods and improve socio-economic conditions in marginalized communities.

Through these initiatives, Utthan continues to make substantial progress in this year towards empowering marginalized women, enhancing community resilience, and advancing sustainable development goals .

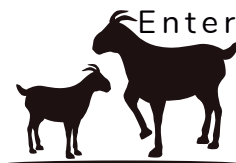


**5000**

Women farmers trained on sustainable agriculture

**600**

Women engaged in the Goatery based Enterprise



**33.90 crores**

Value of Annual GDP plans developed



**8.49 crores**

Wages generated under MGNREGA with Utthan's support



**8.95 crores**

value of the applications submitted to access resources and entitlements (Govt & Others)



**1207**

Women members joined in the Samarthan Women's Credit Cooperative Society

# Sustainable Agriculture

## *Promoting Sustainable Agriculture and Empowering Women Farmers*

Continuing its efforts to build food security and promote sustainable agriculture among small and marginal women farmers, Utthan launched the project "Women Farmers Lead Towards Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture, Claiming Women's Rights & Entitlements" in 2022 with support from the Azim Premji Foundation.

**The project extends to 29 villages across Gujarat's coastal and tribal regions, engaging 5,000 women farmers. Using a proven "lead farmer-farmer model," each Krushi Sakhi (lead farmer) trains 90 women in their village.** Through training sessions, demonstrations, and exposure visits, these women acquire the knowledge and skills needed to adopt sustainable agricultural practices. **Under the project, these 5,000 women farmers have dedicated a total of 3,289 acres to transitioning to sustainable agricultural practices.**

During the financial year, we observed significant progress in promoting sustainable agriculture, food security, resource access, and land rights. By addressing these interconnected issues with a holistic approach, our team not only enhanced women farmers' agricultural knowledge but also supported the inclusion of their names in family land documents. This was achieved through family counselling and technical processes at Swa bhoomi Kendras (SBKs), promoted under our women's federations.

**In year two of the project ( Kharif 2023), over two-thirds (65.49%) of women farmers demonstrated a strong commitment to sustainable agriculture by adopting at least six out of the seven recommended Practices for Sustainable Agriculture (POPs).** This translates to 1,650 women (38.4%) adopting all seven practices and an additional 1,163 women (27.1%) adopting six practices. These women farmers cultivated food crops including maize, paddy, and bajra.





**2813**

Women farmers adopted 6 ^ sustainable agriculture practices



**808**

Women supported to gain their land rights through Swa bhoomi Kendras (SBKs)



**3346**

women farmers reduced input costs by adopting sustainable agriculture practices during Kharif 2023



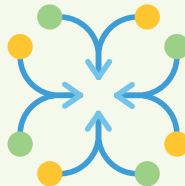
**136**

Facilitated farmers in receiving Rs. 3,000 each, totaling Rs. 4,08,000 for crop loss due to unseasonal rains.

**1466**

applications for linkages to various agri-allied schemes

**Facilitated**



**248**

individual applications for water augmentation

**23**

village-level applications for new ponds and desilting works.

## CLIMATE RESILIENT & ADAPTIVE AGRICULTURE IN SALINE SOILS

With the support of the Global Green Fund, we have demonstrated climate-resilient and adaptive agriculture in saline soils through women farmers in Kuda village, Bhavnagar District, Gujarat. Our interventions included farm bunds, soil treatment to desalinate the soil, and the promotion of salt-tolerant seeds. These demonstrations have helped other farmers understand and invest in these technologies.





### Exposure Visit:

The Utthan's team and Krushi Sakhis visited Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) from January 30th to February 2nd, 2024. They learned about soil health, water conservation, and innovative farming models like Pre-Monsoon Dry Sowing (PMDS), 365-days land cover, and organic seed palletisation. Observations included community initiatives like the BRC with cattle shed, bio-stimulant processing, and the "Any Time Money" (ATM) model.



### Natural Farming Certificate Training Program:

A 15-day program was held in collaboration with Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agriculture University and the National Coalition for Natural Farming. Five Krushi Sakhis from Utthan completed the training in July 2023, becoming eligible as Master Trainers.

### Training of Trainers (TOT):

A TOT for Krishi Sakhis and PLWs focused on support, communication skills, and service perceptions, using role-play, games, and films to enhance problem-solving and confidence. Krishi Sakhis improved their training delivery and PoP demonstration skills.



### Phase-wise Training Sessions:

Three phase-wise training sessions were conducted for Krushi Sakhis on crop-specific PoPs and Kitchen Gardens. The training covered Kharif crops (Maize, Paddy, Pigeon Pea in tribal areas; Bajari and groundnut in coastal areas) and 13 sustainable practices, including biopesticides and fertilizers (Jeevamrut, Neemstra, Brahmaastra, Dash Parni). Similar training was provided for Rabi crops (Bajari, wheat, and gram in coastal areas; Maize and gram in tribal areas).



## Formation of Integrated Farming Clusters (IFC)

The Responsible Coalition for Resilient Communities (RCRC), in partnership with the Ministry of Rural Development, is implementing the 214 Integrated Farming Cluster Project (IFC) across several states, including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Maharashtra. This project involves collaboration with 30 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) under RCRC, benefiting over 62,000 households. Integrated Farming Clusters (IFCs) combine diverse farming activities to boost rural incomes and resource efficiency. By integrating crops, livestock, and fisheries, IFCs optimize resource use, reduce waste, and enhance food security. These clusters foster community-based approaches, promoting knowledge sharing and collective action among farmers. Ultimately, IFCs aim to empower farmers, improve livelihoods, and contribute to sustainable rural development.

In Gujarat, as a partner organization of RCRC, Utthan is working with Gujarat Livelihood Promotion Company (GLPC) to establish IFCs in Sanjeli (Villages Vasiya and Chamariya) and Limkheda (Villages Rai and Bar) blocks in Dahod district. With Utthan's facilitation, GLPC officials conducted village workshops and prioritized livelihood enhancement for 600 women farmers through sustainable agricultural practices and value chain development, aiming to uplift their economic well-being.

These activities are being implemented through Livelihood Service Centres (LSCs). The LSCs play a pivotal role in promoting agricultural productivity and increasing farmers' incomes. They offer a comprehensive suite of services tailored to support livelihoods in the agriculture sector, including agricultural extension services, training and guidance on modern and sustainable farming practices, goatery management, and animal husbandry practices. The achievements of the year are highlighted here.



**2** Exposure visits in Limkheda and Sanjeli on Goat Rearing



**28** Awareness meetings with Self- help Groups and women on Goatery and Sustainable Agriculture



**3** Residential and One Day Trainings in each cluster on improved practices, feeding and health management of goats



Convergence amounting to **Rs 2,45,000** under government schemes for the women



Inauguration of **2** Livelihood Service Centres in Limkheda and Sanjeli

# Women's Participation in Governance & Planning

Utthan is closely working with local governments to increase participation of women and marginalized communities, ensuring their voices are incorporated into policies and governance. This year's interventions include increasing demand for NREGA jobs and developing participatory Gram Panchayat Plans (GPDP), which aim to address women's rights and sustainable development.

## ***Chalo Evu Gaam Banaviye Initiative: Inclusive and fair process of Gram Panchayat Development Planning***

The "Chalo Evu Gam Banaviye" campaign empowered 47 villages to mobilize government resources (GPDP and MGNREGA) for local development. Through participatory village workshops, communities identified needs and prioritized solutions. Inclusive Support Groups/Village Development Committees were formed, trained, and led the process. The resulting village development plans were ratified by Gram Sabhas and implemented with continuous monitoring and support.



**101 Village Level Workshops**

## District level consultations on Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP)

Utthan facilitated the development of an inclusive Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) in collaboration with the Gram Panchayats across 47 villages in four districts of Gujarat. This initiative was undertaken through a participatory approach by involving multiple stakeholders at the local level. A Village Development Committee steered the process of planning at the village level resulting in dialogue and exchange of suggestions between the local Gram Panchayats, Village Development Committees, and the Local Government to gain access of villages to the designated development wherein resources are increased, participatory systems are strengthened and sustainable development is done according to the needs of the people.

Utthan, in collaboration with local Village Development Committees, organized block and district consultations aimed at enhancing shared learning and addressing challenges faced by the VDCs and Panchayats during the GPDP process. Across three blocks/ districts, Bhavnagar, Mahuva, and Dahod officials from various departments were invited to hear presentations from VDC members on their planning process, challenges, and learnings. This initiative garnered positive feedback from the Government and carved a way towards fastrack development works for the village.



**Mahuva Block Level Consultation**

## Community-Led Development and Multi-Stakeholder Meetings: A Case Study of Consultation Success in Mahuva Block, Gujarat



A block-level consultation was held in Mahuva, bringing together government officials and representatives from various Village Development Committees (VDCs).

Extensive groundwork preceded this meeting, involving villagers, women's federations, VDC members, village heads (Sarpanchs), and talatis (revenue officers). Regular VDC meetings and village workshops were conducted across 12 villages to identify challenges, such as water scarcity and infrastructure deficits. Limited resources and outdated government funding based on the 2011 census exacerbated these issues.

Emerging needs, like separate soakpits and farm ponds, highlighted the evolving demands of the community. Additionally, marginalized families faced difficulties with online applications for government schemes. To address these challenges, a block-level VDC committee comprising ten women and seven men was formed. They personally invited government officials, prepared comprehensive documents, and successfully convened a consultation with 58 participants, including five officials. In response, relevant departments pledged to address the identified needs, revitalizing engagement among VDC members.

The consultation emphasized the crucial role of local panchayats in water and sewerage projects. Government departments fulfilled their commitments, while reinforcing the panchayats' responsibility for budget allocation and prioritizing village development using funds like the 15th Finance Commission grants. This collaborative approach empowered local communities and demonstrated the effectiveness of multi-stakeholder engagement in driving grassroots development.

## Valiben's Fight for Her Land Rights

Valiben, a member of Shakti Mahila Sangathan and a woman farmer, faced a significant challenge regarding land ownership. Upon participating in Shakti Mahila Sangathan's activities and land awareness sessions, she discovered that her husband's name was solely registered as the land owner.

With guidance from Paralegal Nasimben, Valiben decided to initiate the renaming process. She sought her husband's consent but encountered resistance from her in-laws, who held traditional beliefs about daughters and land ownership.

Undeterred, Valiben engaged in a series of discussions with her husband to address her in-laws' concerns. Despite initial resistance, she arranged a meeting with her in-laws. Valiben, having three sons and three daughters, advocated for equal rights for her daughters.

Initially, there was resistance from the in-laws, but after persistent discussions and the support of Valiben's husband, they agreed to register the daughter's name on the land. This positive resolution brought happiness to Valiben's family, highlighting the impact of advocacy and persistence in addressing gender-related land ownership issues.

The involvement of Paralegal Nasimben in facilitating these discussions underscores the collective efforts aimed at empowering women like Valiben in their pursuit of equal land rights.



# ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Utthan believes that women's entrepreneurship is a catalyst for economic growth, social empowerment, and innovation. When women achieve economic independence, they reinvest earnings in their families and communities, leading to improved health, education, and overall well-being. Moreover, women entrepreneurs often bring unique perspectives and problem-solving skills to the marketplace, promoting innovation and job creation.

**To support this belief, we promote both farm and non-farm enterprises, along with credit cooperatives under our women's federations.** These initiatives create an enabling environment for women who aspire to become entrepreneurs and provide ongoing support, including technical knowledge, access to capital, and market linkages, for those who have already started their ventures.

## LIVESTOCK ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Utthan supported women in Dahod by collectivizing them under the goat-based enterprises supported by the Vanita Mahila Pashu Samvardhan Kendra (VMPSK under Vanita Shakti Mahila Sangathan). Targeted training in ethno-veterinary services and entrepreneurial leadership has created a network of animal care providers within the community who provide immediate and affordable veterinary services. Additionally, the establishment of a Community Livestock Business Center has further strengthened the initiative.

By focusing on value addition, such as high-quality goat milk products, Sales of input products and ethno-veterinary services have augmented incomes for Pashu Shakhis (Community Animal Care Providers) and women goat rearers. Our efforts in goat tracking and breeding have improved livestock asset values, while 'Pashu Sakhi First Aid Services' have reduced mortality rates.

Through Bharat Bijlee Limited's support, enterprise development efforts have led to tangible improvements in livestock management practices this year, consequently boosting the incomes of women goat rearers.



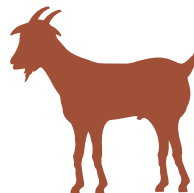
**1945**  
Units of Soap  
Revenue generated Rs  
33,275



**5432 Kgs**  
of Dana Mishran  
Revenue generated Rs  
45,982



Ethno- veterinary  
services to **1325** goats,  
revenue generated  
**Rs 17,150**



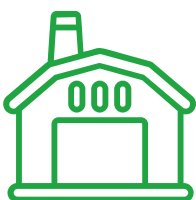
Tracking of 1107 goats of 300  
goat rearers, 405 goats gave  
birth to offspring out of which  
71 are Sirohi goats,  
generating revenue of **Rs**  
**2,84,000**



12 Pashu Sakhis  
have generated  
a revenue of  
**Rs 50,173**



Collective Revenue of  
**Rs 1,08,100/-** was  
generated by 18 Goat  
rearers by selling 21 Goats



Vanita Mahila Pashu  
Samvardhan Kendra  
has generated a  
revenue of **Rs 8507**



**120** Health camps were  
completed covering  
**5289** Goats from 12  
villages



# IMPACT REPORT

## Goat Asset Value of 50 goat rearers: A pre and post project intervention

50 women goat rearers with an entrepreneurial spirit received training on social enterprise and livestock business as part of their capacity building. Subsequently, these 50 goat rearers were given financial assistance along with individual contributions to purchase appropriate unit of goats (4 female and 1 male) of Sirohi breed. A total of 250 goats were procured for 50 aspiring women entrepreneurs. Technological support to these 50 entrepreneurs was provided to institute best rearing practices and reducing the workload of women goat rearers and addressing the health issues of the goats. With the larger goal of creating a household level enterprise units.

The intervention project has resulted in a significant overall increase in the asset value of the goatery enterprise, with a cumulative post-intervention value of Rs. 26,89,500 compared to the pre-intervention value of Rs. 19,38,000. The overall average percentage increase based on the pre and post Goat Asset Value data is approximately 73.05%. Wherein a total of 8 families goat asset value increased by 15-25%. A total of 9 families goat asset value doubled and 12 families goat value increased by more than 100%.

Gangaben Mahendrabhai, a goat rearer from Modhwa village, Dahod district, overcame climate challenges and land constraints through Utthan's Goatery Programme. As a Pashu Sakhi, she received training and innovatively built goat sheds. Gangaben's dedication was evident when she treated 15 goats for diarrhea and sought prompt medical help for a sick Sirohi goat. She empowered fellow women to deworm 70 goats, becoming a source of inspiration in her village. Her unwavering spirit and expertise have made her a successful goat rearer, setting an example for women in her community.



## MICROFINANCE THROUGH SAMARTHAN WOMEN'S SAVING & CREDIT COOPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.

Samarthan Women's Saving & Credit Cooperative Society Ltd. promoted by Utthan has registered its Microfinance services as a separate entity "Samarthan Women's Saving and Credit Cooperative Society Ltd" in the financial year 2022. Thus the cooperative is leading to financial inclusion of women of the Bhavnagar district of Gujarat.

Through this cooperative, we have laid down robust systems to facilitate microfinance operations, ensuring accessibility and reliability for our members.

This milestone represents a significant step forward in our mission to uplift and support women entrepreneurs and small businesses in our community. The key achievements of the year as follows:



Loan disbursements of **Rs. 20,80,000** to **110 women**



Revised **Risk Management Rules**

**100%**

**100% Loan Recovery Rate**



Cheque disbursement replaced by **Digital Transfer** of loan through **NEFT**



**6 Membership enrollment campaigns** with **240 women**



Business plan on **FMCG products** for trading under the aegis of cooperative

## EMPOWERING HER THROUGH AGRI TECH: WOMEN LED TRACTOR & TRACTOR MOUNTED AGRI EQUIPMENT RENTAL SERVICES ENTERPRISE

This initiative aims to promote women entrepreneurship through a women-led rental enterprise in agriculture. It is providing affordable access to mini tractors for small farmers, especially women, enhancing their efficiency and reducing their drudgery on the farms as women are equal contributors in agriculture and related activities with this the it aims to encourage sustainable farming practices by promoting modern machinery for land preparation, sowing, threshing, and grading.

This initiative has been integrated into our ongoing Sustainable Agriculture programme in the Bhavnagar region, focusing on increasing the incomes of women farmers in the villages.

Procurement of tractor and tractor mounted agri-equipments as well as scoping of two community facilitators has been completed and the services have commenced.



# INSTITUTIONAL BUILDING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Utthan strives to evolve continuously as a dynamic learning institution while simultaneously catalyzing the growth of self-reliant local institutions. Through impactful interventions, Utthan has played a pivotal role in nurturing a diverse array of community-based institutions, ranging from women's federations to Village Development Committees (VDCs), we promote sustainable development and women's empowerment.

While Utthan strengthen the community based institutions it equally believes in the importance of improving its own systems, processes, and practices as per the team/ community needs.





## Organisational Development Initiatives

Utthan was selected as one of the 100 organizations chosen for organizational development fund by the GROW. With this support, several key initiatives were undertaken to build the capacities of the team and strengthen organizational systems for better sustainability and delivery. Here is a brief overview of these initiatives:

### **Photo stories of Utthan's Impact:**

Utthan collaborated with M. Palani Kumar (a Fellow at the People's Archive of Rural India) to capture the lives, experiences and collaborative initiatives of the Women's Federations supported by Utthan. These photos used in the various communication stories of Utthan and federations

### **Research on fisherfolk**

Utthan partnered with Kongunadu Arts and Science College (KASC) in Tamil Nadu to conduct an essential research study titled "Gendered Assessment of Artisanal Fisherfolk in Gujarat: Current Status, Climate Resilience, and Future Prospects." The study aimed to understand the challenges faced by the fisherfolk community, with a particular focus on women, and to identify opportunities for Utthan to intervene and support this community.

### **Improved Monitoring and Learning**

To systematize the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) system with improved data entry and processes, Utthan engaged two consultants and an advisor from Sambodhi, Delhi. They conducted a Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop to enhance our ability to assess program effectiveness, systematically monitor projects, and make evidence-based decisions. This collaboration also led to the development of a process document that guides us in implementing these improvements, ultimately enhancing our impact on the communities we serve.



**Improving IT Infrastructure :** To enhance meeting quality and boost remote collaboration, the Poly Studio video conference system was installed. Additionally, a video camera was purchased to capture outreach efforts, document impactful stories, support advocacy, and record training sessions for team use.

**Website Development for Women's Federations:** Four websites are being developed to enhance visibility, manage a membership database, and store real-time data for over 15,000 members.

**Digital Outreach:** Content on marginalized women's empowerment, developed with Nyaaya and adapted into Gujarati, aims to increase visibility and engagement on platforms like YouTube. This content will also be shared with members through WhatsApp communities.

Utthan's HR Associate and Joint CEO completed the India Leaders for Social Sector's People Practices Programme, a 3-month course with virtual and in-person components. The course covered leadership, people investment, and organizational alignment, leading to key learnings and implementation of new practices at Utthan.

**Utthan Resource Centre (URC):** Inaugurated on February 9, 2024, in the Ahmedabad support office, promotes knowledge-sharing and provides valuable resources. Developed with GROW's support, the center offers over 1,500 catalogued books and various materials on topics like women and society, water and sanitation, and sustainable agriculture. Accessible via Utthan's website, it aims to serve students, professionals, NGOs, and researchers. The inauguration featured notable guests, including Mrs. Nafisa Barot, Mr. Ashok Chatterjee, Professor Sonal Pandya, and Professor Ankur Sarin from IIM-A, who emphasized the center's role in promoting collaboration and strategic engagement.



During the financial year, Utthan and its promoted institutions supported grassroots leadership across multiple fronts, including village-level institutions, women's federations, and farmer-producer organizations. The notable accomplishments of the fiscal year are outlined below:

### **Governance Meetings**

All mandated meetings, including those of the Board, Management Committee, Welfare Committee, Procurement Committee, and Programme Steering Committee, were held. Additionally, to ensure the effective implementation of the work, regular monthly review and planning meetings were organized in all field areas.

Utthan's Annual Meeting was held with the theme of 'Consolidating Strengths, Empowering Actions,' marking a time for reflection and unity for the Utthan team. The event took place from July 24 to July 28, 2023, in Goa, India. During the meeting, the team had the opportunity to look back on their 40-plus-year journey, engage in discussions, and present a revised pitch for Utthan and theory of change.



### **Capacity building of Utthan Team members**

- Members participated in a 2.5-day training on Social Justice and Human Rights facilitated by in-house team.
- A writing workshop was conducted from November 21st to 24th, 2023, to enhance narrative writing skills for self-evaluation and learning. Through practical exercises and introspection, the team learned to communicate effectively with the community by focusing on life transformations beyond mere numbers, identify key actors and factors contributing to transformations, evaluate what is working and what isn't, and develop personal skills to document the impact of their work, including highlighting their significant contributions.

- Govind, Pravina, and Surya, Community Facilitators at Utthan, have successfully completed the **Women and Land Rights (WLR)** course, a 10-week blended learning program conducted by WGWLO. As part of the course, they gained valuable knowledge on WLR and presented their research projects at the Valedictory Ceremony held on November 29, 2023.
- Two senior team members, including Manisha Patel and Vijay Vankar, participated in the **Leadership for Growth course**, conducted by the Amani Institute.
- Three Gender Team leaders participated in the first phase of legal training on **Women-Related Laws** organized by SAFAR, gaining valuable insights from a panel of feminists, judges, and lawyers.

### Presentations/ Lectures /Participation in external events / Awards

During the financial year, Utthan's experiences and learnings were shared on various platforms, including:

- Nafisa Barot, Utthan's Founder and Mentor co-chaired two day **Water Leaders Convention** in Jodhpur, Rajasthan. She was a keynote speaker Water Connects, Water Fest 2024 organised by W for W Foundation, Department of Civil Engineering of IIT-BHU & Drop-Dead Foundation.
- Pravin Bhikadiya, CEO of Utthan took part in the various events including:
  - presented Utthan's work at **RCRC's national level Integrated farming cluster (IFC)** meeting held at Delhi.
  - He also participated in a one-day workshop on **Coastal Security - MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Income) Initiative** in Gandhinagar on May 8, 2023. Organized by the Gujarat Ecology Commission (GEC), this workshop gathered experts, scientists, civil society representatives, and policymakers to discuss effective coastal ecosystem management and mangrove conservation strategies.
- Pallavi Sobti Rajpal, Joint CEO of Utthan, participated in various events at both the state and national levels, including:
  - Served as a panel member at **Making a Wave of Change**, ILSS's Emerging Women leaders course, 4th batch and shared Utthan's experience of women's individual and institutional leadership building.
  - Participated in the a pre-release consultation of RCRC's **State of Rural Vulnerability Report** for 2022.





- shared the key results of the joint research titled '**Socio-Technical Innovation Bundling to Strengthen Women's Resilience to Climate Change,**' conducted by ISST and Utthan with support from the International Rice Research Institute, GENDER Impact Platform, and CGIAR Initiative on Gender Equality (HER+), during a webinar held in January 2024.
- She was invited to a state-level meeting organized by the Women & Child Development Department to join the Working Group on Violence & Security, formed for the reconstitution of the State Gender Equity Policy, chaired by the Secretary of the Home Department.
- Further, she evaluated the Social Purpose Internship projects of PGPM students in the Development of Corporate Citizenship (DoCC) course at SP Jain Institute of Management & Research (SPJIMR), Mumbai. Pallavi also engaged with the passionate team at Ek Tara Foundation in Kolkata, sharing Utthan's initiatives and observing their work. Additionally, she gave a short talk to the Community Workers group.
- Jaya Rathod, Area Manager at Utthan, was invited as the Chief Guest at the Women's Day event organized by Shaishav, the grassroots organization working with children from marginalized communities in Bhavnagar, Gujarat.
  - Additionally, she along with federation members participated in a Regional Sammelan organized by Mahiti Rural Development Centre, Samarthan Mahila Sangathan, and Utthan. This event, which involved 300 women farmers, focused on Women's Rights to Land and Productive Resources.
- Utthan has been a longstanding partner of NABARD, achieving exceptional outcomes in integrated water resource management, livelihood strengthening, horticulture development, and women's entrepreneurship. A member of the Piperi Village Watershed Committee, the leader of Vanita Shakti Mahila Sangathan, and the Secretary of Modhva Village Watershed Committee (2018-22) were invited to share their experiences at the State-level **Symposium for Progressive Farmers** in Gujarat, organized by NABARD on December 19, 2023.
- The team members participated in a **Livelihood Summit** on 17-18 January, 2024 at New Delhi. The summit explored topics like Agro-ecology, WASH loans, and technology in development. The summit provided insights on action-oriented approach in a rapidly evolving development scenario, with eyes on CSR funding opportunities, identifying entrepreneurial skills and bringing dynamic, action-oriented approach in a rapidly evolving development scenario.
- Utthan, Shakti Mahila Sangathan, and Samarthan Mahila Sangathan came together from January 16-19, 2024, to reflect on our journey addressing issues faced by vulnerable women and communities. This gathering was part of the closing reflection of the research project "**Sustaining Power: Women's Struggles Against Contemporary Backlash in South Asia.**" Led by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), the project in India was led by Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST).

## **New Partnerships**

- Utthan onboarded itself on FundsforNgos, Give Grants & Sattva's India Partner Network.
- Proposals/Letter of Intents were submitted to UNWomen, America India Foundation, IKI (International Climate Initiative), Axis Bank, Positive discussions with Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies, Yusuf and Farida Hamied Foundation, Zonta International, Social Ventures Philanthropy, Prudent Corporate Advisory, Einfochips are underway.
- 10 interns from various institutions joined Utthan, contributing and learning in multiple ways. These institutions include Ashoka University, the Department of Communication & Journalism at Gujarat University, Christ University (Lavassa), Pandit Deendayal Energy University (Ahmedabad), O.P. Jindal University, and FLAME University (Pune).
- Utthan signed up on Seniors in Seva & ConnectFor to mobilize volunteers for its various needs.

## **Development and revision of Organisational policies**

- Utthan's HR policy and finance manual were revised, followed by orientation sessions with the team.
- We qualified for the **"Advanced Level GuideStar India Gold Certification,"** representing our commitment to transparency and our dedication to open and accountable practices.

## **Mentoring of Senior leadership**

- Utthan's senior team members received mentoring from experts, including the organisation's founder trustee Nafisa Barot, on various aspects of organisational development. The focus was on support to strengthen the Utthan structure and to make fundraising more impactful.

## **Awards and Recognitions**

- Applications were made for the Martha Farrel Award, Social Impact Award (SP Jain Institute of Management), 5th Smt. Kantaben Mehta Memorial Award. We were shortlisted for all the Awards.

## UTTHAN'S NETWORKS AND ALLIANCES

Utthan has undertaken coordinated efforts, learning and exchange, and advocacy on issues related to sustainable agriculture, women's rights, and the impact of COVID on the Indian population at the national and Gujarat levels in collaboration with various organisations and networks such as the RCRC, IAG, Natural Farming Coalition, WGWLO, MAKAAAM, Gujarat Mahila Manch, and government departments.

### State and National Level

- Working Group on Women and Land Ownership (WGWLO)
- Voluntary Action Network India (VANI)
- Sajjata Sangh
- Responsible Coalition for Resilient Communities (RCRC)
- Revitalising Rainfed Agriculture Network (RRAN)
- Pravah
- National Coalition for Natural Farming (NCNF)
- Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch (MAKAAAM)
- Janpath
- Inter-Agency Group, Gujarat
- India Wash Forum
- Gujarat Mahila Manch

### International Level

- Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council
- International Water Association
- Gender Water Alliance
- Association for Women in Development

### Active Government Relationship

- State Rural Livelihood Mission, Gujarat

### Knowledge Partners

- Institute of Social Studies Trust
- SAFAR
- The Goat Trust




## UTTHAN'S BOARD

<p>Mr. Vijay Parmar Chairperson, Managing Trustee, Janvikas</p>	<p>Ms. Alka Parikh Trustee Dean, Research (Social Science) and Director Amity Institute of Liberal Arts</p>
<p>Mr. Ashoke Chatterjee Trustee, Former Director, National Institute of Design</p>	<p>Mr. Binoy Acharya Trustee, Director, UNNATI</p>
<p>Ms. Nafisa Barot Founder, Mentor and Managing Trustee Utthan</p>	<p>Ms. Neelima Khetan Trustee Development Professional, Former Director Sewa Mandir</p>
<p>Dr. Sara Ahmed Trustee, Lead Curator and Founder-Living Waters Museum</p>	<p>Dr. Sudarshanlyengar Trustee, Former Vice Chancellor, Gujarat Vidyapith, presently associated with ARCH</p>

## OUR PARTNERS



# ACCOUNTS AND TRANSPARENCY

UTTHAN					
TRUST REGD.NO. : F/757/AHMEDABAD					
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 2024					
PARTICULARS	ANNEXURE	FCRA	INDIAN	TOTAL 2023-24	2022-23
<b>FUNDS AND LIABILITIES</b>					
ASSETS AND CORPUS FUNDS	I	6,36,780	58,40,018	64,76,798	47,98,698
GENERAL AND EARMARK FUNDS	II	97,931	41,63,588	42,61,520	50,73,053
UNUTILISED GRANT	III	-	64,25,713	64,25,713	60,95,532
CURRENT LIABILITIES	VIII	-	-	-	2,27,180
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,34,711</b>	<b>1,64,29,319</b>	<b>1,71,64,031</b>	<b>1,61,94,463</b>
<b>ASSETS AND PROPERTIES</b>					
NET FIXED ASSETS	V	6,36,780	34,34,980	40,71,760	25,02,829
GRANT RECEIVABLE	III		16,81,942	16,81,942	2,72,946
INVESTMENTS	VI	-	33,48,515	33,48,515	53,09,202
CURRENT ASSETS	VII	97,931	79,63,883	80,61,814	81,09,486
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,34,711</b>	<b>1,64,29,319</b>	<b>1,71,64,031</b>	<b>1,61,94,463</b>
<b>NOTES FORMING PART OF ACCOUNTS &amp; ACCOUNTING POLICIES - XVIII</b>					
			<b>AS PER OUR AUDITED REPORT OF EVEN DATE</b>		
<p><b>For Utthan</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Nafisa Raju Barot Trustee</p> <p>Place: Ahmedabad Date: 23.09.2024</p>	<p><b>For H Rustom &amp; Co.</b> Chartered Accountants Firm Rgd No.108908W</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>HRD Dalal Proprietor Membership No. 31368 UDIN:24031368BKGWCG5018 Place : Ahmedabad Date: 23.09.2024</p>	<p><b>For A S Shaikh &amp; Co.</b> Chartered Accountants Firm Regd No. 139775W</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Aslam Shaikh Proprietor Membership No. 162345 UDIN:24162345BKEOGT8618 Place : Ahmedabad Date: 23.09.2024</p>			

# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

## SCHEDULE VIII

### UTTHAN

TRUST REGD.NO. : F/757/AHMEDABAD

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

PARTICULARS	ANNEXURE	FCRA	INDIAN	TOTAL 2023-24	2022-23
<b>INCOME</b>					
GRANTS	IX	9,25,601	4,32,47,413	4,41,73,014	3,71,05,460
DONATION	IX	3,48,415	87,500	4,35,915	2,000
OTHER INCOME	X	-	3,72,947	3,72,947	1,81,104
INTEREST INCOME	XI	54,766	7,16,186	7,70,952	7,02,093
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>13,28,782</b>	<b>4,44,24,046</b>	<b>4,57,52,828</b>	<b>3,79,90,657</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
EXPENDITURE ON OBJECTS OF THE TRUST	XII	24,26,132	3,37,78,545	3,62,04,677	2,92,56,984
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	XIII	19,674	59,73,557	59,93,230	49,05,777
AUDIT FEES	XIV	-	3,23,875	3,23,875	1,29,525
FIELD OFFICE RENT	X	11,000	5,39,091	5,50,091	5,70,765
REMUNERATION TO TRUSTEES	XV	-	8,22,000	8,22,000	7,44,000
CHARITY COMMISSIONER CONTRIBUTION	XI	-	-	-	65,889
BALANCE WRITTEN OFF	XVII	-	11,104	11,104	14,768
DEPRECIATION	V	1,02,643	8,78,640	9,81,283	9,21,414
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	IV	(12,30,667)	20,97,234	8,66,567	13,81,535
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>13,28,782</b>	<b>4,44,24,046</b>	<b>4,57,52,828</b>	<b>3,79,90,657</b>

NOTES FORMING PART OF ACCOUNTS & ACCOUNTING POLICIES - XVIII

AS PER OUR AUDITED REPORT OF EVEN DATE

For Utthan



Nafisa Raju Barot  
Trustee

Place: Ahmedabad  
Date: 23.09.2024

For H Rustom & Co.  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Regd No.108908W



HRD Dalal  
Proprietor  
Membership No. 31368  
UDIN:24031368BKGWCG5018  
Place : Ahmedabad  
Date: 23.09.2024

For A S Shaikh & Co.  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Regd No. 139775W



Aslam Shaikh  
Proprietor  
Membership No. 162345  
UDIN:24162345BKEOGT8618  
Place : Ahmedabad  
Date: 23.09.2024

## થાર મરુસ્થલ મેં જલ સ્વાવલંબન પર હુઆ મંથન

» કઈ ગાંવોં કો જલ સસ્થી સહિત જનપ્રતિનિધિયોં ને લિયા માગ, નાડીયોં કો અસ્તિત્વ પર વિંતા

**રાજસ્થાની ચિત્રાન રિપોર્ટર**  
થાર. કઠીબ 6 વ્લકિં કો 50 ગાવોં મેં તામલાત સંબંધિયોં કો રહસરખાબ ય થાર મરુસ્થલ મેં જાલ સ્વાવલંબન પર વિંચન કરને કો ઉદ્દેશ્ય સે સોમવાર કોં જાતિ સંસ્થા દ્વારા થાપ. માહેશ્વરી ખવન જોષ્વરુ મેં દો દિવસીય સેમિનાર હુઆ. પ્રથમ દિન થાટર લીડર યોં સમ્મેલન હુઆ.

સમ્મેલન મેં થાર મરુસ્થલ મેં જાલ સ્વાવલંબન કો લેકર કઈ મુદ્દો પર મેથન હુઆ. થકાઓં ગિરતો બૂજલ સ્તર થાહ જલશયુ પરિવહન કોં શિક્ષન પર વિંતા ક્ષમટ કરતે જલ કોં સ્વાસ્થી રોકને, થર્ણાં જાલ કા સંચય પર ચલ દિવા. પરમપરાલ જાલ ક્ષોત તલામ, ચાકઠી, કુપ, વેરીયોં કો અસ્તિત્વ ય મંદ્યા રહે યતઓં મેં કુચલ કરલાયા. જાલ સસ્થી ય થાટર લીડર ને ગબાહ તાલામ, ગડીયોં કો મુલ અસ્તિત્વ કો માંગ કરતે થતાય કિ થાપ ક્ષેત્ર કો 50 તાલામ સરકારી રિકાર્ડ મેં તાલામ ડર્જ નહીં હે, કઈ જગઠ



અમીર તાલામ કા ગેર મુલકિન મગરા ડર્જ હેં યહ કિસ્મ સરકાર કપોં ધોં કિસી સંસ્થા કમ્પની કો અલેવંટ કર સક્તી હે, ઈસે મેં તાલામોં કા અસ્તિત્વ યતર મેં આયેગા. કલયાણ સિંઘ કી સીહ મેં દુક મામલા પ્રકાશ મેં આવા કોં કાર્યક્રમ મેં જાતિ કોં ચક્રવર્ટી વિનય આચાર્ય, સચિવ સ્વર્ણિ, પવશ્રી લક્ષ્મણ સિંઘ, ચુદેલચંદ જલ દેવ સંચય સિંઘ નર્વાસ થાટર, સોલિક દત્તા ને વિચાર રહી. તોલા રામ, દિલીપ ચિદાવલ, ટિકમ દેવરામ, સંતોષ, સુનીતા પર્ણાજ, દુર્ગા, ગંગા, લાઝો દેવો, જેમ્, કમલા દેવો આદિ અપસ્થિત રહે. જાતિ સંસ્થા દ્વારા વિંચત હમકા જલ હમરા પ્રથમથન પુસ્તક કા અંતિધિયોં ને વિમોચન કિયા. ઈસ્કો પ્રિત સમી માગીદાર સાંધયો કોં સ્વલભ કરવાઈ. યમોદા કી યોતા દેવો, કેસર પોત થાપ, પોંધિ દેવો, દેવો પટ્ટોવે, જામકા દેવો પુલિસ સઘોં થાગોડા અદિ ને સાંચી થાતો કોં જોટી ફિલ્મ દ્વારા જાલ સરકાર પર ચર્ચા હુઈ.



ગોધરા-દાહોદ ભાસ્કર 16-03-2024

## વનિતા શક્તિ મહિલા સંગઠન ધાનપુરની 24મી વાર્ષિક સાધારણ સભા યોજાઈ

સરકારની યોજનાઓના જોડાણ વગેરે કામોની માહિતી અપાઇ

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ઉત્થાન સંસ્થાના માર્ગદર્શન હેઠળ ચાલતા વનિતા શક્તિ મહા સંગઠન ધાનપુરની 24મી વાર્ષિક સાધારણ સભા અને આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય મહિલા દિવસની ઉજવણીના ભાગરૂપે ધાનપુર મુકામે વિશેષ આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. જેમાં કુલ 64 ગામોની 200 જેટલી હિસાબ સંગઠન મંત્રી સુધાબેન મહિલાઓએ ભાગ લીધો હતો. જેમાં મુખ્ય સંસ્થાની કરોબારીમાં બદલાવની પ્રક્રિયા સર્વાનુમતે રેશમબેન દ્વારા ગત વર્ષમાં કરેલા



બહાલી આપી કરવા આવી હતી. તેમજ વનિતા સંગઠનના ગત વર્ષની કરેલ કામગીરીનો હિસાબ સંગઠન મંત્રી સુધાબેન મહિલા સપોર્ટ સેન્ટરમાંથી સમાબેન, સમી વન સ્ટોપમાંથી મિતલબેન સહિત ઉત્થાન ટીમ સભ્યો હાજર રહ્યા હતા.

કામો જેમાં ન્યાય સમિતિ, આર્થિક સમિતિ, સ્વભૂમી કેન્દ્ર મારફતે મહિલાઓના નામે જમીન, સરકારની વિવિધ યોજનાના જોડાણ વિગેરે કામોની માહિતી અપાઈ હતી. કાર્યક્રમ અંતર્ગત વિવિધ વિભાગો નાબાર્ડ, ડી.ટી.એમ. મહિલાને બાળવિભાગમાંથી જહારાબેન મહિલા સપોર્ટ સેન્ટરમાંથી સમાબેન, સમી વન સ્ટોપમાંથી મિતલબેન સહિત ઉત્થાન ટીમ સભ્યો હાજર રહ્યા હતા.

શનિવાર, તા. ૯ માર્ચ ૨૦૨૪

મહુવા તાલુકાના કતપર બંદર ગામે દાડના અડા બેરોક-ટોક ધમધમી રહ્યા છે. ભૂટલેગરોની દાડાગીરી પણ દિવસે ને દિવસે વધતી જઈ રહી છે. યુવાનો સામે છેડતી, મારામારીના આસપોસ કરી પોલીસ સરિયાહ કરવાની ધમકી આપવામાં આવી રહી છે. દાડના દુપણથી યુવાનોનું ભવિષ્ય અંધકારમય બની રહ્યું છે. સાથે દાડના વ્યસનીઓ નાની ઉંમરમાં મૃત્યુ થવાથી ૩૦-૩૫ વર્ષની ઉંમરમાં મહિલાઓ વિધવા બની રહી છે. જેથી સમાજના આ મોટા દુપણને કામચ માટે કતપર આમ ધમધમી રહેલા દાડના અડાઓને બંધ કરાવવાની માંગણી સાથે મોટી સંખ્યામાં મહિલાઓ સાથે ગ્રામજનોનું ટોળું મહુવા પોલીસ મથકે દોડી આવ્યું હતું અને ડિવાયએસપીને લેખિતમાં રજૂઆત કરી છે.

(તસવીર : રાહુલ ચાવડા, મહુવા)

## મહુવામાં ઉત્થાન સંસ્થા પ્રેરિત શક્તિ મહિલા સંગઠન દ્વારા સાતમી વાર્ષિક સાધારણ સભા અને વિશ્વ મહિલા દિવસ ઉજવણી કરાઈ

સુખભાત સીરાઝુ - સાકિર રાખાવળ

મહુવા રામવારી ખાતે શક્તિ મહિલા સંગઠન મહુવા ની સાતમી વાર્ષિક સાધારણ સભા અને વિશ્વ મહિલા દિવસની ઉજવણીનું આયોજન સંગઠન દ્વારા કરવામાં આવ્યું છે. ઉત્થાન સંસ્થા પ્રેરિત શક્તિ મહિલા સંગઠન છેલ્લા સાત વર્ષથી મહુવા તાલુકામાં કાર્યરત છે. શક્તિ મહિલા સંગઠનો હેતુ મૂલ્ય આધારિત એવું સંગઠન બનાવવું કે બહેનો ની સામાજિક, આર્થિક, રાજકીય દરજ્જોમાં બદલાવ આવે અને મહિલાઓ પોતાના હક્ક



અને અધિકાર મેળવતા થાય. "શક્તિ મહિલા સંગઠન" માં કુલ ૪૦ ગામોના ૩૧૨૦ મહિલાઓ જોડાયેલી છે. મહિલાઓ ની સુરક્ષા અને સંગઠનોએ પોતાનું એક ઝોળખ ઉભી કરી છે. આ કાર્યક્રમમાં મહુવા

રેવન્યુ મામલતદાર સાહેબ શ્રી જયેશભાઈ મહેલા હસ્તે શક્તિ મહિલા સંગઠનના સ્વ-ભૂમિ કેન્દ્ર નું ઉદ્ઘાટન કરવામાં આવેલ હતું. તેમજ મહુવા ધારાસભ્યશ્રી શીવાભાઈ આ કાર્યક્રમમાં જોડાઈ મહિલાઓને માર્ગદર્શન પૂરું પાડેલ હતું તેમજ મહુવા વાઈ પ્રમુખ શ્રી ધનરથામભાઈ, કાનુની સેવા સતા માંથી કલ્યાઈ પંકજભાઈ, સરકારી વકીલ તથા, નોટરી એડવોકેટ શ્રી બિહરીસબેન પોલીસ સ્ટેશન મહિલા સહાયતા કેન્દ્ર માંથી સમુપન તેમજ હેતલબેન ઉપસ્થિત રહી અને વહેલોને માર્ગદર્શન પૂરું પાડેલ હતું.

## એકતા મહિલા સંગઠનની ૧૬મી વાર્ષિક સામાન્ય સભામાં દાહોદ, મહિસાગર અને પંચમહાલ જિલ્લાના ૭૮ ગામોની ૧૮૫ મહિલાઓએ ભાગ લીધો હતો

ગોધરા, આ કાર્યક્રમનો ઉદ્દેશ્ય મહિલાઓને તેમના વિચારો અને તેમનાં પડકારો ને અવાજ આપવા માટે સશક્ત કરવાનો હતો. ન્યાય સમિતિના સભ્યોએ સમાન તકો વિશે જાગૃતિ લાવવા માટે મહિલા અધિકારો પર રોલ પ્લે કર્યો હતો. ન્યાય સમિતિના સભ્ય ગીતા બેનએ વાર્ષિક ખર્ચ સમિતિનું ભંડોળ અને સમિતિમાં નોંધાયેલ કેસ વિષે માહિતી આપી હતી. સરકારના વિવિધ વિભાગોના

અધિકારીઓ આ બેઠકમાં જોડાયા હતા અને તેમના જ્ઞાન અને અનુભવથી બહેનોમાં ઉત્સાહ જગાડ્યો હતો. પોલીસ ઈન્સ્પેક્ટર મિસ જે. એન. સોલંકી એ (મહીસાગર) મહિલાઓ ને પોતાના અધિકારો અને હિંસાનો સામનો કરવાના મહત્વ પર ભાર મૂક્યો હતો. જ્યુડિશિયલ મેજિસ્ટ્રેટ બિહોલાએ POCSO એક્ટ પર ધ્યાન કેન્દ્રિત કરી તેને લગતી માહિતી આપી તથા મહિલાઓને કાનૂની સહાય મેળવવા માટે

પ્રોત્સાહિત કરીને મફત કાનૂની સહાય અંગે ચર્ચા કરી. મહિસાગર જિલ્લાના મહિલા અને બાળ સુરક્ષા અધિકારી જીજ્ઞેષે બાળ લગ્નના મુદ્દાને સંબોધિત કરી અને મહિલાઓને ૧૦૯૮ ચાઇલ્ડ લાઇન હેલ્પલાઇન દ્વારા કેસની જાણ કરવા વિનંતી કરી. સમી વન સ્ટોપ સેન્ટર, લુણાવાડાના સોનમ અને સહાયક સેવાઓ અને વિધવા પુનર્લેખ યોજના વિશે માહિતી પ્રદાન કરી. પોલીસ-આધારિત સહાયતા કેન્દ્રના રીટા બેને સામાજિક

## ઉત્થાન સંસ્થા પ્રેરિત સમર્થન મહિલા સંગઠન દ્વારા ૧૬મી વાર્ષિક સાધારણ સભા અને વિશ્વ મહિલા દિવસની ઉજવણી કરવામાં આવી

સુખભાત સીરાઝુ - ભાવનગર

આજરોજ આર્યસમાજ હોલ સરદારનગર ભાવનગર ખાતે સમર્થન મહિલા સંગઠન-ભાવનગર ની ૧૬ મી વાર્ષિક સાધારણ સભા અને વિશ્વ મહિલા દિવસની ઉજવણીનું આયોજન સંગઠન દ્વારા કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. ઉત્થાન સંસ્થા પ્રેરિત સમર્થન મહિલા સંગઠન છેલ્લા ૨૧ વર્ષથી ભાવનગર જિલ્લાના ધોધા, ભાવનગર અને તળાજા તાલુકામાં કાર્યરત છે. સમર્થન મહિલા સંગઠનનો હેતુ મૂલ્ય આધારિત એવું સંગઠન બનાવવું કે બહેનો ની સામાજિક, આર્થિક, રાજકીય દરજ્જોમાં બદલાવ આવે અને મહિલાઓ પોતાના હક્ક અને અધિકાર મેળવતા થાય.



"સમર્થન મહિલા સંગઠન" માં કુલ ૪૫ ગામોના ૪૨૦૦ મહિલાઓ જોડાયેલી છે. મહિલાઓ ની સુરક્ષા અને સભામતી, આર્થિક સશક્તિકરણ, જમીન અને મિલકત માં હક્ક અને પાયાની જરૂરિયાતો સુધી પહોંચ જેવા મુદ્દાઓ પર ઘણા વર્ષો ની અસરકારક કામગીરી થકી આ સંગઠનોએ પોતાનું એક ઝોળખ ઉભી કરી છે. કાર્યક્રમ નો હેતુ એસ.સી.સેન્ટરમાંથી કનિઝબેન ઉપસ્થિત રહી અને વહેલોને માર્ગદર્શન પૂરું પાડ્યું હતું.

દિવસની ઉજવણી અને સાથે બીજ મેળો પણ કરવામાં આવ્યો હતો. આ કાર્યક્રમમાં ભાવનગર ના જિલ્લા સમાજ સુરક્ષા પ્રતિબંધક અધિકારી સુગ્રામ સાહેબ, જિલ્લા બાળ સુરક્ષા અધિકારી નવનીલભાઈ જાશી, જિલ્લા મહિલા અને બાળ વિકાસ વિભાગ માંથી જેન્ડર સ્પેશિયાલિસ્ટ અજયભાઈ તેમજ સંજયભાઈ અને ભાવનગર પી.બી. એસ.સી.સેન્ટરમાંથી કનિઝબેન ઉપસ્થિત રહી અને વહેલોને માર્ગદર્શન પૂરું પાડ્યું હતું.





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